

Essential elements for a possible ICCM5 High-level Declaration on the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020

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What would you consider the most important aspects and key messages for strengthening the sound management of chemicals and waste and political commitment for a just and resilient world that require anchoring in an HLD?

- Acknowledgment of the relevance of sound management of chemicals and waste for health. Unsound management of chemicals and wastes contributes significantly to the global burden of disease (include current WHO estimates). Current estimates of the burden of disease attributable to the unsound management of chemicals are an underestimate (acknowledgment of what is not known). More progress has to be made towards minimizing these impacts.
- Chemicals and waste are cross-cutting issues related to health, environment, work, agriculture, economy and others. It is necessary for the success of the future approach that all relevant sectors and stakeholders participate and proactively undertake the sound management of chemicals and waste.
- Mainstreaming of the sound management of chemicals and waste at the national level to increase awareness on the impact of chemicals and waste on human health, for example.
 - Key messages should support countries in identifying the role of different sectors in chemicals and waste management at the national level.
 - Key messages and the declaration itself should be crafted in order to facilitate the implementation of the approach in a collaborative manner on all levels.
- Importance of country focus and action. Needs of countries should be at the centre of attention to ensure that the proposed approach to sound management is appropriate for the level of development and stage of implementing national chemicals and waste policies as well as supporting advancement.

What should the scope, key elements and messages of the ICCM5 HLD cover? Considering, inter alia:

o The current context (COVID-19, economic recovery interventions, and the need to make significant progress on SMCW).

o The enhanced contribution of the SMCW to implement the 2030 Agenda and address present and future needs.

o Progress in efforts undertaken to date, and critical gaps to be addressed.

In addition to the points made in response to the first question:

- The HLD needs to serve as a basis to address gaps arising from insufficient multisectoral representation in the international dialogue on the management of chemicals and waste. The roles of the sectors in the future approach should be stated to provide clarity for implementation. The declaration should ensure that the different sectors and stakeholders will be able to recognize their respective role(s) in achieving the objectives.

- Participation of the health sector in the future approach will significantly contribute to achieving SDG goal 3 and target 3.9, goal 6 and target 6.3, goal 12 and target 12.4 and indirectly other SDGs.
- The declaration should call to incorporate health sector considerations in implementing the future approach, including in national plans, strategies and policies related to the sustainable management of chemicals and waste.
- The HLD is an appropriate document to recall World Health Assembly Resolution WHA 69.4 and the WHO Chemicals Road Map approved in WHA decision 70(23). This road map sets out the health sector's role beyond the 2020 goal and in the context of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

How should the ICCM5 HLD be structured, including participation, responsibilities, and processes to address current challenges?

No proposals at this time.
