
**Latin American and Caribbean regional meeting on the Strategic Approach
to International Chemicals Management**

First meeting
Panama City, 14–16 February 2008

Draft annotated provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting

1. The Latin American and Caribbean regional meeting on the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) will be opened at 10 a.m. on Thursday, 14 February 2008, at the El-Panama Hotel, Panama City, Panama.
2. Opening and welcoming statements will be made.

2. Organizational matters

(a) Election of officers

3. The meeting participants may wish to elect two co-chairs and a rapporteur.

(b) Adoption of the agenda

4. The meeting may wish to adopt as its agenda the provisional agenda set out in document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/1.

(c) Organization of work

5. The meeting participants may wish to meet from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. each day.

3. Information about SAICM implementation activities

(a) Other regional groups

6. Regional focal points from other regions will report on ongoing activities in their regions. The secretariat will report on ongoing activities in the regions whose representatives are unable to attend the current meeting. The meeting participants will have before them the following documents:
 - SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/6, the report of the African regional meeting held in Cairo, Egypt, from 11 to 14 September 2006;
 - SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/7, the report of the first meeting of the EU-JUSSCANNZ countries, held in Barcelona, Spain, from 20 to 22 November 2006;
 - SAICM/RM/LAC /INF/8, the report of the Central and Eastern European regional meeting held in Riga, Latvia, from 4 to 6 December 2006;

- SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/9, the report of the meeting of Arab countries held in Cairo, Egypt, on 1 and 2 April 2007;
- SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/10, the report of the Asia-Pacific regional meeting held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 21 to 23 May 2007;
- SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/11, the report of the second meeting of the EU-JUSSCANNZ countries, held in Paris, France, on 12 June 2007;
- SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/12, the report of the Pacific Island workshop held in Apia, Samoa, on 8 and 9 November 2007.

(b) Intergovernmental organizations

7. The meeting has before it document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/3, which includes questionnaires completed by intergovernmental organizations concerning their initial SAICM implementation activities. Intergovernmental organizations present may wish to provide supplementary information. The meeting participants may wish to discuss and note the organizations' activities in support of implementation of the Strategic Approach.

(c) Non-governmental organizations and others

8. The meeting participants have before them document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/3, which includes questionnaires completed by non-governmental organizations concerning their initial SAICM implementation activities. Non-governmental organizations present may wish to provide supplementary information. The meeting participants may wish to discuss and note the organizations' activities in support of implementation of the Strategic Approach.

4. Implementation of SAICM in Latin America and the Caribbean

(a) National implementation of the Strategic Approach

(i) Identification of priorities and initial planning to implement the Strategic Approach, including the involvement of Governments and industry

9. The SAICM Overarching Policy Strategy¹ states, in its paragraph 22, that:

“Implementation of SAICM could begin with an enabling phase to build necessary capacity, as appropriate, to develop, with relevant stakeholder participation, a national SAICM implementation plan, taking into consideration, as appropriate, existing elements such as legislation, national profiles, action plans, stakeholder initiatives and gaps, priorities, needs and circumstances.”

10. In its paragraph 23, the Overarching Policy Strategy indicates that:

“To sustain an integrated approach to managing chemicals, each Government should establish arrangements for implementing SAICM on an inter-ministerial or inter-institutional basis so that all concerned national departmental and stakeholder interests are represented and all relevant substantive areas are addressed. To facilitate communication, nationally and internationally, each Government should designate a SAICM national focal point to act as an effective conduit for communication on SAICM matters, including invitations to participate in meetings and information dissemination. The SAICM national focal point should be a representative of the country's inter-ministerial or inter-institutional arrangements, where such arrangements exist.”

11. The meeting has before it document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/2, containing information submitted by Latin American and Caribbean countries on their initial SAICM national implementation activities. Countries may wish to share additional information on their initial national planning activities or provide an update on national programmes that address chemicals management. The meeting participants may wish to note the progress indicated in the document and discussion, including progress with regard to the designation of SAICM national focal points (see also item 4 (a) (iii) below), the establishment of inter-ministerial coordinating committees representing all stakeholder interests and the commencement of the development of national SAICM implementation plans.

¹ SAICM/ICCM.1/7, annex II. The Overarching Policy Strategy together with other SAICM texts and resolutions of the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its first meeting is reproduced in document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/1.

(ii) Guidance materials for national implementation of SAICM

12. In their implementation of the Strategic Approach at the national level, Governments and other stakeholders may benefit from guidance materials such as those developed by intergovernmental organizations. The meeting will have before it document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/4 concerning the guidance materials currently available from participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC).

