
**Seventeenth meeting of the Quick Start Programme
Trust Fund Implementation Committee**
Rome
26 November 2014

Provisional report of the 17th meeting of the Trust Fund Implementation Committee of the Quick Start Programme of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management*

Introduction

1. In resolution I/4 adopted at its first session, the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM) decided to establish the Quick Start Programme (QSP) to support initial enabling capacity building and implementation activities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. The Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) was requested to establish a voluntary, time-limited trust fund to provide seed money to support QSP objectives in accordance with resolution I/4.

2. Representatives of the participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC)¹ were invited to form a Trust Fund Implementation Committee to review and appraise projects to be financed by the QSP Trust Fund.

I. Opening of the meeting

3. The 17th meeting of the Committee was held at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations headquarters in Rome on 26 November 2014. The representative of the secretariat opened the meeting at 9 a.m.

II. Organizational matters

A. Election of a chairperson

4. Mr. Mark Davis, Senior Officer, Pesticide Management Plant Production and Protection Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, was elected by the Committee to chair the meeting.

* The report of the meeting is issued on a provisional basis and will be considered for adoption by the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund Implementation Committee at its 18th meeting.

¹ The participating organizations of IOMC are the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the World Bank and the World Health Organization (WHO).

B. Adoption of the agenda

5. The members of the Committee adopted the following agenda for the meeting:
 1. Opening of the meeting.
 2. Organizational matters:
 - a. Election of a chairperson;
 - b. Adoption of the agenda;
 - c. Organization of work.
 3. Adoption of the report of the 16th meeting of the Committee.
 4. Summary of outcomes of the 9th meeting of the Quick Start Programme Executive Board.
 5. Review and appraisal of project proposals in the 14th round of applications to the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund.
 6. Status of projects funded under the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund.
 7. Other matters.
 8. Next meeting.
 9. Adoption of the report.
 10. Closure of the meeting.

C. Organization of work

6. The Committee agreed to meet from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Wednesday 26 November 2014.

D. Attendance

7. The following organizations were represented: FAO, ILO (by teleconference), OECD, UNEP, UNIDO, UNITAR and WHO. The Committee noted the absence of UNDP and the World Bank. The SAICM secretariat served as the secretariat to the meeting.

III. Adoption of the report of the 16th meeting of the Committee

8. The Committee adopted document SAICM/TF.17/2, Provisional report of the 16th meeting of the QSP Trust Fund Implementation Committee, held in Vienna, on 25-26 November 2013.

IV. Summary of outcomes of the 9th meeting of the Quick Start Programme Executive Board

9. The secretariat provided an update to the Committee on the outcomes of the 9th meeting of the Executive Board of the Quick Start Programme, held on 9 May 2014 in Geneva, as set out in document SAICM/TF.17/3.
10. The secretariat informed the Committee of the decision of the Executive Board to open a non-chemical alternatives-only round, closing on 30 September 2014, with the 20 per cent NGO ceiling waived.
11. During its 9th meeting, the Board also discussed how approved projects yet to receive funding under the QSP Trust Fund should consider further incorporating mainstreaming elements. In response, UNDP, UNEP and UNITAR agreed to develop a guidance note to assist QSP project implementers to take into account mainstreaming elements. The SAICM secretariat has made this Note available on the SAICM web page. The guidance note was made available to the Committee in document SAICM/TF.17/INF/4.

12. The Executive Board re-iterated that the extension of the QSP Trust Fund involved a commitment to continue to finance the Trust Fund. The Board also decided that the final fundraising target for the period 2014-2015 until ICCM4, is to be set to the level of the currently approved 17 projects from the thirteenth round of applications that are awaiting funding (US\$3.7 million). The secretariat informed the Committee that the Business Plan for the QSP had been updated accordingly.

13. In addition, the Executive Board decided that the secretariat should propose to the International Conference on Chemicals Management a realistic date for the closure of the Trust Fund, and that, once agreed, such a date should be communicated to UNEP. The secretariat clarified that the term for contributions to the QSP Trust Fund will end at ICCM4 but the date for full and final closure of the Trust Fund for the management of the financial accounts, including disbursements and receipt of returned funds, is to be decided.

