
International Conference on Chemicals Management
Second session
Geneva, 11–15 May 2009

**Report of the International Conference on Chemicals Management on
the work of its second session**

I. Opening of the session

1. The second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management was opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 11 May 2009, at the Geneva International Conference Centre by Ms. Sylvie Lemmet, Director, Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), speaking as the representative of the Executive Director of UNEP, the official convener of sessions of the Conference.
2. Opening and welcoming statements were delivered by Ms. Lemmet; Mr. Rashid Ahmed bin Fahad, Minister of the Environment and Water, United Arab Emirates, host of the first session of the Conference; Mr. Mariano Arana Sanchez, former Minister of Housing, Territorial Planning and Environment of Uruguay and President of the first session of the Conference; and Ms. Maria Bohn, speaking on behalf of Ms. Viveka Bohn, President of the Preparatory Committee for the Development of a Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management from 2004 to 2006.
3. In her opening statement, Ms. Lemmet welcomed representatives to the second session of the Conference, drew attention to the significant workload facing them and recalled the need to review progress in the implementation of the Strategic Approach, assessing whether adjustments should be made with a view to attaining its objectives. She thanked the participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) for their assistance and also the donor countries that had made it possible for a significant number of representatives to attend the session.
4. Mr. Ahmed bin Fahad, whose statement was delivered by means of a previously recorded video message, said that the adoption of the Strategic Approach in Dubai had marked a turning point and a step forward in efforts to combat the problems posed by chemicals. He set out some of the measures taken in his country in that regard, for example the enactment of chemicals legislation, and stressed his commitment to international efforts to achieve sound chemicals management. He encouraged developing countries to work actively to benefit from the Strategic Approach and to seek out the help that they required for implementation. He reaffirmed his country's commitment to and support for endeavours to limit the negative effects of dangerous chemicals.
5. Mr. Arana Sanchez, whose statement was also delivered by means of a previously recorded video message, commended all those who had made the first session of the Conference a success. He underscored that the Strategic Approach had become an extremely useful tool in chemicals management as a key element of sustainable development. He called for a cross-cutting approach to the matter, stressing the importance of protecting vulnerable sectors of society such as children, and recalled that, while regions' priorities and needs might differ, they all shared the same global objectives. He urged representatives to strive to attain the goal laid down at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, that by 2020 chemicals were used and produced in ways that led to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment.

6. Ms. Bohn recalled that the Strategic Approach was one of the tools for confronting the numerous challenges that the world currently faced. She commended the role played by the private sector and noted that success would require financial investments and courageous political leadership. She sketched out the opportunities offered by the Conference at its second session, saying that it could play a leadership role in relation to other forums in which chemicals issues were tackled. It was crucial, she said, for flexible rules of procedure to be adopted, for the World Bank to play a decisive role in the implementation of the Strategic Approach, for the link between chemicals and climate change to be accentuated and for a global strategy on knowledge and information to be developed. She also noted that an international chemicals panel, along the lines of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, could be the answer to filling the gaps in scientific knowledge for politicians and legislators and to enabling them to intensify their efforts to achieve global sustainable chemicals management. The Conference, she said, should invite UNEP and the World Health Organization (WHO) to establish such a panel. She wished representatives success, noting that the current session represented an opportunity to make a significant leap towards a toxic-free future.

II. Organizational matters

A. Adoption of the rules of procedure

7. The Conference agreed to apply provisionally the rules of procedure of the Preparatory Committee for the Development of a Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, *mutatis mutandis*, to the current session, on the understanding:

(a) That decisions on substantive matters would be taken at the current session by consensus of all participants unless and until the Conference decided otherwise;

(b) That the participatory nature of the Strategic Approach would be maintained and, in that regard, that the European Community would, within its competence, participate fully;

(c) That the Conference would adopt its own rules of procedure during the current session.

8. Subsequently, the representative of the secretariat introduced the relevant documentation, including a conference-room paper that contained additional proposed amendments to the draft rules of procedure for the Conference prepared by the secretariat based upon the draft contained in the annex to the report of the Open-ended Legal and Technical Working Group at its October 2008 meeting (reproduced for the information of the Conference as document SAICM/ICCM.2/2). Such amendments were intended to make the draft text more coherent with a view to facilitating the discussion at the current session.

9. With a view to finalizing the text of its rules of procedure, the Conference agreed to establish a contact group, chaired by Mr. Osvaldo Álvarez-Pérez (Chile), with the mandate to identify potential solutions for consideration by the Conference with regard to the pending issues based on the draft rules of procedure developed by the Open-ended Legal and Technical Working Group and consultations undertaken in preparation for the second session.

10. Following discussions by the contact group, the Conference adopted the rules of procedure set out in the annex to resolution II/1, save for paragraph 2 of rule 33, relating to decision-making on matters of substance by vote in the absence of consensus. The Conference agreed that that paragraph would remain enclosed in square brackets to indicate that it had not been adopted and that, unless it decided otherwise, the Conference would continue to decide substantive matters by consensus.

11. Resolution II/1, on the rules of procedure of the Conference, as adopted by the Conference, is set out in annex I to the present report.

B. Election of officers

12. The Conference elected Mr. Ivan Eržen (Slovenia) as President of the Conference.

13. In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedures of the Preparatory Committee for the Development of a Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, the Conference elected by acclamation the following vice-presidents to serve on the Bureau of the Conference during the current session:

Mr. Carlos Portales (Chile)
 Mr. Eisaku Toda (Japan)
 Mr. Cheikh Ndiaye Sylla (Senegal)
 Mr. Victor Escobar Paredes (Spain)

Mr. Toda agreed to serve as Rapporteur.

14. Following adoption by the Conference of its rules of procedure (see paragraphs 7–11 of the present report), the Conference confirmed the election of the above officers, elected under the rules of procedure of the Preparatory Committee, to serve as members of the Bureau in accordance with paragraph 1 of rule 14 of its rules of procedure. It further confirmed that the representatives of non-governmental organizations and IOMC previously nominated to participate in meetings of the Bureau would continue to do so in accordance with paragraph 2 of rule 15 of the rules of procedure. The following non-governmental and IOMC representatives had been nominated:

Ms. Judith Carreras Garcia (International Trade Union Confederation)
 Ms. Lilian Corra (International Society of Doctors for the Environment)
 Mr. Joseph diGangi (Environmental Health Fund)
 Ms. Birgit Engelhardt (International Council of Chemical Associations)
 Ms. Sameera al-Tuwaijri (IOMC)

C. Adoption of the agenda

15. The Conference adopted the following agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda set out in document SAICM/ICCM.2/1, as amended:

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the rules of procedure;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (d) Appointment of a credentials committee;
 - (e) Organization of work.
3. Report of the credentials committee.
4. Implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management:
 - (a) Evaluation of and guidance on implementation and review and update of the Strategic Approach;
 - (b) Implementation of and coherence among international instruments and programmes;
 - (c) Modalities for reporting by stakeholders on progress in implementation;
 - (d) Strengthening of national chemicals management capacities;
 - (e) Financial and technical resources for implementation;
 - (f) Emerging policy issues;
 - (g) Information exchange and scientific and technical cooperation.
5. Cooperation with intergovernmental organizations.
6. Activities of the secretariat and adoption of the budget.
7. Venue and date of the third session of the Conference.
8. High-level segment
9. Other matters.

10. Adoption of the report.

11. Closure of the session.

16. The Conference agreed that, under agenda item 4 (f), “Emerging policy issues”, it would discuss perfluorinated chemicals and that, under agenda item 9, “Other matters”, it would discuss cooperation and synergies between the Strategic Approach and various multilateral international environmental agreements, awards to contributors to the Strategic Approach process and the election of governmental regional representatives to the Quick Start Programme Executive Board.

D. Appointment of a credentials committee

17. The Conference agreed to establish a credentials committee to examine the credentials of Conference representatives. The members of the committee appointed by the Conference were Ms. Chetty Thelma Chitra (Mauritius), Mr. Per Hallström (Sweden), Mr. Boštjan Jerman (Slovenia), who served as chair of the committee, Ms. Ingrid Martinez Galindo (Guatemala) and Ms. Fuyumi Naito (Japan).

E. Organization of work

18. In carrying out its work at the current meeting, the Conference had before it working and information documents pertaining to the various items on the meeting agenda. A list of those documents can be found in document SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/51.

19. The Conference agreed to meet from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. each day, subject to adjustment as necessary. The Conference agreed to meet in plenary and to establish such contact and drafting groups as it considered necessary. It also agreed, as suggested in document SAICM/ICCM.2/1/Add.1, that the current session would include a high-level segment on Thursday and Friday, 14 and 15 May, and that the segment would feature round-table discussions on the afternoon of Thursday, 14 May, and the morning of Friday, 15 May.

F. Attendance

20. The following governmental participants were represented: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia, European Community.