13. The meeting participants may wish to note the availability of such guidance materials, seek further information from representatives of IOMC participating organizations who are present at the meeting and discuss any apparent gaps in the range of guidance materials. The meeting participants may also wish to request the IOMC participating organizations and the secretariat of the Strategic Approach to consider the development of additional priority guidance materials, if appropriate.

(iii) Role and responsibilities of the national focal point

14. Paragraph 23 of the Overarching Policy Strategy of the Strategic Approach and resolution I/1 of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM), on implementation arrangements, recommended the designation of SAICM national focal points. National focal points are being designated in accordance with a letter issued by the secretariat on 1 March 2006 inviting each Government to designate a national focal point through its ministry for foreign affairs. For the Latin-American and Caribbean region, 26 national focal points have been nominated out of a possible 33. The national focal points nominated by Latin American and Caribbean countries, so far, are listed in the draft directory contained in document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/5.

15. As noted above, the Overarching Policy Strategy indicates that the role of national focal points is “to facilitate communication, nationally and internationally, to act as an effective conduit for communication on Strategic Approach matters, including invitations to participate in meetings and information dissemination [and]... be a representative of the country’s inter-ministerial or inter-institutional arrangements, where such arrangements exist.” As indicated in their respective meeting reports, SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/6, SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/8, SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/7 and SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/10, the African and Central and Eastern European regions, the EU-JUSSCANNZ countries and the Asia-Pacific region did not find it necessary to elaborate further the roles and responsibilities of national focal points.

16. The participants at the current meeting may wish to consider whether any further elaboration of the roles and responsibilities of national focal points is warranted for countries in the Latin American and Caribbean region.

(b) Regional coordination mechanisms**(i) Role and responsibilities of the regional focal point**

17. The International Conference on Chemicals Management, in its resolution I/1 on implementation arrangements, recommended the designation of SAICM regional focal points. Those regional focal points have been designated following a consultation process, which took place in March and April 2006, coordinated by representatives of the former bureau members of the Preparatory Committee for the Development of the Strategic Approach and of the Conference. For the Latin American and Caribbean region the coordinator was Uruguay, and Mr Gonzalo Entenza (Argentina) was designated as regional focal point. Given that the Conference did not specify the role and responsibilities of the regional focal points, the meeting participants may wish to discuss the region’s expectations in that regard and whether or not the development of terms of reference would be warranted. The meeting participants have before them document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/26, summarizing action taken by other regions in this regard.

(ii) Role and responsibilities of regional representatives serving on the Quick Start Programme Executive Board

18. In its resolution I/4, the International Conference on Chemicals Management decided to establish the Quick Start Programme Executive Board, consisting of two government representatives from each of the United Nations regions and all the bilateral and multilateral donors and other contributors to the Programme. The Conference also decided that the two government representatives from each United Nations region would be appointed at each session of the Conference for the ensuing intersessional period. Owing to a lack of time at the first session of the Conference, however, most regions were unable to nominate their regional representatives for the Executive Board. The regional representatives were therefore nominated after the session through a consultative process coordinated by representatives

of the former bureau members of the Preparatory Committee for the Development of the Strategic Approach and of the Conference. Following coordination by Uruguay, Ms. Gillian Guthrie (Jamaica) and Ms. Vilma Morales Quillama (Peru) were nominated to represent the Latin American and Caribbean region on the Executive Board, which had its first and second meetings on 26 and 27 April 2006 and on 23 and 24 April 2007, respectively.

19. The participants at the current meeting may wish to consider whether or not the development of terms of reference for its regional representatives on the Executive Board is warranted. The meeting participants have before them document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/27, summarizing action taken by other regions in this regard.

(iii) Possible formation of a regional committee to support the SAICM regional focal point and other regional representatives

20. The meeting may wish to consider whether or not it would be desirable to form a regional committee to support the work of the Strategic Approach regional focal point and the government regional representatives on the Quick Start Programme Executive Board. In that regard, it may be noted that the African region has established an “African Core Group”, that the Arab countries have established an “Arab Coordination Unit” and that the Central and Eastern European and Asia-Pacific regions have established informal groups to support the work of their regional focal points, as indicated in the various regional meeting reports noted above. If the participants at the current meeting consider that some kind of regional committee for the Latin American and Caribbean region is warranted, they may wish to consider action taken by other regions in this regard, as summarized in document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/28.