14. The secretariat reported that the Executive Board, after a discussion on the merits of the Senior Expert Resource Group (SERG), decided that the secretariat may continue with the scheme but without investing significant resources in promoting or operating it, unless specifically required by a project. The QSP Trust Fund Implementation Committee sought clarification on the role and functioning of the SERG. The secretariat explained the scheme, and added that projects that had been appropriate for the SERG had been contacted, but no final utilisation of the Group was requested.

15. The Committee took note of the information provided by the secretariat regarding the outcomes of the 9th meeting of the Quick Start Programme Executive Board.

V. Review and appraisal of project proposals in the 14th round of applications to the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund

16. The secretariat reported that in the 14th round of applications, which closed on 30 September 2014, it received 19 applications, including 7 from Governments and 12 from civil society.

17. In compliance with resolution I/4 of the International Conference on Chemicals Management and following guidance by the QSP Executive Board, the secretariat screened the applications and presented the complete and eligible applications to the Committee for appraisal and possible approval. The SAICM secretariat proposed, subject to the endorsement by the Trust Fund Implementation Committee, 14 complete and eligible applications to be considered by the Committee, seeking a total funding of US\$3,097,363.

A. Completeness and eligibility

18. The secretariat reported that it considered that applications from two governments and three civil society networks had not met the requirements for completeness and/or eligibility. The Committee endorsed the conclusions of the secretariat explained to them and indicated in paragraphs 5 and 6 of document SAICM/TF.17/6, summarizing applications, and confirmed that the following applications would therefore not be appraised by the Committee:

a. Government applications

1) The application for a project in Tanzania (QSPTF/14/14/GOV/A), entitled “Dissemination and Adaptation of Environment-Friendly Technologies to Farming Situations of Smallholder Farmers in Handeni, Korogwe and Same Districts, Tanzania” was found to be incomplete and ineligible. The applicant was unable to provide a complete form I with the signature of the national focal point.

2) The application for a project in the Republic of Congo (QSPTF/14/14/GOV/B), entitled “Etude sur la promotion des alternatives aux pesticides en Républiques du Congo” was found to be incomplete and ineligible. The applicant was unable to provide all three application forms by the deadline.

b. Civil society networks applications

1) The application of the Association pour la Protection de l’Environnement et du Développement Durable Bizerte (APEDDUB) (QSPTF/14/14/NGO/A) for a project in Algeria and Tunisia entitled “Orgapaint: alternative methods to reduce heavy metals in paint in the field of toys and environment in Tunisia and Algeria” was found to be ineligible because the signatures of the Algerian national focal point and relevant NGO focal point were missing.

2) The application of the Groupe d'Action Pour la Promotion et la Protection de la Flore et de la Faune (GAPROFFA) (QSPTF/14/14/NGO/B) for a project entitled "Promotion of No Chemical Alternatives for Protection of Human Health and Environment in West Africa: Benin, Mali and Ghana" was found to be ineligible as the signatures of the national focal points from Ghana and Mali were not received and there was confirmation of no support from UNITAR, even though it was named as executing agency.

3) The application of the Union of Cooperatives and Associations Agro pastoral (UCAA) (QSPTF/14/14/NGO/C) for a project entitled "Technical capacity building of producers cooperatives and associations members of the Union of Cooperatives Agro Pastoral on the method of 'Integrated Production and Protection (IPP)'" was found to be ineligible because forms II and III were missing and there was no indication of support from UNIDO, even though it was named as executing agency.

B. Appraisal and decisions

19. The secretariat informed the Committee that there is US\$702,223 available for projects in the 14th round of QSP applications earmarked for non-chemical alternatives. The Committee had before it the document on the status of the QSP Trust Fund, document SAICM/TF.17/4, summarizing the financial contributions and situation of the QSP Trust Fund together with information on the outstanding project agreements, and document SAICM/TF.17/6, summary of applications, which outlines the finances in relation to availability for the 14th round of applications.

20. The Committee took note of the US\$702,223 available for projects in the 14th round of QSP applications, for non-chemical alternatives and decided to have three categories of approvals for this round: approved, conditionally approved and declined.

21. The Committee reviewed and discussed the 14 complete and eligible applications and granted approval to one project of US\$249,259. The Committee further decided to approve with conditions four projects with a combined value of US\$788,880.