21. The following governmental participants were represented as observers: Angola, Azerbaijan, Burundi, Chad, Colombia, Djibouti, Italy, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Nepal, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Yemen,

22. The Palestinian Authority was represented as an observer.

23. The following intergovernmental participants were represented: Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Chemical Dialogue, Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, Commission of the Economic Community of West African States, European Commission, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Global Environment Facility (GEF), Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety, International Labour Office (ILO), League of Arab States, Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, Office of the High Commissioner For Human Rights, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, Regional Activity

Centre for Cleaner Production – Mediterranean Action Plan, South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme, Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, UNEP, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), World Bank Group, World Health Organization (WHO), World Trade Organization (WTO).

24. The following non-governmental participants were represented: Accord Australia, American Chemistry Council, Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment, Associated Labour Unions – Trade Union Congress of the Philippines, Association du Réseau Méditerranéen pour le Développement Durable, Basel Action Network, Basel Convention Regional Centre for Africa, Centre for International Environmental Law, Centro de Análisis Y Acción en Tóxicos y sus Alternativas, Croplife International, Day Hospital Institute for Rehabilitation and Development, Development for People and Nature Associations, Earthjustice, EcoLomics International, Environmental Health Fund, ETC Group, European Chemical Industry Council, European Nickel Industry Association, European Society for Research and Prevention on Environment and Health, Friends of the Earth – Germany, Global Village of Beijing, INCHEM, Independent Ecological Expertise, Indonesia Toxics-Free Network, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, International Association for Soaps, Detergents and Cleaning Products, International Chemical Secretariat, International Council of Chemical Associations, International Council on Mining and Metals, International HCH and Pesticides Association, International Panel on Chemical Pollution, International POPs Elimination Network, International Society of Doctors for the Environment, International Trade Union Confederation, International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, International Union of Toxicology, Island Sustainability Alliance, My Right to Know Foundation, National Cleaner Production Centre, National Movement Friends of The Earth, Occupational Knowledge International, Pesticide Action Network, Research Centre for Gender, Family and Environment in Development, Safechem, Sahanivasa, Saudi Basic Industries Corporation, Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, Tanzania Association of Public, Occupational and Environmental Health Experts, Thanal, Toxic Watch Network, Toxics Link, United States Council for International Business, Waste Environment Cooperation Centre, Women in Europe for a Common Future, World Chlorine Council, World Federation of Public Health Associations, World Trade Institute, WWF.

25. A number of other non-governmental entities were represented as observers.

III. Report of the credentials committee

26. The Chair of the Credentials Committee, Mr. Jerman, informed the Conference that, as at 1 p.m. on Friday, 15 May 2009, 146 governmental participants had registered for the second session of the Conference. In accordance with the rules of procedure adopted by the Conference earlier in the session, the Committee had examined the credentials submitted by 125 governmental participants, of which all but three had been found to be in order. Twenty-one governmental participants had failed to submit credentials. Satisfactory credentials had also been submitted by eight intergovernmental organizations.

27. The Conference took note of the Committee's report. Those governmental participants that submitted valid credentials are listed as such in chapter II, section F, of the present report, while those that participated in the session without having done so are listed as observers.

IV. Implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management

A. Evaluation of and guidance on implementation and review and update of the Strategic Approach

28. Introducing the item, the President said that the implementation of the Strategic Approach should be evaluated against progress made in attaining the 2020 Johannesburg Plan of Implementation goal. The representative of the secretariat subsequently introduced the relevant documentation, drawing attention to the activities and work undertaken since the adoption of the Strategic Approach.

29. In the ensuing discussion, several representatives praised the progress accomplished to date in implementing the Strategic Approach, citing, among other things, the Quick Start Programme, multi-stakeholder participation and regional cooperation models. Many representatives cautioned that the deadline for attaining the 2020 goal loomed and that much remained to be accomplished.

30. Several representatives stressed the importance of the multi-stakeholder and multisectoral nature of the Strategic Approach, one adding that it provided for a broader and more inclusive consideration of the issue and a freer rein on the outcome. He said that, given that participatory nature, careful consideration should be given to whether decisions would be taken by all or a sub-set of participants.

31. Many representatives emphasized the significant role of the regional coordination mechanisms and networks in implementing the Strategic Approach and urged that they be maintained and strengthened. One representative said that regional outputs should feed into issues to be considered at the Conference's third session and that the process would not be well served by a proliferation of intersessional activities. Several representatives expressed their appreciation for the capacity-building and development assistance activities undertaken through the Quick Start Programme. Many stressed the importance of identifying sufficient and sustainable financial resources for capacity-building, including appropriate technology transfer.

32. A number of representatives endorsed the establishment of a United Nations panel of scientific experts on chemicals along the lines of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, as suggested by Ms. Bohn in her opening address, and urged the Conference to invite UNEP and WHO to establish such a panel.

33. Many representatives voiced their support for the pilot edition of the guidance document for Strategic Approach implementation plans and for the proposal for a procedure to update the Global Plan of Action. Noting the shift of chemicals production towards developing countries and countries with economies in transition, one representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that such countries were enacting legislation governing the entire chemical life cycle. More action was needed, however, and he expressed the hope that the current session would establish specific activities.

34. One representative said that a national plan of action was necessary to implement the Strategic Approach at the national level. He added, however, that national networks for information exchange on the Strategic Approach between all stakeholders were lacking. Guidelines were necessary to implement national plans, which must contain the five categories of objectives under the Strategic Approach at the national and regional levels. Several other representatives also stressed the importance of promoting the key objectives in the Strategic Approach. Another representative supported the development of chemical life-cycle indicators to measure progress in Strategic Approach implementation.

35. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, suggested that a long-term approach should be taken to tackle emerging policy issues. New initiatives to support the Quick Start Programme were a priority, he said, acknowledging the support provided by bilateral institutions. The proposed guidelines to identify new activities to be included in the Global Plan of Action should be simple. Several other representatives also endorsed the proposed guidelines.

36. One representative, speaking on behalf of a number of organizations, described education and awareness-raising activities undertaken to promote and endorse the Strategic Approach. Highlighting the remaining gaps in implementation activities, she said that Strategic Approach implementation was slow in some countries, which might hinder the attainment of the 2020 goal. She urged developing countries and countries with economies in transition to include the Strategic Approach in national budgets and development programmes and called upon donors to continue to provide assistance. Another representative, also speaking on behalf of a number of organizations, described activities undertaken through the Responsible Care Global Charter and Global Product Strategy and the group's goal to share relevant product information with producers, consumers and workers throughout the value chain.

37. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that, while the link between chemicals management, poverty reduction and sustainable development was receiving the needed attention, capacity to control and handle chemicals was lacking. Accordingly, she stressed that sufficient and sustainable funds must also include the identification of new and additional resources, in addition to a tangible structure or mechanism to provide such funds. There should be high-level national and international recognition of the Strategic Approach at the multi-stakeholder level. The goal was to enable Governments to enact the necessary legislation and establish the required local infrastructure to attain the 2020 goal. On emerging policy issues, a well-defined and transparent process should be in place including the establishment of a subsidiary body on the issue.

38. Another representative acknowledged the importance of multi-stakeholder and multisectoral groups to share information and expertise at the regional level. She stressed the importance of the regional coordination groups and looked forward to their formal recognition. Some representatives

called upon countries to incorporate the Strategic Approach principles into national policies, including through the development of national Strategic Approach implementation plans.

1. Procedure for updating the Global Plan of Action

39. After the initial round of general comments above the Conference discussed whether the Global Plan of Action should be updated and, if so, what procedure should be established to do so. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, supported the identification of new activities, while cautioning against having an endless list, and said that the procedure should be simple to allow for transparent amendments to the Plan. Another representative endorsed expanding activities, observing that there was a common understanding that the Plan, which was voluntary, was a dynamic document designed to take into account new and emerging policy issues, following a procedure which had not yet been agreed. Supported by several other representatives, he endorsed the approach outlined in document SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/18 on possible guidelines for the identification of new activities for inclusion in the Plan.

40. A few representatives proposed the establishment of an intersessional body to examine proposals for the inclusion of new activities before their consideration by the Conference and one representative proposed that regional consensus for such inclusions was essential. Another representative said that if additional activities were to be included in the Global Plan of Action it would be important to have a procedure in place to ensure that those activities could be assessed properly and that a subsidiary or intersessional body could usefully undertake that work.

41. One representative said that it was important not to disengage from the main challenge of ensuring implementation of current activities when considering whether to add new activities to the Plan and that priority should be given to identifying means of implementing those activities in developing countries. He added that the Conference should agree on measures to include provisions for new and additional resources to meet the needs of developing countries. He also observed that the Strategic Approach was too new to allow for a review and that national actions to develop modalities for measuring progress remained under way. One representative said that the review of the Plan should be weighed against its importance to the Overarching Policy Strategy, suggesting that it was unclear what benefit could be reaped from that review when compared with other Strategic Approach objectives.