(iv) Cooperation and coordination with other significant processes and bodies at regional and global levels

21. The meeting may wish to take account of processes and developments at the international level relevant to SAICM which are likely to engage the region, such as:

(a) The current discussions on synergies between the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, as summarized in the reports of the first meeting of their Ad Hoc Joint Working Group on Enhancing Cooperation and Coordination, held in Helsinki from 26 to 28 March 2007, and the second meeting of the Working Group, held in Vienna from 10 to 13 December 2007, which are contained in documents SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/24 and SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/25 respectively;

(b) The work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, bearing in mind the call in UNEP Governing Council decision 22/4 for SAICM to be “regularly reviewed to assess progress on chemical safety, in the light of the targets set at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, in cooperation with other relevant processes” and the scheduled consideration of chemicals issues by the Commission on Sustainable Development during its 2010–2011 cycle;

(c) Ongoing discussions on the future of the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety following its fifth session, held in Budapest from 25 to 29 September 2006, and suggestions as to possible integration with SAICM in the future;

(d) Follow-up on the chemicals management objectives of the Health and Environment Ministers of the Americas, whose declaration adopted at their third meeting, held in Mar del Plata, Argentina, from 16 to 17 June 2005, is contained in document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/19;

(e) The proposal of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry for the United Nations to designate 2011 as the “International Year of Chemistry”, on which information can be found in document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/21.

(c) Regional implementation of the Strategic Approach

(i) Activities, initiatives and approaches to implement SAICM at the subregional and regional levels, including by industry and other actors

22. The meeting participants have before them document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/22, summarizing current activities, initiatives and approaches at the subregional and regional levels in the Latin American and Caribbean region. Representatives of the groups involved may wish to provide supplementary information at the meeting. The meeting participants may wish to note the activities, initiatives and approaches and consider ways of interconnecting them, where appropriate.

(ii) Promotion to obtain the commitment of regional organizations to the implementation of SAICM, including those concerned with regional economic integration and regional development banks

23. Paragraph 2 of the Overarching Policy Strategy of the Strategic Approach notes that the involvement of all relevant sectors and stakeholders, including at the regional level, is key to achieving the objectives of the Strategic Approach. A number of regional organizations and centres with responsibilities and expertise are potentially relevant to implementation of the Strategic Approach, including organizations with region-wide responsibilities such as the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the regional offices of IOMC participating organizations, centres associated with international agreements such as the Basel Convention, financial institutions such as the Inter-American Development Bank and networks of national entities such as cleaner production centres.

24. A draft directory of intergovernmental and other organizations at the global and regional levels of relevance to the implementation of the Strategic Approach in the Latin American and Caribbean region is contained in document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/5. The meeting participants may wish to assess the completeness and potential usefulness of the draft directory.

25. The meeting participants may also wish to exchange views on how to promote the engagement in Strategic Approach implementation of all relevant regional organizations through, for example, appropriate action by their governing bodies.

(iii) Promotion of the exchange of information and experiences from region to region

26. The meeting has before it document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/23 which considers mechanisms in other regions for the exchange of information relevant to Strategic Approach implementation and ideas on how to implement region-to-region exchanges of information. The meeting may wish to discuss possible mechanisms for information exchange within the Latin American and Caribbean region and with other regions.

(iv) Development of a regional action plan for implementation of the Strategic Approach in the Latin American and Caribbean region, considering existing subregional initiatives

27. In paragraph 22 of the Overarching Policy Strategy, it is noted that Strategic Approach regional implementation plans may be developed, as appropriate, in a similar fashion to national implementation plans. In that regard the meeting participants may wish to note the African regional action plan on SAICM implementation contained in the report of the African regional meeting, document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/6, and reflect on whether or not the Latin American and Caribbean countries should develop any kind of plan for collective action. As indicated in the report of the first meeting of the EU-JUSSCANNZ countries contained in document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/7, those countries concluded that it was not necessary to develop a regional action plan. The Central and Eastern European region, as indicated in the report of their meeting SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/8, concluded likewise. As indicated in the report of its meeting, SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/10, the Asia-Pacific region considered that the approaches discussed in other regional meetings were not practical for it, given the diversity and differing stages of development of the countries in the region. It was suggested that subregional information would be a starting point and that a potential regional action plan should be considered later. In considering whether to develop their own regional plan for SAICM implementation, participants in the current meeting may also wish to reflect on existing initiatives at the regional and subregional levels, as discussed under agenda item 4 (c) (i) above.

5. Quick Start Programme

28. In its resolution I/4, the International Conference on Chemicals Management established the SAICM Quick Start Programme (QSP), comprising a UNEP-administered trust fund and multilateral, bilateral and other forms of cooperation. The executive summary and strategic action plan of the QSP business plan adopted by the QSP Executive Board on 24 April 2007 is presented in document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/16 for the information of participants at the current meeting.

