

# Intersessional Process to consider SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020

Overview of Co-Chairs' Paper  
Meeting Document SAICM/OEWG.3/4

OEWG3 April 2-4 2019

David Morin  
Leticia Carvalho

# Co-Chairs Approach

- Develop a paper in consultation with the Bureau and supported by the secretariat for submission to OEWG3 to be used as a basis for discussion on the Beyond 2020 platform.
- In keeping with ICCM4 resolution IV/4, we also considered:
  - recommendations identified in the first and second intersessional meetings and taking into account stakeholder submissions to and outcomes of regional meetings.
  - the UN 2030 SDGs; UNEA Resolution 1/5 and outcome document “*strengthening the sound management of chemicals and wastes in the long term*”;
  - The *Overall Orientation and Guidance Document* for achieving the 2020 goal; the **Dubai Declaration** and the SAICM *Overarching Policy Strategy*;
  - World Health Assembly Resolution WHA 69.4 and the ensuing Roadmap to enhance health sector engagement in SAICM towards 2020 and beyond;
  - conclusions of the independent evaluation of SAICM; and
  - Other related documents from other fora

# Overview

- i. Introduction
- ii. Vision
- iii. Scope
- iv. Principles and approaches
- v. Strategic objectives for the sound management of chemicals and waste
- vi. Institutional arrangements
- vii. Mechanisms to support implementation
- viii. Financial considerations

Annex A. Associated measurable targets per strategic objective

# Vision, Principles and Approaches

- Stakeholders have indicated that the vision should be timeless, aspirational, inclusive, simple, positive, and easy to communicate
- Proposed vision: *Protect human health and the environment from harmful effects of chemicals and waste, ensuring healthy lives and a sustainable, safe planet for all*
- Refer to principles and approaches already embodied in relevant existing declarations and agreements that are:
  - global in scope,
  - specifically related to the management of chemicals and waste, and
  - agreed to at the highest levels.

# Scope

- Includes
  - The environmental, economic, social, health, agricultural and labour aspects of managing chemicals and waste, in order to enhance sustainable development and circularity.
  - The involvement of all relevant sectors and stakeholders across the lifecycle at the local, national, regional and global levels, is critical to sound management of chemicals and waste.
  - Stakeholders include Governments, regional economic integration organizations, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, industry/businesses, retailers and academia.
  - Sectors are understood to be, but not limited to, agriculture, environment, health, education, finance, development, construction and labour.
- There is still some debate between participants as to the scope of non-chemical related waste issues to be included

# Scope – SAICM 2.0 and SMOCW

- Many stakeholders indicated a desire for SAICM to continue, though some modifications to the model including enhanced sectoral engagement and improved implementation arrangements. This is the focus of the co-chair's paper.
- Others have suggested that the conversation also needs to be about a broader, global strategy or platform for chemicals and waste under one umbrella. Need to determine if participants wish to discuss a possible broader platform.
- It is proposed that the OEWG consider the applicability of the vision, objectives and targets to a broader platform that could influence the overall sound management of chemicals and waste.

# Strategic Objectives, Targets and Milestones

- Five strategic objectives and 20 related targets that are felt to be applicable to SAICM 2.0 as well as any higher level platform
- The program of work needs to be realistic yet ambitious, established in a way where progress toward achieving the vision can be tracked, it should be scalable to meet the needs of individual countries, with emphasis on capacity for basic chemicals management

## Outstanding issues:

- Approach to milestones (how to use to obtain stakeholder commitment and engagement)
- Indicators and process for reporting to avoid burden but provide meaningful data
- Mechanism to update the targets (especially if time bound) and milestones

# Considerations: Draft Strategic Objectives

- Articulate five objectives that are short, easily understood, and aspirational.
- Each of the strategic objectives has associated measurable targets as well as specific linkages to the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Recognise that we are at different places in our journey on the SMOCW.
- Should help align to maximize our respective strengths, capacities, roles and responsibilities and work toward our common vision together.
- Draft objectives build on those reviewed by the Bureau last June, and discussed at the Bureau meeting in January.

# Strategic Objective A

Measures are identified, implemented and enforced in order to prevent and minimize harm from chemicals throughout their lifecycle and waste.

*Intended to address the need for all countries to have a basic capacity, legal frameworks, and institutional mechanisms, to manage chemicals and waste, including illegal trafficking, and for other stakeholders, such as industry, to also assume their responsibilities for preventing harm from chemicals throughout the lifecycle.*

# Objective A – Targets

- Target A.1: Countries adopt, implement and enforce legal frameworks that address prevention and reduction of adverse impacts from chemicals throughout their lifecycle and waste.
- Target A.2: Countries have sufficient capacity to address chemicals and waste issues nationally, including appropriate inter-agency coordination and stakeholder participation mechanisms, such as national action plans.
- Target A.3: Countries are implementing the chemicals and waste-related multilateral environmental agreements, as well as health, labour and other relevant conventions, and voluntary mechanisms such as the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.

# Objective A – Targets continued

- Target A.4: Stakeholders have incorporated the sound management of chemicals throughout their lifecycle and waste into their planning, policies and practices, thereby supporting the development and implementation of chemicals management systems and other sector appropriate mechanisms.
- Target A.5: Government and industry ensure that workers are protected from the risks associated with chemicals and waste, and that workers have the means to protect themselves.