42. Several representatives cautioned against adding new activities to the 273 already included and said that before adding such activities those already agreed upon should be examined and agreement reached upon what could be implemented in the forthcoming phase. Several representatives voiced their concern at adding new activities, suggesting that such a step was premature given the difficulties of securing adequate resources, and one argued that a means of dealing with the emerging policy issues under discussion at the current session had to be identified. One representative warned against the inclusion of chemicals currently identified for consideration under multilateral environmental agreements as that might influence their inclusion in those agreements and preclude access to funds.

43. One representative said that reopening the Plan would respond to country needs as it could justify action on issues of concern even in the absence of complete information.

44. The Conference agreed that those representatives who favoured a procedure for updating the Plan should form a small drafting group to amend the proposal set out in document SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/18, taking into account comments made in plenary, for consideration by the Conference. The Conference subsequently took up a conference-room paper containing a draft decision on a procedure for updating the Plan proposed by the small drafting group. Several representatives proposed textual amendments to the paper and one expressed concern at its thrust, saying that it failed to specify criteria to guide the selection of new items to be added to the Plan.

45. The Conference agreed that those representatives that had expressed reservations about proposed textual amendments would consult in an effort to complete an agreed text.

46. Following those consultations, the Conference adopted the procedure for the inclusion of new activities in the Global Plan of Action of the Strategic Approach, as orally amended. The procedure is set out in annex II to the present report.

2. Regional activities and coordination

47. The Conference considered a proposed draft resolution on regional activities and coordination, put forward by a number of proponents in a conference-room paper, which recognized the work of regional coordination mechanisms and the value of regional meetings that had been convened. Several representatives expressed their support for the draft resolution and advocated the continuation of regional meetings, which they said greatly assisted countries in preparing for sessions of the Conference

through the exchange of regional information and expertise. Such meetings, one representative added, might also serve as the forum for measuring progress made in implementing the Strategic Approach, taking into account all stakeholders in the region.

48. Many representatives stressed the important role of the regional focal points. Some representatives cautioned against an overlap between the terms of reference of the regional focal points and responsibilities of the bureau members. One representative said that regional networks should be strengthened but that a single structure might not fit all regions. Rather, each region should develop a network to suit local needs and priorities. Another representative said that common regional priorities should be identified but allowance should be made for differing views within the region.

49. One representative, while supporting a draft resolution on regional activities, said that recommendations should be drafted in an omnibus resolution, thereby avoiding a multiplicity of resolutions that could detract from the overall impact of the Strategic Approach.

50. The Conference requested those representatives interested in the issue to hold informal consultations among themselves, with a view to redrafting the resolution, taking into account comments made in plenary, for consideration by the Conference.

51. Following those consultations and the preparation of a revised draft resolution the Conference adopted resolution II/2 on regional activities and coordination, as set out in annex I to the present report.

3. Guidance on developing Strategic Approach implementation plans

52. The representative of UNITAR introduced guidance for developing Strategic Approach implementation plans (SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/31), which had been drafted by UNITAR and the secretariat in collaboration with IOMC. He noted that the document had been prepared to assist with the development of implementation plans at the national, regional and organizational level.

53. One representative called for greater attention to be paid in the guidance document to the mainstreaming of sound chemicals management in national development plans. Noting that the impact of the Strategic Approach was dependent on implementation and that intergovernmental organizations played an important role in that respect, one representative highlighted the need, when further developing the guidance, to give attention to regional implementation aspects, thereby taking on board the role which regions played in ensuring efficient implementation and the optimal use of resources. Reviewing her country's experience in implementing a pilot project, another representative commended the usefulness of the guidance for improved implementation of the Strategic Approach.

54. The Conference took note of the guidance document and called for its further development by the secretariat and UNITAR in consultation with other stakeholders.

B. Implementation of and coherence among international instruments and programmes

55. The representative of the secretariat introduced the relevant documentation.

56. In the ensuing discussion, strong support was expressed for enhanced coherence and coordination among international instruments. Representatives welcomed in particular the decisions of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions in that regard, as the previous lack of synergies among them had hampered their implementation and international chemicals management in general, while coordination among the conventions could promote their wider ratification. One representative welcomed the request to Parties to those conventions to strengthen regional coordination with the Strategic Approach, an undertaking in which regional focal points could play an important role. He encouraged the secretariat to cooperate with the three convention secretariats in technology transfer, capacity-building and exchange of technical and scientific information. One representative pointed out that, while important, coherent implementation of the Strategic Approach was not easy; another, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, stressed the need for even stronger links with the health sector.

57. The Executive Secretary of the Stockholm Convention drew attention to the decision on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to that Convention at its fourth meeting, held the previous week. He welcomed increased cooperation among the three conventions and between the conventions and the Strategic Approach, and invited representatives to attend the simultaneous extraordinary meetings of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions planned for 2010.

58. Representatives of the Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production (Barcelona), of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and of the Secretariat of the Basel Convention gave brief presentations on how the work of their organizations could support that of the Strategic Approach. The representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights delivered a statement from the Special Rapporteur on the adverse effects of the illicit movement and dumping of toxic and dangerous products and wastes on the enjoyment of human rights.

C. Modalities for reporting by stakeholders on progress in implementation

59. The representative of the secretariat introduced the relevant documentation, drawing attention to the set of indicators proposed for use in periodic reporting by stakeholders.

60. During the ensuing discussion, appreciation was expressed to the Government of Canada, the International Council of Chemical Associations and the secretariat for their work on reporting and indicators, particularly in view of the high priority that stakeholders attached to reporting for effective evaluation of implementation of the Strategic Approach. The proposed indicators were generally welcomed as a good starting point, although several representatives expressed the view that they could be refined or clarified, for example to include information on illegal traffic in chemicals, to provide scope for reporting on partial implementation and to ensure a one-to-one correlation between indicators and concepts. One governmental participant drew attention to proposed changes in a draft decision prepared by his delegation and circulated in a conference-room paper. Although the involvement of stakeholders in the reporting process was generally welcomed, one representative pointed out that, as the main responsibility for implementation lay with Governments, stakeholder involvement should not cause complications for Governments or affect the verifiability of information submitted. One representative underlined the need for efficient dissemination of information to all stakeholders.

61. Several representatives emphasized the need to disaggregate data by country and region to allow for analysis and appropriate action at those levels. Another representative said that it should also be possible to evaluate implementation in workplaces. Conflicting views were expressed on the need for a formal steering committee, as suggested by the secretariat, although those who dissented endorsed the need for the secretariat to be able to consult experts on the issue in the periods between sessions of the Conference. One representative stressed that it was for the Conference, rather than the secretariat, to evaluate implementation of the Strategic Approach, albeit based on information provided by the secretariat. One representative underlined the need to ensure that countries had adequate capacity for reporting; another requested secretariat guidance to be made available to representatives. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that reports should be submitted for each session of the Conference and once in each intersessional period, with maximum information in all reports, and that more work was required to produce baseline estimates. Several representatives urged the Conference to adopt at least an interim reporting procedure and one urged representatives to follow the letter and spirit of any measures adopted, even though they would not be legally binding.

62. The President requested the governmental participant that had proposed a draft decision on the issue to coordinate informal consultations among interested representatives with a view to reviewing the proposed set of indicators.

63. Following those consultations, the Conference agreed upon the modalities for reporting by stakeholders on progress on implementation, as set out in annex III to the present report.

D. Strengthening of national chemicals management capacities

64. The representative of the secretariat introduced the documentation on the item.

65. The representative of UNITAR introduced a strategy by IOMC for strengthening national chemicals management capacities (SAICM/ICCM.2/11). IOMC, he said, was the pre-eminent mechanism for initiating, facilitating and coordinating international action to attain the 2020 goal for the sound management of chemicals.

66. The representative of UNEP, also speaking on behalf of UNDP, reviewed the outcome of four regional workshops in which health, environment and planning officials from 22 countries had discussed how to mainstream chemicals into development planning and to move chemicals management priorities closer to the centre of governance. Further information on the workshops is set out in document SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/46.

67. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that strengthening capacities was an important and cross-cutting issue for developing countries and countries with economies in transition. He said too that it was important for stakeholders to make use of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, offering to share his organization's experience in that area. His organization endorsed the strategy put forward by IOMC and welcomed the additional information relating to IOMC presented in background documents SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/3 and INF/16.
68. One representative pointed out that the IOMC strategy did not concern itself with important questions of cost and time frame, or the cost of inaction. There was also a need for a plan of action that defined priorities at least until 2012. Another representative, while endorsing the content of the strategy, called for the necessary technical and financial assistance to be made available to the countries that needed it.
69. One representative noted the progress made by the global community in safely managing chemicals and suggested that a high-level panel discussion could be organized at a future session of the Conference on the progress made in implementing the Strategic Approach.
70. A number of representatives of non-governmental organizations spoke about their work in sound chemicals management. One challenged manufacturers to compile a list of all the hazardous chemicals in all of their products and to publish it by the third session of the Conference. She also called upon the chemicals industry to internalize all costs of dealing with the long-term legacy of chemicals use.
71. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, introduced a conference-room paper containing a proposal for guidelines for Strategic Approach national focal points as part of efforts to strengthen and prioritize national chemicals management capacities. He underlined that funding for national focal points was to be provided from annual national budgets, not regional or global budgets.
72. The Conference agreed to annex the proposal to the present report for the information and use of interested representatives within national or regional frameworks. It is set out in annex IV to the present report.

