

AFRICAN GROUP CLOSING STATEMENT FOR THE THIRD MEETING OF THE INTERSESSIONAL PROCESS CONSIDERING THE STRATEGIC APPROACH AND THE SOUND MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS AND WASTE BEYOND 2020, 30 SEPTEMBER TO 4 OCTOBER 2019, BANGKOK, THAILAND

04 OCTOBER 2019

Thank you Co-chair

The African Group wishes to thank you the Co-Chairs of the Intersessional Process and the Bureau for leading us in an excellent and efficient way during these past four days. We also thank all delegates for their active participation, commitment and valuable contribution.

Co-chair,

The African group acknowledges the hard work that has been undertaken at this IP3 meeting, however we note that the process has been quite slow and there is therefore need for us to quicken the pace and take stock of all outstanding issues in readiness for IP4. In preparing for IP4 the African group would like to highlight the following points:

- a) We are looking forward to further deliberations on finance in order to come up with an innovative, robust and inclusive financial mechanism that provides adequate, sufficient and sustainable financing for SAICM2.0 and the post-2020 framework. We call upon the Secretariat to therefore provide all the necessary papers, including the resource mobilization strategy paper, which will inform a constructive discussion at IP4 for identifying these workable financial mechanisms.
- b) On the post 2020 framework for the sound management of chemicals and waste, we wish to thank the Government of Germany for the work that has been done so far and the offer to

host a workshop in early 2020. The paper has been useful in informing the discussions here at IP3, however, our region is of the view that there is need for further discussions on this paper between IP3 and IP4. This will enable all stakeholders to discuss this paper in detail to come up with a structured framework for managing chemicals and waste.

- c) The African Group also requests that further discussions on targets and indicators be undertaken between IP3 and IP4 to further refine this work. In this regard it is our hope that a transparent and more inclusive mechanism will be followed in bringing together a team that will undertake this work.
- d) On issues of concern, the African Group is looking forward to a post 2020 framework that would be able to mainstream the current issues of concern into the new framework and provide mechanisms to identify and to detect new issues of concern. As well as, develop plans of action to address current and new issues while developing mechanisms to further monitor progress in addressing these. We also believe that such a process should have the precautionary principle embedded in it to ensure that lack of information does not warrant inaction.
- e) On science policy interface, the Group is of the view that a science body similar to the IPCC is paramount. Such a body will not only raise the political profile of the sound management of chemicals and waste, but will provide an informed process to enhance implementation at the national, regional and global levels, as well as build capacity.

In conclusion, the African Group avails itself for any intercessional work that might help advance work on the four thematic areas. We

believe that collaboratively, countries and all stakeholders will work towards an ambitious outcome for a Beyond 2020 Framework for the Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste that will minimize and prevent adverse effects of chemicals and waste to human health and the environment.

We wish all delegates a safe journey home and hope to meet you during the IP4.

Thank you Co-chair