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Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste Beyond 2020 - IP2

DRAFT THOUGHT-STARTER ON

OBJECTIVES AND MILESTONES

The present note is a work-in-progress document. It summarises some preliminary ideas and input from internal discussions among the EU and its Member States. It is not an agreed document or a proposal from the EU and its Member States. It can, however, be used to stimulate thinking and feed into the discussions on objectives and milestones for the second meeting of the process on the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020. Furthermore, it is a living document, which may be further developed internally as well as in the light of the discussions and the views expressed by other stakeholders.

Inputs on the Objectives and Milestones

Our aim for the Beyond 2020 process is to agree on framework which will foster a comprehensive multi-stakeholder, multi sector and proactive national and global approach to the management of chemicals and waste, in which harmful and costly problems can be avoided from the start, while still gaining the benefits from chemicals.

Chemicals are used in high and increasing volumes in a wide variety of products and processes. They are spread globally by air, water, soil, a growing trade with chemicals as such, and not the least in articles. With the long and intricate chemical supply chains and waste streams, international cooperation, in particular on knowledge sharing, capacity-building and information exchange is the only way forward.

To safeguard human health and the environment, hazardous substances of global concern throughout their lifecycle need to be tackled also at the global level. It is not possible to rely on national or regional efforts alone; hence international cooperation is needed as well as the development of national chemicals and waste management structures.

The number of strategic Objectives should ideally be limited e.g. to four or five (e.g. see A-D below) and would be complemented by several concrete milestones, with timelines, per Objective (for a total of approximately 20 Milestones). Indicators could subsequently be developed, as appropriate.

In the proposed structure the consideration has been that Objective A focus on national/regional implementation and Objectives B-D concern mainly issues on a global level that however also require national implementation. Without global action it is impossible to reach SMCW at national level, and vice-versa. The Overall Orientation and Guidance document (OOG) makes important prioritisations regarding national implementation in order to achieve SMCW. While national governmental activities for legal and institutional frameworks are fundamental, industry and the private sector throughout the value

chain needs to assume its full responsibility for the production of safe chemicals and their sound management along the whole value chain as well as related waste management.

The 11 basic elements of SMCW according to the Overall Orientation and Guidance (OOG) endorsed at ICCM4 in 2015 continue to be relevant and, have been included in Annex I). Furthermore, binding elements from MEAs may be used to deliver on more concrete milestones and more aspirational aims would be delivered through the multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral approach.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE A:

Risk reduction and adverse impact prevention or minimisation is achieved at all levels

MILESTONES

- A1. By 2025, countries have legal frameworks that define responsibilities and address risk reduction and prevention or minimisation of impacts through the life cycle of chemicals and waste and include relevant enforcement and compliance mechanisms.
- A2. By 2025, countries that have ratified chemicals and waste-related multilateral environmental agreements have incorporated them in their legal frameworks and implement and enforce their provisions.
- A3. By 2030, countries effectively enforce and cooperate to prevent and sanction traffic of illegal chemicals and illegal traffic of hazardous, banned and severely restricted chemicals and related wastes.
- A4. By 20XX, countries have institutional frameworks and multi-stakeholder and multi-sector coordination mechanisms in place.
- A5. By 20XX, countries reduce the number and deal effectively with chemical and waste accidents, including the operation of a sufficient number of poison control centres.
- A6. By 20XX, countries mobilise sufficient resources by implementing the integrated approach to financing of the sound management of chemicals and waste, including through responsibilities defined in legislation for all stakeholders, national budgeting processes and development plans, and effective cost recovery systems.
- A6. By 20XX, countries ensure by legal requirements or voluntary commitments that industry and, in particular, the chemical sector, provide a scientifically sound hazard evaluation for every new manufactured substance before placing it on the market.
- A7. By 20XX, countries have adopted and use incentives to enhance sustainable production and use of chemicals, including in the waste stage.
- A8. By 20XX, countries have education and awareness programmes about the environmental and health properties and impact of chemicals and waste, thereby also improving chemicals safety, retailers and consumers' choices and waste management.
- A9. By 2035, all countries have developed and implemented strategies for increasing waste prevention, reduction, reuse, recycling and other recovery.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE B:

Enhance implementation through knowledge generation and management, dissemination of information, planning and training

MILESTONES

- B1. By 20XX, countries where chemicals are produced keep, through legal requirements, a database on the properties of the chemicals produced and give global access to such data
- B2. By 2030, national and/or regional systems are in place for the collection and transparent sharing among stakeholders of available data on environmental monitoring and human biomonitoring of substances of concern and to develop information on how human health is impacted by chemicals.
- B3. By 2025, countries have implemented the GHS.
- B4. By 2025, retailers and manufacturers with global supply chains of articles use and apply responsible care / producer responsibility programme, such as the programme for information on Chemicals in Products (CiP) in the entire life cycle of chemicals, including the waste stage and disposal by the end user.
- B5. By 20XX, programmes are in place at national level for the training of scientific, technical and managerial personnel on the safe and sustainable production and use of chemicals and the sound management of waste, including risk assessments.
- B6. By 2025, all countries have developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national chemical strategy and action plan, including the waste stage.

Requirement to be noted

For Milestone B1, the base set of data could be defined at a global level and include also the possibility to expand the various data requirements in the future, with for example endocrine disruptors or nanomaterials, as there are new results from research. Standardised test methods and mutual acceptance of data should, to the extent possible, be used to provide this information.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE C:

Substances of global concern have been phased out or effectively restricted

MILESTONES

- C1. By 20XX, hazardous substances, or groups of substances, of global concern have been identified and phased out or effectively restricted, at the national level, throughout the entire life cycle, including the waste stages, in ways that exposure of humans and the environment is prevented or minimized.
- C2. By 20XX, highly hazardous pesticides are no longer in use, or are used in ways that prevent or minimise exposure of humans and the environment throughout their life cycle.
- C3. By 20XX, waste streams containing hazardous substances are managed in a safe and environmentally sound manner.

- C4. By 20XX, grouping strategies for hazardous substances are implemented by all stakeholders to effectively and efficiently avoid unsound substitution.
- C5. By 20XX, combination effects of chemicals have been included in risk assessment and risk management by all stakeholders to prevent and minimize adverse effects on human health and the environment.
- C6. Other Issues of concern, including pollution and contamination from materials, such as plastics, are effectively addressed at global, regional and national levels.

Requirement to be noted

For milestone C1 there is a need to consider the possibility of an international mechanism defining and prioritising substances to be addressed. Countries could then make commitments on phasing out these chemicals at a national level.

One of the purposes of C1 is to promote circular economy, including prevention, reduction, and recycling of hazardous wastes by removing hazardous substances.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE D:

Best practices and alternatives are in use to ensure safety and enhance benefits from chemicals throughout their life cycle, including the waste stage

MILESTONES

- D1. By 20XX, agreed international standards and codes of conduct, best available techniques and best available practices for the sound management of chemicals and waste are implemented by industry and other operators throughout the value chain including cost recovery systems.
- D2. By 20XX, industry and other operators throughout the value chain have incorporated the development, production and use of sustainable and safe alternatives, including non-chemical alternatives, into their corporate policies and practices.
- D3. By 20XX, industry and other operators throughout the value chain are responsible for ensuring that the products that they put on the market are sustainable, including in the waste stage.