E. Financial and technical resources for implementation

73. The representative of the secretariat introduced the relevant documentation, drawing attention to the financial arrangements for the Strategic Approach.
74. Representatives of GEF and the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol introduced information documents on, respectively, the Facility's support for projects relevant to the implementation of the Strategic Approach (SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/23) and the Fund's contribution to the implementation of the Strategic Approach (SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/26).
75. One representative, speaking on behalf of a number of countries, introduced a conference-room paper containing a proposed draft resolution on integrating the sound management of chemicals into national development policies and plans.
76. In the subsequent discussion of financial and technical resources for implementation, one representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that reaching the 2020 goals of the Strategic Approach was contingent on securing sustainable financial resources. Supported by several other representatives, he stressed that as the Quick Start Programme would end in 2013 a solution for long-term financing was needed as soon as possible. The broad scope of the Strategic Approach meant that no single solution for financing its operation existed. Some representatives argued that it was essential to seek new financing mechanisms; others considered that it would be better to make use of existing institutions such as GEF. In particular, the fifth replenishment of GEF represented a major opportunity for increasing its involvement in chemicals management. One representative pointed out that it was up to the GEF Council to determine whether to open a window for chemicals management.
77. Several representatives, one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that the procedures for obtaining funding from GEF needed to be significantly simplified. Others maintained that those procedures were so burdensome that the best way forward would be to set up a new multilateral lending facility or to expand the mandate of the Multilateral Fund.
78. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries and supported by other representatives, emphasized that sustainable financing was one of the pillars of sound chemicals management. One option for securing such financing would be to expand the scope and mandate of the Quick Start Programme beyond the financing of early-stage activities. Other representatives said that a second option would be to obtain funding from the chemicals industry, on the grounds that that it had a

responsibility to ensure that its commercial activities did not harm the environment. One representative said that his industry was strongly committed to the Strategic Approach as a voluntary framework for the management of chemicals. Another representative said that the Quick Start Programme should be turned into the main funding instrument for implementation of the Strategic Approach, with any funding obtained from partnership with the private sector regarded as a bonus. A suggested third option was to obtain funding directly from Governments.

79. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, stressed the need for new and adequate financial resources, recalling chapter V of the Overarching Policy Strategy and the importance of applying Principle 7 of the Rio Declaration, on the common but differentiated responsibilities of States.

80. Turning to the specific issues related to the Quick Start Programme, one representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, voiced support for the Programme and said that further action should be taken to broaden its donor base, with a greater contribution from the private sector. He added that there should be a periodic review of the Programme authorized by a resolution of the Conference. Another representative pointed out that the Programme's success had been due, in part, to its limited focus and fixed duration. Cautioning against further expansion, he expressed support for efforts to identify new resources and make more efficient use of existing ones. The representative of Switzerland confirmed his Government's pledge to contribute 100,000 Swiss francs to the Programme's trust fund.

81. One representative said that the Programme had been a successful tool for implementation of the Strategic Approach and had attracted some non-traditional donors such as developing countries. He supported extending the Programme beyond 2013 and requested the secretariat to prepare a paper on that issue for consideration by the Programme's executive board. Another representative said that the Programme should be strengthened through a decision of the Conference that would ensure sustainable financial resources. A third supported expanding the Programme to include all activities in the Global Plan of Action and extending the Programme beyond 2013 with the assistance of resources from donor countries, funding institutions and the industry sector.

82. The Conference agreed to establish a contact group, co-chaired by Mr. Jozef Buys (Belgium) and Ms. Abiola Olanipekun (Nigeria), to develop specific recommendations on financial considerations.

83. Following the deliberations of the contact group, the Conference adopted resolution II/3 on financial and technical resources for implementation, which is set out in annex I to the present report.

84. The President of the Conference drew attention to recommendations made to the Conference by the Executive Board of the Quick Start Programme. The Conference agreed to amend paragraph 13 of appendix II of resolution I/4 to read: "The regional representatives on the Executive Board and those donors who have contributed to the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund will meet annually at the time of the annual meeting of the Executive Board, to consider the operation of the Trust Fund".

F. Emerging policy issues

85. The representative of the secretariat, introducing the item, drew attention to the relevant documentation and outlined the work of the secretariat since the first session of the Conference, particularly with regard to the process of identifying emerging policy issues for the Conference's consideration.

86. During the ensuing discussion representatives made general introductory statements, highlighting issues of particular concern and stressing the need to avoid duplication between work under the Strategic Approach and in other forums. The themes mentioned in the introductory statements were then discussed in greater detail under various headings, as set out below. In the course of those discussions, the Conference agreed to establish a contact group on emerging policy issues, chaired by Mr. Jules de Kom (Suriname) and Mr. Barry Reville (Australia). The group was mandated to consider certain of the emerging policy issues, as set out in sections 1–4 below, and the future procedure for the nomination, review and prioritization of emerging policy issues, as set out in section 8 below.

1. Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials

87. There was general support for including nanotechnology on the Conference's agenda as an emerging issue that was evolving rapidly. Many representatives drew attention to the fact that while nanotechnology could offer significant benefits in economic, social and cultural terms it posed both environmental and health risks and therefore justified a precautionary approach. There was also general agreement on the importance of information-sharing between and among Governments and other stakeholders and synergies with other organizations. In that context, many applauded the work of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, although one representative said that it was not sufficiently inclusive of developing countries and another that it did not facilitate participation by civil society. Several representatives emphasized the global nature of the issue and expressed support for a proposal to complement the Global Plan of Action by including specific activities on nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials, submitted by a governmental participant, which took that into account; others focused on the different problems experienced by developed and developing countries and those with economies in transition, particularly in terms of the availability of resources. One representative suggested creating an effective and efficient mechanism on sustainable programmes and financing dealing specifically with nanotechnology and nanomaterials, with due regard for the needs of developing countries. Several representatives favoured including the establishment of such a mechanism in the Global Plan of Action, although one warned against opening lengthy debate on proposals to amend the Plan. Several representatives emphasized the need for continued research and development in the area. A number of representatives drew attention to the need for clear product labelling to ensure in particular that importing countries were fully aware of the substances contained in imported goods. One representative strongly encouraged a proactive approach to the issue on the part of all stakeholders and the Conference as a whole.

88. One representative having tabled a conference-room paper on complementing the Global Plan of Action by including specific activities on nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials said that he had wished to see the issue included in the Global Plan of Action as a new and emerging policy issue. Lack of time had prevented a thorough discussion of the proposed activities which had, therefore, precluded its addition at the current time. He proposed, and was supported by other representatives, that the issue of adding nanotechnology to the Global Plan of Action be included in the agenda of the third session of the Conference. He added that he did not wish to set a precedent on matters of developing the agenda but considered it justified on the basis that the proposal had already been made to the current session. He said his country would be willing to prepare a new proposal for the third session of the Conference. The Conference agreed to include adding the issue of nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials to the Global Plan of Action on the agenda for the third session of the Conference.

89. Following that discussion, the Conference agreed to refer the issue to the contact group established to discuss emerging policy issues.

2. Chemicals in products

90. Several representatives pointed out that the issue of chemicals was basically one of information: countries had a need and a right to be informed as to which chemicals were reaching their territory. Some pointed out that it was also a global issue, in that a manufacturer of a product, in one country, would know what chemicals were incorporated in the product, but an importer of the product – perhaps approaching the end of its useful life – in another country would not necessarily have the same knowledge. Some also suggested that an information system should be set up to track the chemicals in products, using an unambiguous chemicals identification regime. One representative stressed that such a system should be set up in a way that was simple for developing countries to use.

91. One representative, conceding that there was an issue of confidentiality of the manufacturer's information, pointed out that consumers still needed to know the chemicals to which they were being exposed. Another added that, over and above the question of consumer exposure, the question of which chemicals were contained in a product also had implications for recycling and waste management.

92. Following that discussion, the Conference agreed to refer the issue to the contact group established to discuss emerging policy issues.