22. The five approved or conditionally approved projects submitted involve activities in six countries. The geographical breakdown of the six countries are one from the African region, one from the Asia and the Pacific region, two from the Central and Eastern European region, and one from the Latin America and the Caribbean region. The approved or conditionally approved projects are multi-sectoral in scope, relating to agriculture, environment, health, industry, labour, and tourism.

23. The decisions of the Committee on the individual project proposals are summarized as follows:

a. **One project of US\$249,259 was approved:**

1) Project proposal Project proposal **QSPTF/14/14/NGO/07**, submitted by **Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF)** for US\$249,259: "Dry toilets – Reducing chemicals and contamination of drinking water sources in rural communities in Bosnia-Herzegovina, FYR Macedonia and Albania". The project will address the problem of drinking water contamination, caused by widely used pit-latrines in rural areas, poor management of water resources, intensive use of chemical fertilizers, and open and unsafe disposal of waste. The project will generate a reduction in the use of chemicals and will offer a non-chemical alternative with advantages such as: reduction of the contamination of surface water, recycling of the organic and mineral matters in soils by composting and reduction of the synthetic fertilizers. The project will identify appropriate simple, affordable decentralized sanitation systems, such as urine diverting dry toilets (UDDT) and composting and promote their adaptation. The project will demonstrate appropriate technologies for toilets, production of fertilizers, composting, organic fertilizers, water treatment, with the public participation of the communities to be served, by constructing as demonstration objects: 3 UDDTs, 3 grey filters, 3 composting sites and 3 demonstration gardens. The action will focus on prevention of environmental pollution by using non-chemical alternatives, on health and hygiene education so that physical facilities would be properly used and maintained. The action will provide the community basic knowledge for a successful planning and implementation of ecological and affordable sanitation, and provide knowledge for prevention of the eutrophication of tectonic lakes and rivers.

b. **Four projects** with a combined value of **US\$788,880** received **conditional approval**. These projects would receive funding in the order listed below, providing the conditions for approval have been met as appropriate. The projects are the following:

1) Project proposal **QSPTF/14/14/GOV/02**, submitted by **Jordan** for US\$190,080: “Applying Eco-innovative Strategies for Chemical Risk Reduction in Jordanian industry” with UNEP as executing agency. This project addresses the need to build capacity of Jordanian small and medium sized companies to eliminate hazardous (chemical) products and processes over the lifecycle of their products. The project aims at promoting non-chemical alternatives in the Jordanian industry (particularly SMEs) through UNEP's Eco-Innovation Approach and related guidance for the chemical sector. The project activities comprise the adaptation of the Chemical Sector Supplement to Jordan, training to companies and pilot implementation in 5 companies. The results will be disseminated through partners in Jordan (Chamber of Industry) and in the region (RECP-net and Regional Activity Centre on SCP) and related projects (SWITCH-MED). The project will result in improved capacities of SMEs using chemicals and serving the construction industry to reduce risks of use of chemicals and to develop economically viable products and processes that are sustainable and less hazardous in the long term. The project will build local capacities to deliver targeted technical assistance through UNEP developed approaches and guidance documents on Eco-innovation. Particularly, it aims to engage the local business sector that is serving the construction industry in improved chemical management and in developing processes and products using non-chemical alternatives. The Committee approved the project but suggested that the level of ambition in terms of number of case studies and people trained should be raised; the sectors identified; and the focus of the Manual should be sound chemicals management. In addition, a letter from the Chamber of Industries is to be provided.

2) Project proposal **QSPTF/14/14/NGO/05**, submitted by **Southeast European Center for Surveillance and Control of Infectious Diseases (SECID)**: “Building capacities and raising awareness on integrated non-chemical control of mosquitoes (INCMC) in Albania”. The project objective is to build capacities and to raise awareness on integrated non-chemical control of mosquitoes in Albania. The main project activities are: analysis of the national capacities, identifying gaps and needs; building capacities on INCMC, through preparation of training materials, trainings and study tours; and preparation of a handbook on INCMC; awareness raising activities, with decision makers and targeted public groups; completion of the relevant legislation and mainstreaming of INCMC into the relevant strategic documents; preparation of an operational guideline for INCMC on roles and coordination of stakeholders. The implementation of the project by SECID will be an advantage for the governmental institutions, which will receive assistance in coordination, analysis, strengthening capacities, facilitating surpassing the bureaucratic barriers. Another advantage of SECID is its higher regional outreach within countries of South East Europe and coordination of IHR implementation activities. The QSP TFIC indicated the need for taking out the study tour involving travel out of the country. The amount considered for this project will therefore be US\$241,000, lowered from US\$250,000.