(a) Quick Start Programme trust fund

29. The secretariat will brief the meeting participants on the establishment of the QSP trust fund, the outcome of the first round of applications to the trust fund for project funding and progress in the second round. The meeting will have before it the following documents:

- (a) SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/13, status report on the SAICM Quick Start Programme;

- (b) SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/16, QSP business plan (executive summary and strategic action plan) ;
- (c) SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/17, guidelines for applications to the QSP trust fund;
- (d) SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/18, application materials for the QSP trust fund.

30. The representatives of the Latin American and Caribbean region on the QSP Executive Board may wish to share with the meeting participants information on the work of the Board in relation to the trust fund. The meeting participants may wish to discuss the operation of the QSP trust fund and considerations for the future, including the participation of Latin American and Caribbean countries in projects funded by the trust fund.

(b) Extension of the Quick Start Programme and presentation of other sources of financing for SAICM implementation

31. The meeting participants may wish to discuss the potential extension of the scope of the QSP beyond “enabling activities” with a view to providing guidance to the government regional representatives for Latin America and the Caribbean serving on the QSP Executive Board. The meeting participants may also wish to discuss other potential sources of financing for implementation of the Strategic Approach and in that regard may wish to refer to the arrangements set out in paragraph 19 of the Overarching Policy Strategy of the Strategic Approach, as contained in document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/1.

(c) Possible regional projects

32. As indicated in the QSP status report (SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/13), a number of trust fund applications for projects within the Latin American and Caribbean region have already been approved. The meeting participants may wish to discuss ways of facilitating greater use in the region of the support available from the trust fund. The meeting participants may also wish to have an initial discussion to identify potential priority regional projects for which Quick Start Programme funding proposals could be developed. Proposals for any such potential regional projects could be further elaborated by the interested parties after the meeting.

6. Preparation for the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management

(a) Agenda for the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management

33. The Overarching Policy Strategy of the Strategic Approach provides in paragraph 25 that the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management should be held in 2009 and that “where appropriate, sessions of the ICCM should be held back-to-back with meetings of the governing bodies of relevant intergovernmental organizations in order to enhance synergies and cost – effectiveness and to promote the Strategic Approach’s multi-sectoral nature”.

34. The secretariat has provisionally scheduled the second session of the Conference to take place in Geneva from 11 to 15 May 2009, immediately before the sixty-second World Health Assembly. The Conference session would itself be preceded by the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention.

35. At the request of the EU-JUSSCANNZ countries at their second meeting, the secretariat made available on the Strategic Approach web site (<http://www.chem.unep.ch/saicm/iccm/ICCM2/iccm2.htm>) on 6 August 2007, a consultation note concerning the arrangements for the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, including drafts of a provisional agenda, annotated provisional agenda and a budget and drawing attention to the high-level dimension of the Conference and links with the World Health Assembly and Stockholm Convention meeting.

36. The consultation note was reissued in Spanish on 18 December 2007 and is being provided for the current meeting as document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/4. The meeting participants may wish to form a common view on aspects of the preparations for the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management outlined in the note. Individual Governments and organizations may wish to submit additional comments to the secretariat by the deadline of 28 February 2008.

(b) Reporting to the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its second session on progress in SAICM implementation

37. In its paragraph 24, the Overarching Policy Strategy provides that the International Conference on Chemicals Management will undertake periodic reviews of the Strategic Approach. The functions of the Conference in that regard include receiving reports from all relevant stakeholders on progress in implementation of the Strategic Approach and evaluating it with a view to reviewing progress against the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation² 2020 target for the sound management of chemicals. The aforementioned reporting and reviews would be facilitated by the Strategic Approach secretariat, whose functions, as set out in paragraph 28 of the Overarching Policy Strategy, include reporting to the Conference on the implementation of the Strategic Approach by all participants.

38. With the support of the Government of Canada, work is well under way to develop appropriate reporting modalities including draft indicators of progress, the planning of a baseline report and establishment of arrangements for gathering information from stakeholders. This work is guided by an international project steering committee consisting of government representatives from each United Nations region and representatives of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

39. The international project steering committee has participated in regular teleconferences to guide the development of the reporting modalities. A summary of the status of the work is provided in document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/2. The participants at the current meeting may wish to take note of the work on reporting modalities and provide guidance to the regional representatives on the international project steering committee.