3. Electronic waste

93. One representative, speaking on behalf of a regional group, said that illegal transboundary movement of electronic waste posed a major problem for his region. One potential solution was to reduce the quantities of hazardous chemicals used in the manufacture of electronic appliances by changing designs and finding safer alternatives. Some representatives suggested that there was a need for more cooperation and information exchange between developed and developing countries. Some

went further, suggesting that developed countries were taking advantage of developing countries as a dumping ground for obsolescent electronic devices, which the developing countries lacked the capacity to recycle safely at the end of their useful lives. In that context one representative said that small island developing States were unlikely to develop the capacity to safely dispose of electronic waste and therefore needed to export it. She also called for better labelling and noted the need to tackle the dangers posed by informal recycling.

94. Several representatives suggested that the issue of electronic waste was a matter for the Basel Convention, saying that at the very least it should be addressed in close cooperation with that convention and with a view to avoiding duplication of effort. Others demurred, saying that a holistic view was needed given that electronic devices only constituted waste at the end of their useful lives, when they were discarded. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, pointed out that such products were often sold to developing country buyers very near the end of their useful lives. That meant that although they were about to become waste at the moment of sale they were not then covered by the Basel Convention. Another representative noted that, as the Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention had decided not to take up the question of green design, the Conference might therefore need to consider that subject.

95. Following that discussion, the Conference agreed to refer the issue to the contact group established to discuss emerging policy issues.

4. Lead in paint

96. Notwithstanding some debate as to whether the issue of lead in paint was truly “emerging,” there was strong agreement that it merited concerted action at the global, regional and national levels in view of its adverse effects on human health and the environment. Many representatives highlighted the social and economic costs of lead exposure, especially for populations in developing countries. Several representatives, including one who felt that the issue was too narrowly defined, drew attention to the numerous products other than paint that could also contain lead, such as batteries, cosmetics and electronic goods. Several representatives highlighted the need not only to cease using lead in paint production, but also to act on the toxic legacy of old paints to which populations were still exposed. A number of representatives outlined steps that their countries had taken to phase out lead-based paints; others drew attention to consideration of the issue in other forums, including the Group of Eight and the UNEP Governing Council. Several pointed out that the irreversible effects of lead exposure on human health could be avoided through the use of viable alternatives, on which further research should be undertaken. Some representatives described uses of lead-based paints that were permitted as exceptions under national regulatory schemes where no alternatives existed. Several representatives called for a regulatory framework or guidelines to assist in tackling the issue at the national level. One representative specifically favoured an integrated approach covering other chemicals and encompassing waste management; another stressed that resources would be needed if the issue were to be tackled effectively. Widespread support was expressed for establishing a global partnership on lead in paint, perhaps taking as a model the UNEP Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles.

97. Following that discussion, the Conference agreed to refer the issue to the contact group established to discuss emerging policy issues.

5. Omnibus resolution

98. The Conference agreed to combine the issues of nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials, chemicals in products, hazardous substances and the life cycle of electrical and electronic waste, and lead in paint in a single, consolidated resolution, and to annex to that resolution the modalities for considering emerging policy issues. Accordingly, it adopted resolution II/4 on emerging policy issues as set out in annex I to the present report.

6. Perfluorinated chemicals

99. One representative introduced an information document on managing perfluorinated chemicals and moving to alternatives that his Government had submitted (SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/49), drawing attention to the dangers to human health and the environment posed by perfluorinated chemicals. He noted that while the issue was not one of the four emerging policy issues previously selected for discussion consultations with the informal “Friends of the Secretariat” group had confirmed that the Conference was not limited to those issues and that any stakeholder could identify other issues for discussion during the current session.

100. Several representatives endorsed the proposal to discuss perfluorinated chemicals; they noted that the problems posed by those chemicals did indeed constitute an emerging issue and that the previous week the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention had agreed to list perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride in the annexes to the Convention and said that they welcomed the opportunity to build on that Conference's decision.

101. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that the procedure for identifying emerging policy issues was open and transparent but the new issue had bypassed that procedure. To accept the issue for discussion, therefore, would set a dangerous precedent and undermine the agreed procedure. A few representatives suggested that discussion could be postponed until a later date, given the limited time and the need to discuss those issues that had already been formally identified.

102. Given the divergent views on the matter of whether perfluorinated chemicals should be discussed, the Conference agreed to take the matter up the following morning, which would allow representatives time to review document SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/49 in detail. Several representatives, pointing out that the procedure for selecting emerging policy issues for discussion was only an interim one, stressed the importance of defining a clear procedure that could be followed by all representatives and that would not give rise to similar confusion about whether a given issue could be discussed. One representative, however, expressed the view that the procedure had been followed. Another representative said that, while a developed country had been able to produce documentation on perfluorinated chemicals without significant difficulties, developing countries would face substantial challenges in attempting to do likewise in respect of other emerging policy issues, a fact that argued in favour of the proposal to establish a subsidiary body that could assist in identifying emerging policy issues.

103. One representative introduced a conference-room paper submitted by his Government containing a draft resolution on managing perfluorinated chemicals and the transition to safer alternatives. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, proposed textual modifications thereto.

104. Subsequently, the co-chair of the contact group established to discuss emerging policy issues said that, according to the mandate given to it by the Conference, the contact group had also examined the issue of perfluorinated chemicals. The contact group had considered that some major issues remained to be discussed in the information document and had agreed that the proponent of the information document would undertake bilateral discussions, taking into account comments made during the contact group, in order for the Conference to determine whether or not to maintain the issue as a separate item under emerging policy issues.

105. Following the deliberations of the contact group, the Conference adopted resolution II/5, on managing perfluorinated chemicals and the transition to safer alternatives, as set out in annex I to the present report.

7. Institutional arrangements for future work on emerging policy issues

106. The President sought comments on possible institutional arrangements for taking work forward.

107. In the ensuing discussion, the representative of IOMC highlighted the ability of participating organizations to contribute to intersessional work and noted that in the case of some of the emerging policy issues work was already under way.

108. One representative introduced a conference-room paper calling for the establishment of a credible, effective, inclusive and transparent subsidiary body to undertake intersessional work to prepare for sessions of the Conference, including prioritizing their agendas and identifying and discussing emerging policy issues, among other things. He commended the informal efforts that had enabled specific emerging policy issues to be discussed but noted that resource constraints had precluded discussion of the gamut of issues, rendering necessary the creation of a subsidiary body. He warned against the proliferation of intersessional working groups, arguing that the Conference's purpose would be better served by an intersessional meeting to be held at some time prior to its third session.

109. Representatives of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry and the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry made a joint presentation in which they explained their work on chemical issues, identified ways in which they could provide scientific advice and offered to organize a scientific meeting one year prior to the Conference's third session. The organizations would form a scientific committee and provide experts for the meeting, which would bring together scientists from multiple disciplines and the Strategic Approach community, enabling a scientific perspective to be

incorporated into the Conference's structure. The representative of the International Union of Toxicology announced the intention of that body to join that initiative.

110. A number of representatives, including some speaking on behalf of groups of countries, welcomed the proposal to establish a subsidiary body to carry out intersessional work. They welcomed the informal discussions held in Rome in October 2008 as a good example of an intersessional meeting. One representative said that the proposed body should follow the example of the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety. Another stressed that the governance arrangements pertaining to such a body should ensure a clear line of accountability to the Strategic Approach. One representative, noting that the work of any intersessional body would be to signpost the way to the Conference's third session, said that it would be important to have a tool in the subsidiary body to coordinate work between possible working groups, develop consensus and priorities for cooperative action and promote the exchange of information and technical and scientific cooperation.

111. Several representatives cautioned against the establishment of an elaborate and overly bureaucratic superstructure, one warning also that resources were limited and could perhaps be better channelled to other areas. They suggested that the Bureau would be able to work with the secretariat and provide guidance, rendering a subsidiary body unnecessary. Some representatives welcomed the work undertaken by the regional networks and said that their involvement could be increased.

112. A number of representatives welcomed the offer by the representatives of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry and the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, pointing out that it was important for scientists to come within the Conference's purview, but called for a wider approach to involving the scientific community, pointing out that all stakeholders should be included and that one body should not be endorsed over another.

113. The co-chair of the contact group on emerging policy issues reported that the group was unable to consider the role of an intersessional body other than its role in the arrangements for future work on emerging policy issues. The Conference accordingly agreed to discuss the matter in plenary.

114. One representative introduced a conference-room paper that proposed the establishment of an open-ended working group to allow for comprehensive and effective preparations for the next session of the Conference.

115. Many representatives welcomed the proposal, stressing the need for intersessional work. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that he had previously opposed the establishment of subsidiary bodies of any kind but, having seen the significant tasks facing the Conference during the intersessional period, he welcomed the proposal and suggested that the working group could be ad hoc in nature. That comment was supported by others. One representative, while welcoming the proposal, preferred to refer to the intersessional preparation as an "intersessional meeting" rather than as an "open-ended working group". He suggested too that the group be established solely for the period between the second and third sessions of the Conference. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, argued in favour of a permanent body.