3) Project proposal **QSPTF/14/14/NGO/09**, submitted by **Eco Ethics- Kenya** for US\$108,200: “Promoting the use of alternatives to chemicals and pesticides in the hotel and tourism industry of Kenya”. The project’s overriding goal is to promote the use of alternatives to chemicals and pesticides in the hotel and tourism industry of Kenya in the control of disease vectors. The strategic objectives are. i) to conduct a comprehensive survey on pesticide use and available alternatives in hotel and tourism establishments; ii) to isolate local alternatives to chemicals and pesticides within the hotel and tourism sector along the Kenyan coast iii) to propose Best Available Technologies (BATs) and Best Environmental Practices (BEPs) in regard to identified alternatives to chemicals and pesticides iv) to build capacities of hotel and tourism industry stakeholders to adopt the identified chemical alternatives and accompanying BATs and BEPs; v). Input into national policy. The project is expected to isolate some of the locally available chemical alternatives to pesticides and other chemicals. The main activities will include: mobilize stakeholders and CSOs within the target area; organize and hold project launch meeting; hold informal meetings with stakeholders orienting them to the project objectives; conduct a comprehensive survey of pesticide use and alternatives; organize and attend results dissemination forums; develop information materials; disseminate information on BATs and BEPs; establish an information network throughout the target region. The Committee conditionally approved the project indicating that the theme was very pertinent. It was noted that the terms of reference for project personnel are to be provided, and an endorsement letter from the Ministry of Environment. Furthermore, the number of laptops to be purchased by the project needs to be reduced.

4) Project proposal **QSPTF/14/14/GOV/01**, submitted by **El Salvador** for US\$249,600: “Contribute to better pesticide use and management in the Municipality of San Luis Talpa, Department of La Paz, El Salvador” with FAO as executing agency. As a result of the problems with use and handling of pesticides, and the problems described that threaten human health and the

environment, an awareness-raising and capacity-building process is proposed for implementation with local stakeholders. This will strengthen competencies in developing sustainable farming models that substitute pesticides. The project seeks to decrease risks to the environment and human health by using non-chemical alternatives. Within this framework, the project's overall goal is to reduce the risks associated with pesticide use through sustainable management of family-based farming. Specific objectives are as follows: develop a research and dissemination process to share information on the health risks associated with exposure to pesticides; strengthen capacities of public institutions and local stakeholders on newer, sustainable farming models, prevention, health risk reduction, and the environment and; provide farmers from the project implementation area with alternate options of newer, sustainable farming models to reduce risks to health and the environment. The Committee conditionally approved this proposal. The applicant is to improve the implementation plan and the budget, particularly with regard to reducing the amounts related to the analysis for chemicals and fuel, in order to increase the impact. Furthermore, UNIDO needs to provide the final certified financial report.

If the first two projects meet the conditions established by the Committee they will receive the funding available for non-chemical alternatives in the 14th round. In this case, the proposal submitted by Eco Ethics-Kenya will be added to the list of four projects from civil society organizations which had been approved in previous rounds, but were not funded in the 13th round. These projects remain eligible for consideration in future rounds if sufficient funds become available in the Trust Fund. The project proposal submitted by El Salvador will be added to the end of prioritised list of approved projects that are waiting to receive funding.