(c) Further development of the SAICM Global Plan of Action

40. The Dubai Declaration on International Chemicals Management contained a recommendation for the “use and further development of the [Strategic Approach] Global Plan of Action, to address current and ever-changing societal needs, as a working tool and guidance document for meeting the commitments to chemicals management expressed in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Bahia Declaration on Chemical Safety, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the 2005 World Summit Outcome and the Strategic Approach.” The Global Plan of Action, together with the other Strategic Approach texts and the resolutions of the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its first session, is reproduced in document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/1.

41. The executive summary of the Global Plan of Action notes that, in the document’s principal table, the columns dealing with suggested actors, targets and timeframes, indicators of progress and implementation aspects were not fully discussed and sufficient time was not available to achieve agreement during the process to develop the Strategic Approach. The executive summary also notes that participants in the process to develop the Strategic Approach were unable to conclude their discussions on a number of activities. These activities were reflected in table C of the draft Global Plan of Action contained in document SAICM/ICCM/.1/4³ but were ultimately not included in the Global Plan of Action as recommended in the Dubai Declaration for use and further development.

42. Views of participants in the meetings of other regions varied widely on whether there was a need to revise the Global Plan of Action or to revisit the former table C during the current intersessional period. The African and Central and Eastern European regions ultimately concluded that such work was not a current priority. The Asia-Pacific region noted that the Global Plan of Action was a living document that could serve as guidance for action on priorities. It was agreed that further national, regional and international experience in using the Global Plan of Action was needed to decide whether it should be revised. At their second meeting, EU-JUSSCANNZ countries agreed that rather than review the Global Plan of Action it would be better to develop a process for adding to the plan and identifying newly emerging issues.

(d) Preparation for the first meeting of the Open-ended Legal and Technical Working Group

43. At its first session, the International Conference on Chemicals Management agreed to apply the rules of procedure of the Preparatory Committee for the Development of the Strategic Approach, mutatis mutandis, to that session, on the understanding that the Conference would adopt its own rules of

² *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

³ Available on the Strategic Approach web site at www.chem.unep.ch/saicm. (See the meeting documents page for the first session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management.)

procedure at its second session. The meeting has before it, for information, document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/15, containing the rules of procedure of the Preparatory Committee for the Development of the Strategic Approach. The Conference also agreed that the groundwork for its second session on the issue of rules of procedure would be carried out by an open-ended legal and technical working group, which would meet a few months before the second session.

44. Building upon the views expressed at regional meetings the SAICM secretariat has developed a consultation note concerning preparations for the meeting of the Open-ended Legal and Technical Working Group, which has been provisionally scheduled to take place in Rome from 22 to 24 October 2008, back-to-back with the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention. This paper was published on the Strategic Approach web site on 26 July 2007 and reissued in Spanish on 17 December 2007. The consultation note, which is reproduced in document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/3, includes drafts of a provisional agenda and annotated provisional agenda for the meeting of the Working Group, possible participation formulas and budget estimates. The participants at the current meeting may wish to form a common view on aspects of the preparations for the meeting of the Working Group as outlined in the note. Individual Governments and organizations may wish to submit additional comments to the secretariat by the deadline of 28 February 2008.

7. Financial considerations

45. The provisions of the Strategic Approach relating to financial considerations are set out, principally, in section V of the Overarching Policy Strategy. References to the matter are also found in the Dubai Declaration on International Chemicals Management and in resolutions I/1 and I/4 of the International Conference on Chemicals Management. The meeting participants have before them, for information, document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/20, presenting the positions taken by other regions during regional meetings in 2006 and 2007. The meeting participants may wish to have a preliminary exchange of views on current and future financial arrangements for the implementation of the Strategic Approach in anticipation of discussion by the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its second session.

8. Establishment and activities of the SAICM secretariat and its indicative budget

46. The secretariat will introduce document SAICM/RM/LAC.1/INF/14, providing information on the establishment of the Secretariat, its services and budget outlook.

9. Possible regional and subregional meetings and other intersessional work

47. The meeting participants may wish to discuss their preference with regard to any further Latin American and Caribbean regional or subregional meetings to be held during the remainder of the period leading up to the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management.

10. Other matters

48. The meeting participants may wish to discuss any other items of business.

11. Adoption of the report

49. The meeting participants will be invited to consider and adopt the report of the meeting, with any necessary amendments. The meeting participants may wish to entrust the completion of the report to the rapporteur in consultation with the chair and secretariat.

12. Closure of the meeting

50. It is expected that the meeting will be closed by the chair by 6 p.m. on Saturday, 16 February 2008.
