INFORMAL DRAFTING GROUP ON A POSSIBLE ICCM5 HIGH-LEVEL DECLARATION ON THE SOUND MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS AND WASTE BEYOND 2020

Co-facilitators summary of the 2nd Virtual Meeting: Open discussion and guidance on a selection of elements and structure

1) Recab of 1st virtual meeting

The Co-facilitators briefly presented the outcomes of the first virtual meeting held on 24 November 2020, including the agreed overall structure of the HLD and the first overview of views on the proposed elements. In order to define a starting point for further discussion, the Co-facilitators noted that they had built on those elements that had received general support. They emphasised that focusing the current discussion on those elements does not preclude other suggested elements to be discussed at a later point in the process. The Co-facilitators noted that having a focused discussion on a limited number of elements would help guide the Co-facilitators in developing the first draft of the proposal HLD.

2) Structure and elements under discussion

The discussion that followed built on the outcomes of the survey on elements to be included in the HLD, starting with the ones that had received overall support in the survey (“green elements”), followed by those that had received majority support (“amber/green elements”).

For the “green elements”, the Co-facilitators had prepared proposed text based on the written submissions received from stakeholders, as well as existing language from relevant documents. The proposed text would serve as examples for the informal drafting group to comment on, focusing on where in the proposed structure the element would best fit and whether or not the proposed text covered the essence of the element in their views. This exercise would help guide the Co-facilitators as they develop the first draft of the proposal HLD.

These elements where text proposals were presented by the Co-facilitators included:

- Multi-stakeholder and multisector;
- Partnerships;
- Green and sustainable chemistry;
- Links to other environmental challenges; and
- Scientific knowledge and evidence.
For the other elements, there was no text proposed, however the participants were asked to identify the relevant sections in the HLD structure that the element would best fit, and what they considered the essence of the element to be.

These elements included:

- Capacity building;
- Life-cycle and circular economy;
- Role of private sector/industry;
- Precautionary principle;
- Strategic objectives and targets;
- Gender; and
- Financing

Finally, the Co-facilitators highlighted that the additional elements identified by the participants in the survey may be considered in a future meeting of the informal drafting group, and taken into account in the drafting process, as appropriate.

3) The way forward

The Co-facilitators reminded participants of the timeline (see graphic below) and noted that the first draft on the structure and elements, will be circulated for review on 23 December 2020. The draft will take into account existing language on proposed elements, the written submissions received by stakeholders, and the discussions held during the virtual meeting. Between 23 December 2020 and 15 January 2021, participants will have the opportunity to consult with their constituencies. The deadline for written submissions will be 15 January 2021. The third virtual meeting will take place on 9 February 2021. At this virtual meeting, the Co-facilitators intend to discuss the submissions received and the way forward.