c. **Nine projects with a combined value of US\$2,050,224 were declined:**

1) Project proposal **QSPTF/14/14/GOV/03**, submitted by Morocco for US\$241,499: "Promotion of non-chemical alternatives in the Mediterranean", in Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia, with UNEP/MAP (Mediterranean Action Plan) as executing agency. The project seeks to provide state-of-the-art knowledge, public awareness, capacity building, technical assistance, policy advice, regional-national cooperation and coordination and exchange of information on non-chemical alternatives, technologies and products in six Mediterranean countries. Jordan will informally collaborate on the proposed project. In particular, the project seeks to promote non-chemical alternatives in multiple sectors - food production, construction/housing and public and private sanitation and drinking water - by using our partner's led Subsport, Substitution (of hazardous chemicals) Support Portal (www.subsport.eu), as a root work and by conducting several specific activities. These activities include, developing a summary document on the current situation of non-chemical alternatives in participating countries while providing a guide at technical, legal-policy and supply (local green entrepreneurs) and demand (consumer) level. Second, the proposed project plans to develop a project website, organize a Regional Workshop on non-chemical alternatives as a parallel event of a SWITCH-MED Congress and project (www.switchmed.eu) and implement a communication plan and dissemination of information activities at national and international level. The Committee declined the proposal because it does not demonstrate that the project would be country-driven, the lack of partner engagement in some objectives and the involvement of external institutions with high salary costs.

2) Project proposal **QSPTF/14/14/GOV/04**, submitted by Iran for US\$250,000: "Constructing a Facility for Composting Biodegradable Organic Waste in Siri Island in the Persian Gulf". This project will contribute to: waste reduction in Siri Island and oil platform around it; replacement of synthetic fertilizers with compost fertilizer; preventing the release of organic wastes, their leachate and hazardous chemicals such as nitrate and phosphate to the unique ecosystem of Persian Gulf by surface and ground water. Implementation activities during the project will include: land preparation and landscaping; construction activities (constructing hangars and buildings); supply, installation and commissioning of equipment; commissioning of the plant; one year's operation, trainings, seminars and workshops. The QSP TFIC considered that this proposal is out of the scope of the Programme and, therefore, the Committee decided to decline it.

3) Project proposal **QSPTF/14/14/GOV/05**, submitted by Cuba for US\$250,000: "Responsible and sustainable management of sludge waste from industrial gas production in Cuba" executed by UNIDO. The project will focus on two main outcomes: elaboration of a strategy for responsible and sustainable management of chemicals and waste and; pilot demonstration plant for the production of commercial paint from acetylene sludge. The project will promote the local use of acetylene sludge waste to produce paint that will be used in constructions, e.g. buildings, industrial premises and schools. Several workshops and field visits will be carried out to share the experiences of the project

as widely as possible in the country. The Committee was not fully convinced that this proposal fits with the substitution concept. In addition, no support to the establishment of a commercial enterprise can be provided. Therefore, the Committee decided to decline the proposal.

4) Project proposal **QSPTF/14/14/NGO/01**, submitted by **Sustainlabour** for US\$244,770: “Hazardous Chemicals Substitution Network” in Brazil, Dominican Republic, Malawi, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay. This project aims to strengthen the capacity to implement non-chemical alternatives to hazardous substances in seven countries by raising awareness, training and advising decision makers of national institutions, economic sectors and civil society and to support implementation of substitution projects in participating countries. An international technical committee constituted by recognized experts will be established to offer ongoing advice. To carry out all activities, multistakeholder and multidisciplinary teams will be organized per country. Training will seek to provide participants with the tools and knowledge for substitution and existing updated knowledge. General and sectoral trainings will be conducted. Capacity training will seek to strengthen preventive approaches, active risks identification and eliminate them by substitution. Assessing possibilities for replication of these projects in other participating countries seeks to multiply the results once the project is completed. The use of social networks and newsletters, along with a constant effort throughout the project to expand the database of organizations and individuals interested in the subject, will spread tools and results to thousands of beneficiaries. In all activities, the sectoral approaches will enhance common work on solutions from different countries despite their different national circumstances. A study done in the first semester will be fundamental to agree on key challenges and priorities per country, sectors to focus on, and specific projects to be advised during the project. The Committee recognised that the initiative was built on the applicant experience. However, this experience was not well reflected in the proposal and some areas remain unclear such as the criteria for the selection of the countries. The QSP TFIC also expressed concerns about the high salaries. Therefore, the proposal was declined.

