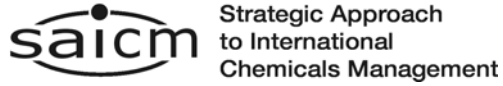




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**Meeting of the Africa Core Group on the
Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management**
Nairobi, 20–21 August 2009

Composition, procedure and terms of reference of the African Core Group

Note by the secretariat

1. At the first African regional meeting on SAICM held in Cairo in September 2006, the African region agreed to terms of reference for the African Core Group.
2. The secretariat has the honour to circulate, in the annex to the present note, the terms of reference of the African Core Group, its procedures and composition, for the information of participants in the present meeting.

ANNEX

Composition, procedures and terms of reference of the African Core Group on SAICM

1. The African Core Group on the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) comprises the following members:
 - (a) The African SAICM regional focal point;
 - (b) Two Government representatives from each of the five African subregions (North, East, South, West and Central);
 - (c) The two African Government regional representatives on the SAICM Quick Start Programme Executive Board;
 - (d) One representative from each of the following three sectors of civil society: industry, labour and public interest;
 - (e) One representative of a key regional organization (for example, one that has region-wide responsibilities relevant to the sound management of chemicals) to be determined from time to time;
 - (f) One representative from a participating organization of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals with a significant regional chemical safety program;
 - (g) The immediate past African SAICM regional focal point.

2. The working procedures of the African Core Group on SAICM are:
 - (a) To the extent possible, to undertake its work through correspondence, teleconferencing and, whenever eight or more members attend the same chemicals or wastes-related forum, meetings in person to reach consensus on issues of current concern;
 - (b) To use English as the working language of the Group. The provision of interpretation during meetings shall be decided on a case-by-case basis, but whenever possible the language difficulties of the region shall be taken into account;
 - (c) To designate alternates or technical advisers to participate in meetings as required in order to ensure continuity and involvement.

3. The roles and responsibilities of the African Core Group on SAICM are:
 - (a) To provide technical assistance in the formation of regional and subregional project proposals as requested by the African SAICM regional focal point;
 - (b) To assist the regional focal point in harmonization and follow-up efforts intersessionally;
 - (c) To review, from time to time, the SAICM Global Plan of Action for the purpose of adapting it to national and regional priorities;
 - (d) To prepare, in collaboration with the regional focal point, materials and agendas for regional meetings;

- (e) To assist the regional focal point in preparing draft regional position papers for submission to the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and the International Conference on Chemicals Management;
 - (f) To serve, through members of the Group, as conduits for the views of subregions on SAICM implementation;
 - (g) To facilitate reporting on SAICM implementation in Africa and on the provision of resources to support such implementation;
 - (h) To facilitate African promotion of the establishment of a new chemicals management focal area in the Global Environment Facility;
 - (i) To facilitate the promotion and adoption of national economic instruments that can help to cover the cost of sound chemicals management;
 - (j) To coordinate implementation of the Regional Action Plan for the Implementation of SAICM in Africa, including by facilitating the full involvement of all stakeholders, coordination and cooperation, communication with other regional coordinators and the SAICM secretariat, progress reporting on implementation of the Regional Action Plan and information exchange within the African region and with other regions and by identifying and mobilizing available African institutional support, for example from the African Union, the New Partnership for Africa's Development, the African Development Bank, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment.
4. The African Core Group shall carry out its mandate until the close of the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, to be held in 2009.

Members:

- (a) The African SAICM regional focal point:

Zambia

- (b) Two Government representatives from each of the five African subregions:

Algeria and Libya	(North Africa)
Comoros and Kenya	(East Africa)
Malawi and South Africa	(Southern Africa)
Ghana and Mali	(West Africa)
Democratic Republic of Congo and Gabon	(Central Africa)

- (c) The two African Government regional representatives on the SAICM Quick Start Programme Executive Board:

Burundi
Nigeria

- (d) One representative from each of the following three sectors of civil society:

Industry: International Council of Chemicals Association (ICCA)
Labour: ***Representative to be confirmed***
Public interest: International POPs Elimination Network

- (e) One representative of a key regional organization (for example, one that has region-wide responsibilities relevant to the sound management of chemicals) to be determined from time to time:

Basel Convention Regional Coordinating Centre for Africa -BCRCC

- (f) One representative from a participating organization of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals with a significant regional chemical safety programme:

Representative to be confirmed

- (g) The immediate past African SAICM regional focal point.