116. Several representatives proposed textual amendments to the paper and additional items that could fall within the group's purview, such as reviewing the Strategic Approach implementation process and considering the initiatives being undertaken to assess continuing progress in achieving Strategic Approach objectives. Such a mandate, said one representative, would enable the group to focus on both existing and emerging policy issues.

117. In response, the proponent said that as the work to be undertaken would be needed during all intersessional periods it would be sensible to establish a permanent body. He also suggested that the Conference should review all institutional arrangements and procedures at its next session to verify whether they were working well.

118. The Conference agreed to establish a contact group chaired by Mr. Franz Perrez (Switzerland) to discuss the institutional arrangements for the intersessional period, including those needed for future work on emerging policy issues, taking into account the comments made in plenary.

119. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of industry organizations, suggested that, in establishment the work programme for any intersessional meetings, consideration should be given to increasing the visibility of and access to information from stakeholders, particularly at the regional level.

120. Following the deliberations of the contact group, the Conference adopted resolution II/6 on establishing an open-ended working group, which is set out in annex I to the present report.

8. Future procedure for the nomination, review and prioritization of emerging policy issues

121. There was general agreement that any procedure for the nomination, review and prioritization of emerging policy issues should be open and transparent and that clearly establishing how to deal with emerging policy issues, including their nomination, review and prioritization, cooperative actions on the four emerging policy issues already identified and examining other issues, would be a key outcome of the second session of the Conference. Broad support was expressed for the essence of the four-step procedure proposed by the secretariat in chapter III of document SAICM/ICCM.2/10, although several representatives suggested that further refinement was needed. One representative, supported by another, suggested that the procedure should feature a call for the nomination of potential issues, the posting of suggested issues on the Strategic Approach website for a specified comment period, a period of time for discussion of proposed issues by national focal points, the revision of proposed issues to reflect the comments and discussion and consideration of the revised comments by the Strategic Approach bureau in accordance with agreed criteria. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that the criteria should give greater weight to whether a proposed issue was of interest to a large number of stakeholders, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition. Another representative highlighted the difficulties encountered to date in interpreting and applying the criteria for selecting emerging policy issues, while another called for their clear application in the future.

122. Following that discussion, the Conference agreed to refer the issue to the contact group established to discuss emerging policy issues. Following the deliberations of the contact group, the Conference adopted the modalities for considering emerging policy issues, as set out in the annex to resolution II/4.

G. Information exchange and scientific and technical cooperation

123. The representative of the secretariat introduced the relevant documentation, drawing attention, among other things, to the information clearing house being established by the secretariat and expressing appreciation to the Government of Germany for its financial support for that initiative.

124. Several representatives reviewed the work undertaken by their organizations in support of the Strategic Approach and its implementation, highlighting such issues as workshops, information exchange networks and synergies. They reiterated their commitment to continuing such work with a view to enhancing Strategic Approach implementation. One representative requested the secretariat to ensure that it had a clear vision of the way forward when putting into practice the information contained in the relevant documentation.

125. A number of representatives, several speaking on behalf of groups of countries, welcomed the work undertaken by the secretariat and by the other organizations that had described their operations, noting that exchanging information was fundamental to the aims of the Strategic Approach, to enhancing international cooperation and to attaining the 2020 goal, among other things. Some explained how their countries had reaped the benefits of the work undertaken, for example through training courses or by having improved information available for dissemination, and urged the Conference to consider the organizations' work further. One representative said that the Strategic Approach could work to enhance the regional information exchange networks supported by UNEP. Another said that as many stakeholders as possible should be included, calling for more partners, particularly from academic institutions and industry, to be brought into play.

126. The representative of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry reiterated the offer that he and other representatives had made the previous day to host a scientific meeting prior to the Conference's third session, as contained in a conference-room paper. He explained that the Union was experienced in organizing such meetings, having done so for the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. He pointed out that the Union would raise the funds for the proposed meeting, with the Strategic Approach contribution, if any, being used to ensure participation in the meeting, particularly of representatives of developing countries.

127. Several representatives, one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, cautioned against making formal arrangements with scientific societies at the current stage, suggesting that the Conference would do better to encourage them to provide input and participate fully rather than according them a specific mandate. One representative, stressing that he fully understood the value of information exchange with scientific organizations, suggested that the secretariat should research the matter in detail and make a proposal at the Conference's third session, pointing out that the proposed meeting could have budgetary implications. Another representative called into question the independence of the proposed expert advice and called for attention to be paid to how scientific expertise was incorporated into the work of other United Nations bodies, such as WHO or the

International Panel on Climate Change, which were at pains to safeguard their scientific independence. He recommended that special relationships with one or two organizations should be avoided.

128. One representative pointed out that the proposed meeting could well enhance discussions in the lead-up to the Conference's third session. It was his understanding, he said, that the proponents were not seeking a formal designation from the Conference, but wished to make a contribution to its third session by laying the scientific groundwork therefor.

V. Cooperation with intergovernmental organizations

129. The representative of the secretariat introduced the relevant documentation, highlighting the action taken by the governing bodies of intergovernmental organizations in relation to the Strategic Approach and noting that the current session was being held immediately prior to the sixty-second World Health Assembly in accordance with the Overarching Policy Strategy of the Strategic Approach and resolution I/1 of the Conference.

130. The Conference agreed to consider general matters raised under the agenda item and then to discuss specific issues outlined documents to be introduced by their submitters.

A. General comments

131. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, welcomed the work of IOMC and its support for the Strategic Approach but stressed that the Programme should seek to avoid duplication of efforts and to forge synergies to maximize its impact.

B. Commission on Sustainable Development

132. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, introduced a conference-room paper containing a draft resolution pertaining to the Commission on Sustainable Development. The resolution would, among other things, encourage Strategic Approach stakeholders to engage actively in the work of the Commission in the light of the fact that the Commission would be considering chemicals-related issues for the next two years.

133. One representative expressed concern that the current meeting overlapped with the Commission's seventeenth session and urged the secretariat to avoid such scheduling clashes in the future. He also expressed reservations at a proposal currently being considered by the General Assembly with regard to the holding of what was termed a "Rio + 20" meeting, wondering how that would affect the Commission's work on chemicals. He and another representative endorsed the message of the conference-room paper.

134. Following its deliberations the Conference adopted resolution II/7, on the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development on chemicals, as set out in annex I to the present report.

C. World Health Organization

135. The representative of WHO introduced a report on the importance of sound chemicals management for human health, prepared for the sixty-second World Health Assembly (SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/11). He noted that although the Strategic Approach had been scheduled for consideration at the sixty-second Assembly the crisis brought about by influenza A H1N1 might result in some items, including the Strategic Approach, being struck from the agenda for the Assembly. If that were to happen the Assembly would not consider the Strategic Approach until 2010.

136. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, expressed concern at the potential deletion of the Strategic Approach from the Assembly's agenda and urged that the utmost efforts be made to prevent that from happening.

137. One representative introduced a conference-room paper containing a draft resolution submitted by a group of representatives on health aspects of the sound management of chemicals. Drawing attention to the problems faced by the health sector, she emphasized the need to convey concerns voiced during the current session to the Assembly.

138. Many representatives expressed support for the draft resolution, pointing out, among other things, the important role of the health sector in the sound management of chemicals, with some proposing textual additions or amendments.

139. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, expressed concern at the scant WHO participation in the Strategic Approach, drawing attention, among other things, to the small number of regional and national actions taken by WHO, the lack of proposals for specific action and the insufficient promotion and presentation of projects involving the health sector in the Quick Start Programme. He urged the Conference to call for the creation or nomination of focal points for the health sector that would maintain contact with WHO or its regional bodies, such as the Pan-American Health Organization. One representative endorsed those comments on the low profile of WHO in the Strategic Approach, arguing that WHO should take a more active role in the development process and in stimulating the health sector at the national level. Another urged WHO to coordinate closely with the Strategic Approach.

140. One representative, evoking regional activities being undertaken in the health and environment sector, called for assistance from WHO and the Quick Start Programme with which to develop the activities further. Another suggested that more training should be made available to medical personnel to diagnose and treat diseases caused by chemicals, an issue that should be accorded high priority at the Assembly.

141. The President requested the governmental participant that had proposed the draft resolution on the issue to coordinate informal consultations among interested representatives to incorporate amendments to the text.

142. Following those consultations and the preparation of a revised draft resolution the Conference adopted resolution II/8, on health aspects of the sound management of chemicals, as set out in annex I to the present report.

D. Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety

143. A representative of the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety introduced document SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/21, containing, among other things, the text of the Dakar Resolution on the Future of the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety, by which the Forum at its sixth session had invited the Conference to decide, at its second session, to integrate the Forum into the Conference as an official advisory body. Mr. Sylla, President of the Forum, drew attention to a report by the Forum on its contributions to the implementation of the Strategic Approach (SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/10) and expressed his support for the proposal to integrate it into the Conference.