5) Project proposal **QSPTF/14/14/NGO/02**, submitted by **Propreté, Environnement et Santé** (PES) for US\$152,908: “Work of awareness community monitoring on the effects of pesticides on health and environment” in Burundi. The goal of the project is to sensitize communities on the effects of pesticides on human health and environment. The activities will include an inventory of products used and survey of the pesticides market. Through the sensitization, it will provide the support of standards and the certification mechanisms. The outputs will focus on: identifying the importers, manufacturers, and distributors of pesticides and availability of technically higher and surer substitute products; sensitizing the authorities and the public on the negative effects of pesticides and; promoting an assistance in order to identify and to reduce the potential exposure to pesticides in the public and in environment. The Committee decided to decline the proposal because its focus is on awareness raising and the compliance with the non-chemical alternatives criteria is unclear. In addition, the applicant did not provide any endorsement letter or terms of reference for the personnel, and the proposal does not mention any other initiatives related to pesticides that are being implemented in the country, which could complement the intervention.

6) Project proposal **QSPTF/14/14/NGO/03**, submitted by **Burundi Nile Discourse Forum** (FCBN) for US\$236,700: “Community sensitization and Promotion of Civil Society Engagement for Effective Implementation of the International Convention of Stockholm on POPs in Burundi.” The objective is to enhance community sensitization and promotion of civil society engagement for effective implementation of the Stockholm Convention on POPs, in Burundi. The project will be implemented in all 17 provinces through a network of 65 organizations. The populations living in polluted areas, farmers, schools and hospitals, government services and private companies will be involved in project implementation, evaluation and reporting. At the end of the two years, the following outcomes are expected: increased community awareness on the danger of exposure to POPs and Stockholm Convention on elimination of POPs; stakeholder and civil society mobilization for the implementation of the Stockholm Convention on POPs; capacity building in POPs risk reduction management and promotion of local non-chemical alternatives; improved monitoring of POPs in Burundi. The project will be implemented in partnership with National Institute for Environment and Nature Conservation (INECN) and other interested ministries offices and departments like forest department at the Ministry of water, land and urban planning, Ministry of agriculture and Ministry of health. A national board committee will lead the national coordination. The Committee found the main focus of this proposal to be on contaminated sites rather than alternatives. Thus, the compliance with the non-chemical alternatives criteria established in the Guidance is unclear. Moreover, the applicant did not submit any support letter or terms of reference for the personnel involved in the project. The proposal was declined.

7) Project proposal **QSPTF/14/14/NGO/04**, submitted by **Welfare Togo** for US\$234,790: "Reduction of Chemical Use in Rice Culture Through Use of Good Agronomical Practices and Less Toxic Biological Resources: The Case of Mission Tové (Covie) Rice Irrigation Scheme in Togo". The project will target groups that are already playing their roles in the Mission Tove (Covie) rice irrigation scheme. The project will be implemented with full participation of Government (Ministries of Environment, Agriculture & Health), Village Extension Officers, Village Health Attendants, Journalists (RJCHT), Village Chief and his Council of Elders and the Farmer's Association in collaboration with WELFARE Togo as the implementing institution. Activities will focus on awareness raising, skills development, monitoring illegal trade of chemicals and monitoring of environmental and health impacts. Outputs will include an alternative plants' botanical garden, a permanent sound management of chemicals demonstration plot (20 acres owned by WELFARE), permanent Farmer Field School plots (120 acres owned by youths who are members of WELFARE), promotional songs, role plays and videos and farm machinery (a power tiller and a rice thresher) and sub rules for sound management of chemicals at the local level. Project expected outcomes: adoption of alternative products and agronomical practices which will reduce chemical use in the rice irrigation scheme thereby reduce health and environmental impacts. Other outcomes include the reduction and eventual elimination of illegal trade of agrochemical products, strengthening collaboration between those responsible for health, environment and agriculture and poverty eradication through promotion of farmers' profit margins. The Committee decided to decline the proposal noting the need for support letters from all key institutions involved in the implementation of the project.

