

SUBMISSIONS

Name of county: CHINA

Date: Aug 7, 2023

1. Overarching recommendations on HLD

□ Emphasize the important role of environmental management of chemicals in protecting the ecological environment and human health and promoting the green transformation of the global economy. High-quality development of the chemical industries and improving living standards can be achieved through scientific and standardized environmental management of chemicals.

□ Emphasize the lack and demand of developing countries in terms of technology, capacity and financial resources for environmental management of chemicals, full consideration of the different development stages of developed countries and developing countries to undertake common but differentiated responsibilities, enhancement of international cooperation, necessary technology transfer, financial support and information sharing by developed countries and internal financial institutions, improved capacity and willingness to implement MEAs.

□ Emphasize the importance of laws and regulations, scientific assessment and well-deliberated policy implementation, in addition to take the economic-technology feasibility into account when promulgating management and control measure. As to laws and regulations, it is suggested to add “We need to establish laws and regulations on chemicals environmental management, identify the respective responsibilities of governments and enterprises, provide legal support to chemical matters ”.

2. Recommendations on elements of a ICCM5 High-level Declaration

a. INTRODUCTORY / OVERARCHING STATEMENT

1. ~~The political leaders~~ The Ministers, representatives of civil society, the private sector, academia and international organizations participating in the United Nations International Conference on Chemicals Management send a united and urgent call for increased global ambition and

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accelerated action to deal with the serious and immediate threats to the environment and human health posed by the misuse and mismanagement of chemicals and waste. In agreeing to this new and inspiring beyond 2020 framework, the challenge has been set and stakeholders should rise to it with alacrity to protect our future.

2. ~~Science clearly shows that the earth's environmental, agricultural, labor and human health challenges should be addressed together to achieve sustainability.~~ Pollution together with the loss of biodiversity, and climate change undermines our efforts on 80 per cent of assessed Sustainable Development Goal targets. 1 Safely managing chemicals at all levels in addition to reducing and managing waste better, including by mainstreaming at the country level is a pre-requisite to achieve the 2030 Agenda and more specifically SDG 12.

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3. Acknowledge the progress and the valuable information already generated through the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management whilst recognizing that efforts have not been enough ~~and that the global goal has not been reached.~~ The multi-stakeholder and multisectoral community has the joint and combined responsibility to continue to lead, contribute and collaborate to make sure that chemicals and waste are managed soundly to the highest standards possible.

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b. ADVANCES AND GAPS

5. Acknowledge and voice concern regarding the unacceptable and widening gap between developed and developing countries and their capacity to detect and analyze hazardous chemicals, protect the rights of workers, women, children, indigenous peoples and other vulnerable groups through managing chemicals and waste safely. Recognize the critical importance of human rights relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy, and sustainable environment. Improving access to knowledge, science and technology including traditional, indigenous and citizen knowledge, is essential to protect all populations and understand the dimensions of chemical use and exposure on the

vulnerable groups. ~~Scientific uncertainty should not prevent precautionary measures being adopted quickly and decisively when the potential environmental or human health risk is high.~~

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c. COMMITMENT / ACTIONS

6. Recognize the crisis we face from polluting our planet and the role that chemicals and waste play. Announce focused action both immediately and over the next decades to protect our planet and human health:

~~(i) Implement the transformational Beyond 2020 framework fully in developing countries and countries with economies of transition.~~ Implement and transformational Beyond 2020 framework fully considering the different development stages of developed countries and developing countries, undertake the common but differentiated responsibilities, by addressing the lack of

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national legal chemicals and waste frameworks urgently and re-doubling efforts to deliver on the suite of ambitious targets. This should be done through mainstreaming chemicals and waste management into national plans and budgets, implementing relevant international and regional agreements and supporting each other with technical assistance and capacity building at all levels as necessary.

(ii) Stress the responsibility of all, including industry, to make available, accessible and in an understandable format, data and information on health, risks and environmental effects of chemicals. This includes through the production, use, re-use or recycling and/or disposal stages and any products made from chemicals,

~~the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)~~ [when applicable, the promotion of the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)],

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whilst respecting the confidential business information not related to health and the environment.

~~(ix) The lack of full scientific certainty may not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation and adverse health effects whilst making all efforts that chemicals are used and~~

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~~produced in ways that lead to negligible adverse effects
on human health and environment in line with the
precautionary principle.~~

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