144. Many representatives praised the Forum's past work. As a transparent and neutral body, open to a multitude of stakeholders, it had allowed chemicals management stakeholders with many different perspectives to speak freely, without the pressure of political positions, and to understand and sympathize with one another's views. It had thus played a crucial role in engendering an atmosphere of trust, which in turn had been a significant factor in the creation of the Strategic Approach. Some representatives noted that the Forum had been especially successful in providing a platform for developing countries and countries with economies in transition to express their concerns. It had also been effective at elucidating the scientific aspects of chemicals management and linking them to other concerns, and had thus provided the necessary scientific basis for policy decisions by the Conference.

145. A number of representatives, in the light of the comments described in the preceding paragraph, said that the Forum should continue to play the role that it had played to date and proposed that it should be formalized as an advisory body to the Conference. There remained a need, they said, for the sort of body that the Forum had provided.

146. Other representatives, however, while acknowledging the valuable contributions that the Forum had made, observed that the chemicals management landscape had changed dramatically, and that the Conference itself would provide the sort of body that the Forum had previously. One representative said that if a subsidiary body was needed under the Conference – a question that had not yet been answered – then the correct approach would be to define its functions and then establish a body to fulfil them. Several representatives said that making the Forum an official advisory body would duplicate efforts and dissipate resources, while some representatives from donor countries said that they would be unable to take on the additional cost of supporting the Forum as an official component of the Conference. One representative, while acknowledging the special role played by the Forum, pointed out that the creation of the Strategic Approach, and its subsequent work, had been assisted by the work of many intergovernmental organizations.

147. Observing that there was insufficient support for the proposal to integrate the Forum into the Conference, the President suggested that the Conference could at a later date consider new proposals about the possible roles to be performed by the Forum vis-à-vis the Strategic Approach.

148. One representative introduced a draft resolution on the Forum that, in the light of the Conference's decision to establish an open-ended working group, would acknowledge the work of the Forum but would not integrate it into the Conference.

149. One representative said that it was important not to close the door entirely on the Forum, given that the decision to endorse the open-ended working group applied only for the second session of the Conference. The Conference at its third session could then look again at integrating the Forum into the Conference. He proposed a textual amendment to the draft resolution, which other representatives further developed.

150. One representative stressed that the Forum needed to be supported financially to undertake its role in an efficient manner.

151. Following its deliberations the Conference adopted resolution II/9, on the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety, as set out in annex I to the present report.

VI. Activities of the secretariat and adoption of the budget

152. Introducing the item, the President said that effective implementation of the Strategic Approach relied on institutional features, such as a fully functioning secretariat. He added that the secretariat had been very active in performing its function as outlined in paragraph 28 of the Overarching Policy Strategy, including the preparation of meetings and intersessional work. He recalled that, given the voluntary nature of the Strategic Approach, the indicative budget would be proposed for approval, not adoption. The representative of the secretariat subsequently introduced the relevant documentation, describing the proposed programme of work and budget of the secretariat for the period 2009–2012. He drew attention to resource constraints that had delayed the launch of the information clearing-house services and noted that, while the secretariat was now fully established and staffed, it still faced a shortfall in funding for mandated activities. He added that the current and planned workload warranted additional staff, in particular for the Quick Start Programme. He emphasized the voluntary nature of the budget, highlighting that the secretariat remained dependent on voluntary contributions to undertake important functions as directed under the Strategic Approach.

153. Several representatives voiced their appreciation for what they said was excellent work accomplished by the secretariat. One representative, acknowledging that the Strategic Approach was a voluntary agreement with an indicative budget, said that it should nevertheless receive serious consideration, should be predictable and should be based on a fair sharing of the donor burden. Another representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, thanked the Executive Director of UNEP and the Director-General of WHO for their continuing support for the Strategic Approach, which, he hoped, would grow in the coming years. His organization fully subscribed to the objectives of the Strategic Approach and to its long-term and sustainable financing. Outlining his organization's past contributions to the Strategic Approach he expressed concern at the low number of donors and said that more financial partners must be identified to broaden the donor base, including with industry and other stakeholders. He voiced support for the indicative budget and fund-raising tools and anticipated a defined and agreed programme of work, taking into account all key priorities for future actions, but cautioned against taking decisions on activities for which there was no budget, a view echoed by another representative. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change was cited as an example of an institution successfully functioning with voluntary contributions from both developed and developing countries, alongside in kind contributions, in particular for the convening of meetings away from its headquarters.

154. The co-chairs of the Quick Start Programme Executive Board expressed their appreciation to the secretariat for the efficient and extensive organization of the work of the Board and, given the increasing workload, expressed support for an additional staff position on the secretariat to deal with matters related to the Quick Start Programme.

155. The Conference agreed to establish a contact group chaired by Mr. John Roberts (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) to discuss the indicative budget and staffing, taking into account comments made in plenary. The group was urged to suspend finalization of budgetary considerations until agreement had been reached on substantive issues which might have implications for the secretariat's indicative budget.

156. Following the deliberations of the contact group, and also the establishment of an open-ended working group (see paragraph 120 of the present report), the Conference approved the outstanding items of the indicative budget. Accordingly, the Conference adopted resolution II/10 on the indicative budget,

staffing table and programme of work for the period 2010–2012, as set out in annex I to the present report.

VII. High-level segment

A. Opening and ministerial statements

157. On Thursday and Friday, 14 and 15 May 2009, the current session convened in the form of a high-level segment attended by ministers for the environment, health or foreign affairs or their representatives.

158. The segment began with opening remarks by the Executive Director of UNEP, who highlighted the progress made in implementing the Strategic Approach and encouraged as many representatives as possible to make financial or other donations to ensure its continued success. He said that the Strategic Approach, with its inclusive nature, was of particular importance in view of society's increasing reliance on chemicals and the need to reconcile the global economy with environmental considerations. Although the chemicals industry had made significant efforts to attain the 2020 goal, consumer attitudes and government policies would continue to be major factors influencing, or limiting, progress.

159. Following the Executive Director's remarks, statements were made by ministers or other representatives of the following governmental participants, listed in the order of presentation: the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Republic of Tanzania, Czech Republic, speaking on behalf of the European Union, Cambodia, Romania, Mozambique, Republic of Korea, United States of America, Chile, Brazil, Nigeria, Zambia, Kiribati, Islamic Republic of Iran, Tuvalu, Niger, Indonesia, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Egypt, Serbia, Bahrain, India, China, Barbados, Mongolia, Tunisia, Kenya, Japan, Myanmar, Turkey, Thailand and Ukraine..

160. Statements were also made by representatives of UNITAR, OECD, ICCA, CropLife International, World Bank, IFCS, Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, International POPs Elimination Network, IOMC, International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), UNDP and International Association for Soaps, Detergents and Maintenance Products (AISE).

161. During the high-level segment the representative of the World Bank announced that the Bank would soon formalize its relationship with IOMC by becoming a participating organization of IOMC.

162. The representative of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry announced that in holding four meetings on emerging chemicals management issues in 2009 the Society would be making a significant in-kind contribution to implementation of the Strategic Approach in the form of volunteer time and expertise and its own resources.

B. Round-table discussions

163. During the high-level segment, ministers and other high-level meeting representatives engaged in two round-table discussions, the first on financing sound chemicals management and the way ahead for implementation of the Strategic Approach and the second on public health, the environment and chemicals management. A moderator, Mr. Paul Hohnen, guided the discussions and a panel of experts led the discussion on each theme, which was intended to elicit a free exchange of ideas among the representatives.

164. Summaries of the round-table discussions, as prepared by the moderator, are set out in annex V to the present report.

C. Awards ceremony

165. The representative of the secretariat drew attention to the relevant documentation, which contained the recommendation by the Executive Director of UNEP, as convener of the Conference, that the Conference should accept a proposal by the Quick Start Programme Executive Board to recognize contributors to the Programme and other activities supporting the implementation of the Strategic Approach.

166. The Conference accepted the proposal and agreed that an awards ceremony would be held during the plenary session on the afternoon of Thursday, 14 May, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

167. During the high-level segment a ceremony was held to honour Strategic Approach stakeholders who had contributed financially or otherwise to the success of the Strategic Approach. The ceremony

was hosted by the Executive Director of UNEP, who, together with the President of the Conference, presented awards to the contributors. Gold awards were conferred upon those whose direct contributions amounted to more than \$1 million; silver awards upon those which had made direct financial contributions on a multi-year basis, developing countries and intergovernmental organizations that had made direct contributions, and those intergovernmental organizations which had contributed staff to the secretariat; and bronze awards upon all other donors. The recipients were as follows:

Gold: Finland, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United States of America and European Commission.

Silver: Australia, Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, India, Japan, Madagascar, Netherlands, Nigeria, Slovenia, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, UNEP and WHO.