# Strategic Objective B

**Comprehensive and sufficient knowledge, data, information and awareness is generated, available and accessible to all to enable informed decisions and actions.**

*Intended to address need for new information and data to be generated to address gaps and for greater transparency and accessibility, as well as to address the need for training and education to protect all levels of society.*

# Objective B – Targets

Target B.1: Comprehensive data and information for chemicals on the market, are available and accessible including information and data on properties, health and environmental effects, uses, hazard and risk assessment results and risk management measures and regulatory status throughout their lifecycle.

Target B.2: All stakeholders, in particular industry and regulators, have and are using the most appropriate /standardized tools, guidelines and best practices for assessments and sound management as well as prevention of harm, risk reduction, monitoring and enforcement.

# Objective B – Targets continued

Target B.3: Information and standardized methods are available and used to understand the impacts of chemicals and waste for improved burden of disease and cost of inaction estimates, to inform the advancement of chemical safety measures and measure progress toward reducing these impacts.

Target B.4: Educational, training and public awareness programmes on chemical safety and sustainability have been developed and implemented, including for vulnerable populations; worker safety and curriculum programmes at all levels.

Target B.5: Countries and stakeholders are implementing training on environmentally sound and safer alternatives, as well as substitution and use of safer alternatives, such as agroecology.

# Strategic Objective C

Issues of concern that warrant global action are identified, prioritized and addressed.

*Intended to address the need to effectively identify, select and address issues of global concern that warrant global action.*

# Objective C – Targets

- Target C.1: Programmes of work including timelines are established, adopted and implemented for identified issues of concern.
- Target C.2: Information on the properties and risk management of chemicals across the supply chain and chemical contents of products is available to all to enable informed decisions.

# Strategic Objective D

**Benefits are maximized and risks prevented to human health and the environment through innovative and sustainable solutions and forward-thinking.**

*Intended to address the ongoing need for innovative thinking and solutions to address current and future aspects of managing chemicals and waste, such as circular economy, green and sustainable chemistry, safer alternatives, and better recycling technologies.*

# Objective D – Targets

- Target D.1: Companies adopt corporate policies and practices that promote resource efficiency and that incorporate the development, production and use of sustainable and safer alternatives, including new technologies and non-chemical alternatives.
- Target D.2: Governments implement policies that promote innovation to facilitate recycling and re-use of products, the adoption of sustainable and safe alternatives, including new technologies and non-chemical alternatives (e.g. prioritized licensing for reduced risk alternatives, assessment framework, labelling schemes, and purchasing policies etc.).

# Objective D – Targets continued

- Target D.3: Companies, including from the investment sector, incorporate strategies and policies to support the sound management of chemicals and waste in their investment approaches and business models apply internationally – recognized reporting standards where relevant.
- Target D.4: Companies apply sustainable production principles and lifecycle management in the design of chemicals, materials and products taking reduced risk, design-for-recycling, and non-chemical solutions and processes into account.
- Target D.5: Industry associations promote change towards sustainability and safe management of chemicals and consumer products throughout their lifecycles, including in sharing information and building capacity of small and medium-sized enterprises to reduce risks.

# Strategic Objective E

The importance of sound management of chemicals and waste to achieve sustainable development is recognized by all, actions are accelerated and necessary partnerships are established to foster interaction among stakeholders and to mobilize resources.

*Intended to address the need for high level commitment across sectoral boundaries, to ensure appropriate attention is given, partnerships established and actions taken to accelerate progress, and to contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.*

# Objective E – Targets

- Target E.1: The highest levels of stakeholder organizations, including government, industry, civil society and international organizations in all relevant sectors formally recognize the importance of and commit to action on the sound management of chemicals and waste, and its relevance to sustainable development.

# Objective E – Targets continued

- Target E.2: Policies and processes for the management of chemicals and waste are integrated into national and regional development strategies.
- Target E.3: Inter and intra–sectoral partnerships, networks and collaborative mechanisms are established to mobilize resources, to share information, experiences and lessons learned, and to promote coordinated action at the regional and international levels.

# Institutional Arrangements

- General desire for a multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral venue to continue.
- Now is the time to re-energize political commitment and foster new partnerships and arrangements for a better future of collaboration and effort to prevent and reduce harm from chemicals and waste. The question is how?
- Considerations on possible roles of:
  - Forum for high-level engagement
  - International Conference (governing body)
  - Bureau of the International Conference
  - The Secretariat

# Mechanisms to Support Implementation

- Rules of Procedure
- National implementation
- Regional cooperation and coordination
- Engagement of non-government actors
- Engagement of the IOMC organizations and chemicals and waste-related conventions
- Subsidiary Bodies and/or Ad hoc bodies
- Other mechanisms to support implementation

# Financial Considerations

Noting that many stakeholders as well as the results of the SAICM evaluation have indicated that adequate, sustainable and predictable financing, including for the secretariat, is crucial to the success of any beyond 2020 framework, the following elements could be considered:

- Integrated approach to financing
- Specific fund to support implementation
- Establishment of / and engagement in multi-sectoral partnerships
- Financing the Secretariat
- Financing for IOMC organisations to support additional work
- Other opportunities to mobilise resources.

# Next Steps

- Two processes have been discussed in parallel.
  - SAICM 2.0
  - Overarching platform on the Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste.
- Focus has been on the “what”, now there is a need for greater discussion on the “how”.