8) Project proposal **QSPTF/14/14/NGO/06**, submitted by **PAN (Pesticide Action Network) Asia-Pacific (in Malaysia) and PAN Africa (in Senegal)** for US\$239,557: "Replacing highly hazardous pesticides with non-chemical alternatives in agriculture: sharing success stories from developing countries". This project will compile case studies, detailing the methods used, HHPs replaced, feasibility aspects, and farmers' experiences in implementing these alternatives. This information can be a powerful tool to persuade governments to deliver more supportive policies for non-chemical alternatives to agriculture. Additionally, it will be used for farmer and consumer awareness building on the viability of such non-chemicals alternatives, particularly agroecological practices. Year 1: Start on-the-ground documentation of success stories on non-chemical alternatives to agriculture, at least 3 cases per region: Latin America and Caribbean, Africa, and Asia Pacific. Year 2: Publish/share success stories at national, regional, and international meetings. Engage government officials, development agencies, stakeholders to discuss roadblocks and policies needed to promote non-chemical alternatives in agriculture, integrate them into development plans, and mainstream these methods within countries. Publish popular materials for distribution to governments, agencies, farmers' organisations/ networks, retailers, consumers, and public. Launch portal with findings, designed to serve as virtual learning hub on chemical-free agriculture, support mainstreaming, and ensure long-term sustainability of the project. The Committee found that this proposal was not country-driven since it lacks information on the specific target countries and what the project will deliver in the ground. The proposal was declined.

9) Project proposal **QSPTF/14/14/NGO/08**, submitted by **Envirocare - Tanzania** for US\$200,000: "Promoting non-toxic cosmetics for human safety and healthy environment in Tanzania". The project will target small scale cosmetic producers (600) and suppliers (1000) in four cities. It is expected the project to reach about a total of 5,000,000 beneficiaries in Tanzania. The main activities include an inventory study on the status of non-toxic cosmetics in five regions of Tanzania, identification and documentation of organic and natural necessary ingredients for preparing of non-cosmetic products, preparation of TV and Radio programmes, t-shirts, magazines on non-toxic cosmetics, organizing a "Not Too Pretty" campaign for safe cosmetics, capacity-enhancement, documentation of programme activities, monitoring and evaluation. The project will provide a solution to toxic cosmetics which results in diseases like skin cancer, endocrine disruption, reproductive system problems and environmental pollution through application of organic products which in most cases are used as food hence improve human health. The main activities include: conduct inventory study on the status of non-toxic cosmetics in five regions; identification and documentation of organic and natural ingredients for non-cosmetic products; conduct dissemination workshop to share the inventory report and findings; preparation of awareness materials; conduct 4 training workshop sessions of 2 days each to raise awareness; organize two Not Too Pretty campaigns of two days each for safe cosmetics; train Envirocare staff on non-toxic cosmetics; review existing policies and legislation to identify gaps on the management of chemicals; consult key players and stakeholders on gap filling. The Committee decided to decline this proposal. The reasons for this decision are that the work with private sector is not detailed enough, and the chemicals that will be promoted are not specified. Furthermore, the applicant did not provide detailed terms of reference or endorsement letters from key partners. In

addition, the main project partner implemented a QSP project that was approved in the fifth round of applications; the legal agreement has ended and the SAICM secretariat continues to seek the final, satisfactory M&E report, with little response.

VI. Status of projects funded under the Quick Start Programme Quick Start Programme Trust Fund

24. The secretariat updated the Committee on the situation of the Trust Fund, latest pledges and potential new funding, and the status of the QSP Trust Fund portfolio.

25. The members of the QSP TFIC expressed their satisfaction that the QSP Trust Fund is being replenished.

VII. Other matters

26. The Committee discussed in detail the request received from Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions secretariat to participate in the QSP TFIC meetings as an observer. The Committee decided not to open the meetings up to any observers.

27. The secretariat updated the Committee about the impact evaluation of the QSP. The Committee took note of the recruitment process and its difficulties, and offered to broadcast the terms of reference to its members' specialised networks. The secretariat agreed to send the terms of reference to the Committee accordingly.

IX. Next meeting

28. A decision was not taken on the venue and the date of the next QSP Trust Fund Implementation Committee meeting. It will be decided based on the QSP Executive Board meeting dates and the potential upcoming needs.

29. The Committee informed the secretariat that the next IOMC meeting is scheduled for 15-16 April 2015. It will take place in Geneva and will mark the 20th anniversary of IOMC.

X. Adoption of the report

30. The Committee agreed that the secretariat will circulate a draft report to the Committee members for their feedback. Taking account of any comments received, the secretariat will then issue the report on a provisional basis, pending adoption at the Committee's 18th meeting.

XI. Closure of the meeting

31. The Chair closed the meeting at 3.30 p.m. on Tuesday 26 November 2014.