Ms. Abiola Olanipekun (Federal Ministry of Environment, Nigeria)

**CONTACT DETAILS FOR MEMBERS OF THE
AFRICAN CORE GROUP**

**AFRICAN SAICM REGIONAL
FOCAL POINT**

Mr. David Kapindula
Principal Inspector
Pesticides and Toxic Substances
Environmental Council of Zambia
P.O. Box 35131
Corner Church and Suez Roads
Lusaka
Zambia
Tel: (260 211) 254 023 / 254 130
Fax: (260 211) 254 164
Email: dkapindula@necz.org.zm

**IMMEDIATE PAST AFRICAN
SAICM REGIONAL FOCAL POINT**

Ms. Abiola Olanipekun
Chief Environmental Scientist
Department of Pollution Control
Federal Ministry of Environment
PMB 468, Garki
Abuja
Nigeria
Tel: (234 9) 273 1067
Fax: (234 9) 413 1394
Email: abiolanipekun@yahoo.co.uk

**SUB-REGIONAL
REPRESENTATIVES**

Central Africa

Mr. Jean Claude Emene Elenga
Directeur National du Plan National de
Mise en oeuvre de la Convention de
Stockholm sur les Polluants Organiques
Persistants
Ministère de l'Environnement,
Conservation de la Nature et du Tourisme
Avenue Papa Ileo No. 15, Commune de la
Gombe
Kinshasa
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Tel: (243) 998 121 166
Email: jcemene@yahoo.fr

Mr. Serge Molly Allo'o Allo'o
Directeur Technique
Centre National Antipollution
Coordonnateur National du Projet sur
l'Elimination des POPs
Vice Primature
Ministère de l'Environnement, du
Développement Durable, de la Protection
de la Nature, de la Prévention et de la
gestion des calamités naturelles
BP 3241
Libreville
Gabon
Tel: (241) 770 8528 / 668 7030
Fax: (241) 72 14 90
Email: sergemolly05@yahoo.fr
allsergemolly@hotmail.com

East Africa

Mr. Said Ali Thaoubane
Faculté des Sciences et Techniques
Université des Comores
Point Focal National SAICM
Ministère de l'Agriculture, de la Pêche et
de l'Environnement
B.P. 1897
Moroni
Comoros
Tel: (269) 773 3069 / 331 3069
Email: sathaoubane@yahoo.fr

Ms. Caroline Njoki Wamai
Environmental Directorate
Ministry of Environment and Mineral
Resources
P.O. Box 30126, NHIF Bldg.
Nairobi
Kenya
Tel: (254 20) 273 0808
Mobile: (254 20) 722 311 489
Email: carolwamai@yahoo.com

North Africa

Mr. Mohamed Bachir Ghanem
Directeur de la Direction du Patrimoine
Énergétique et Minier
Ministère de l'Énergie et des Mines
16000 Alger

Algeria

Tel: (213 21) 488450
Fax: (212 21) 488 215
Email: mohamed.ghanem@mem.gov.dz

Dr. Ali Gebril Werfeli
Consulting Representative to the OPCW
Tripoli

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

Tel: (218) 92 66 82 643
Email: awerfeli@volny.cz
gebralik@seznam.cz

Southern Africa

Ms. Caroline Theka
Environmental Officer
Legal Affairs
P/Bag 394
Lilongwe

Malawi

Tel: (265) 1 771 111
Fax: (265) 1 773 379
Email: caroltheka@yahoo.com
caroltheka@gmail.com

Ms. Elsabe Steyn
Director
Department of Trade and Industry
Private Bag X84
Pretoria

South Africa

Tel: (27 12) 394 1262 / 82 893 8735
Fax: (27 12) 394 2362
Email: Esteyn@thedti.gov.za

Western Africa

Mr. John Pwamang
Director
Chemicals Control and Management
Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box M326, Accra

Ghana

Tel: (233 21) 664 697 / 664 698
Fax: (233 21) 662 690 / 667 374
Email: jpwamang@epaghana.org
awepwamang@yahoo.com

Mr. Oumar Diaoure Cisse
Point Focal National FISC
Ministère de l'Environnement et de
l'Assainissement
BP 3114
Bamako

Mali

Tel: (+223) 229 2410
Fax: (+223) 229 5090
Email: cdiaoure@yahoo.fr

QSP Executive Board representatives

Mr. Adolphe Nahayo
Ambassador, Adviser
General Direction for Europe, North America
and International Organizations
Ministry of External Relations and
International Cooperation
Foreign Affairs Building
Boulevard de la Liberté
B.P. 1840
Bujumbura

Burundi

Tel: (257) 226 864 / 759 951
Fax: (257) 223 970 / 218 165
Email: rextinfo@cbinf.com

Mr. Oludayo Olusegun Dada
Director
Pollution Control Department
Federal Ministry of Environment
Plot 444 Abuyi Ironsi Street,
Maitama

Nigeria

Tel: (+234) 803 311 8237
Email: dhoodada@yahoo.co.uk

Non-Governmental Organizations*[Industry representative]*

Ms. Laurraine Havelock Lotter
 Executive Director
 Chemical and Allied Industries' Association
**International Council of Chemical
 Associations (ICCA)**
 15th Floor, 25 Owl Street, Auckland Park
 Johannesburg
 South Africa
 Tel: (27 11) 482 1671
 Fax: (27 11) 726 8310
 Email: caia@iafrica.com

[Labour representative]

Mr. Yahya Khamis Msangi
 Occupational Health, Safety and Environment
 Coordinator
**International Trade Union Confederation
 (ITUC - Africa) / Organisation Regionale
 Africaine de la Confederation Syndicale
 Internationale (CSI – Afrique)**
 Route Internationale d' Atakpame', BP 440
 Lome, Togo
 Tel: (228) 225 07 10
 Fax (228) 225 61 13
 Mobile: +228 816529
 Email: aishamaulid@hotmail.com
tapohe@africaonline.co.tz

[Public interest representative]

Mr. Jamidu Katima
**International Pesticide Elimination
 Network (IPEN)**
 Dean and Professor
 Faculty of Mechanical and Chemical Engineering
 University of Dar es Salaam
 P.O. Box 35131
 Dar es Salaam
 United Republic of Tanzania
 Tel: (255 22) 241 0754
 Mobile: (255) 744 265 864
 Fax: (255 22) 241 0114
 Email: jkatima@cpe.udsm.ac.tz
jamidu_katima@yahoo.co.uk

Regional organization representative

Mr. Oladele Osibanjo
 Director
**Basel Convention Regional
 Coordinating Centre for Africa**
 University of Ibadan
 1 Ijoma Road
 Ibadan
 Nigeria
 Tel: (234 2) 810 2198
 Mobile: (234) 803 301 3378
 Fax: (234 2) 810 3168 / 810 2198
 Email: osibanjo@baselnigeria.org
oosibanjo@yahoo.com

**Inter-Organization Programme for
the Sound Management of
Chemicals (IOMC) representative**

Mr. Thebe A. Pule
 Technical Officer
 PHE/DDC
WHO Afro
 P.O. Box 06
 Pointe du Djube
 Brazzaville
 Congo
 Tel: (242 47) 241 39238
 Fax: (242 47) 241 39521
 Email: pulet@afro.who.int