Bronze: Belgium, Barbados, Canada, Chile, Egypt, Hungary, Republic of Korea, Romania, Latvia, Panama, United Republic of Tanzania, Thailand, FAO, ILO, League of Arab States, Organization of American States, OECD, South Pacific Regional Environment Programme, UNDP, UNIDO, UNITAR and ICCA.

VIII. Venue and date of the third session of the Conference

168. The representative of the secretariat, introducing the relevant documentation, explained that the Overarching Policy Strategy and resolution I/1 of the Conference called for sessions of the Conference, where appropriate, to be held back-to-back with meetings of the governing bodies of relevant intergovernmental organizations to enhance synergies and cost-effectiveness and to promote the multisectoral nature of the Strategic Approach.

169. The Conference agreed that the Bureau would decide on behalf of the Conference concerning the date and venue of the third session.

IX. Other matters

A. Cooperation and coordination between the Strategic Approach and other international arrangements

170. In the hope that it would benefit Strategic Approach implementation, one representative drew attention to two conference-room papers setting out the Arab countries' vision for the Strategic Approach and the second session of the Conference, focusing on emerging policy issues, the financial mechanism, synergies between the Strategic Approach and other international agreements and illegal international traffic in chemicals.

171. The Conference agreed that both documents would be made available on the website of the Strategic Approach.

B. Election of members to the Quick Start Programme Executive Board

172. In accordance with resolution I/4 of the Conference, the Executive Board of the Quick Start Programme would include representatives of two governmental participants from each of the five United Nations regional groups. The Conference elected the following governmental participants to nominate representatives to serve on the Executive Board of the Quick Start Programme in the intersessional period:

Africa	Burundi and Nigeria
Asia and the Pacific	Islamic Republic of Iran and Thailand
Central and Eastern Europe	Armenia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Latin America and the Caribbean	Barbados and Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
Western Europe and others	Finland and Switzerland

173. Following those appointments, several regional representatives informed the Conference of the appointment of their new regional focal points for the Strategic Approach, and the representative of the Asian and Pacific region announced that his region had confirmed terms of reference for its regional focal points and its members of the Quick Start Programme Executive Board. The new regional focal

points were representatives of the following governmental participants: India (Asia and the Pacific), Jamaica (Latin America and the Caribbean), Poland (Central and Eastern Europe), United States (Western Europe and others) and Zambia (Africa).

X. Adoption of the report

174. The Conference adopted the present report on the basis of the draft report contained in documents SAICM/ICCM.2/L.1 and Add.1 and Add.2, on the understanding that the Rapporteur would be entrusted with its finalization, in consultation with the secretariat.

XI. Closure of the session

175. Following the customary exchange of courtesies, the President declared the session closed at 6.50 p.m. on Friday, 15 May 2009.

Annex I

Resolutions

II/1: Rules of procedure of the International Conference on Chemicals Management

The Conference

Adopts the rules of procedure of the International Conference on Chemicals Management set out in the annex to the present resolution, with the exception of paragraph 2 of rule 33.

Annex to resolution II/1

I. Introduction

Rule 1

These rules of procedure shall apply to any session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (“Conference”) convened pursuant to section VII of the Overarching Policy Strategy of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, and are designed to reflect the multi-stakeholder character of the Strategic Approach, as described in paragraph 2 of the Overarching Policy Strategy.

II. Definitions

Rule 2

For the purposes of these rules:

- (a) “Governmental participant” means any Member State of the United Nations, of its specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, as well as any associate member State of a specialized agency and, unless expressly provided otherwise, regional economic integration organizations constituted by sovereign States of a given region, to which its member States have transferred competence in respect of matters within the mandate of the Conference;
- (b) “Governmental participants present and voting” means those governmental participants present at the session at which voting takes place and casting an affirmative or negative vote. Governmental participants abstaining from voting shall be considered as not voting;
- (c) “Intergovernmental participant” means any United Nations body or other intergovernmental entity with expertise and responsibilities in the field of international chemicals management;
- (d) “Non-governmental participant” means any accredited international non-governmental organization having activities, expertise and responsibilities consistent with the purpose and objectives of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management that has informed the secretariat in writing in accordance with rule 13 of its wish to be represented at sessions of the Conference and whose attendance is not objected to by one third or more of the governmental participants present when the Conference considers the request;
- (e) “Participant” means any governmental, intergovernmental or non-governmental participant;
- (f) “President” means the President of the Conference elected in accordance with rule 14.

III. Participation

Rule 3

1. Subject to paragraph 2, all participants shall be entitled to take part, in accordance with these rules, in sessions of the Conference and any subsidiary body established in accordance with rule 23.
2. Intergovernmental and/or non-governmental participants shall be excluded from the consideration of all or part of the agenda if so decided by a two-thirds majority of the governmental participants present and voting. Such temporary exclusions shall be made only where the matter under consideration is sensitive. The reasons for the exclusion shall be stated in the governmental participants' decision and shall be recorded in the official record of the session.

IV. Venue, dates and notice of sessions

Rule 4

The venue and dates of each session of the Conference shall be decided by the governmental participants after consulting the secretariat and inviting comments by the intergovernmental participants and non-governmental participants.

Rule 5

The secretariat shall notify all participants of the venue and dates of a session of the Conference at least eight weeks before it is due to commence.

V. Agenda

Rule 6

1. The secretariat shall, in consultation with and under the guidance of the Bureau, prepare a provisional agenda for each session in accordance with the functions of the Conference defined in paragraph 24 of the Overarching Policy Strategy. Any participant may request the secretariat to include specific items in the provisional agenda.
2. In developing the agenda pursuant to paragraph 1, any item recommended by Strategic Approach regional meetings and items of particular interest to developing countries and countries with economies in transition shall be given priority.
3. For each session of the Conference, the provisional agenda, with other official documents, shall be distributed to participants in the official languages by the secretariat at least six weeks before the session is due to commence.
4. Between the date of communication of the provisional agenda and the date of adoption of the agenda by the Conference, participants may propose supplementary items for inclusion in the agenda, provided the items are of an important and urgent nature. The secretariat shall, with the consent of the Bureau, include such items on the provisional agenda.

Rule 7

At the beginning of each session of the Conference, the governmental participants shall, after consulting the intergovernmental participants and non-governmental participants, adopt the agenda for the session on the basis of the provisional agenda and any supplementary items proposed in accordance with rule 6.

Rule 8

During a session of the Conference, the governmental participants may, after consulting the intergovernmental participants and non-governmental participants, revise the agenda for the session by adding, deleting or amending items. Only items which the governmental participants consider to be of an important and urgent nature may be added to the agenda during a session.

VI. Representation, credentials and accreditation

Rule 9

Each Participant participating in a session of the Conference shall be represented by a delegation consisting of a head of delegation and such other accredited representatives, alternative representatives and advisers as it may require. An alternate representative or an adviser may act as a representative upon designation by the head of delegation.

Rule 10

1. The credentials of representatives of governmental participants and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the secretariat if possible not later than twenty-four hours after the opening of the session. Any later change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the secretariat.
2. For governmental participants, the credentials shall be issued by either the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, or, in the case of regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization.

Rule 11

The Bureau of any session shall examine the credentials and submit its report to the Conference.

Rule 12

Representatives of governmental participants shall be entitled to participate provisionally in the session, pending a decision by governmental participants in the Conference to accept their credentials.

Rule 13

1. Intergovernmental and non-governmental participants shall be duly accredited.
2. The name of any such intergovernmental participant seeking accreditation shall be submitted to the secretariat if possible no later than twenty-four hours after the opening of the session. At the same time, a responsible representative of such participant shall submit to the secretariat the names of those who represent it at the Conference. Any later change in that list of names shall also be submitted to the secretariat.
3. The name of any such non-governmental participant seeking accreditation shall be submitted to the secretariat if possible no later than twenty-four hours after the opening of the session. At the same time, a responsible official of such participant shall include a statement describing the activities, expertise and responsibilities of the participant and how they are consistent with the purpose and objectives of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, and shall submit to the secretariat the names of those who represent it at the Conference. Any later change in that list of names shall also be submitted to the secretariat. Upon the secretariat's verification of receipt of the above information, the participant shall be admitted to the session unless one-third or more of the governmental participants object.

VII. Officers and operation of the Bureau

Rule 14

1. At the second session of the Conference, the President and four Vice-Presidents, one of whom shall act as Rapporteur, shall be elected by and from among the representatives of the governmental participants present at the session. These elected governmental participants shall serve as the Bureau of the Conference. The Bureau shall remain in office until the closure of the third session of the Conference. The terms of these officers are deemed to constitute two consecutive terms.
2. At the third session of the Conference, and any future sessions of the Conference, the President and four Vice-Presidents, one of whom shall act as Rapporteur, shall be elected by and from among the representatives of the governmental participants present at each session. These elected governmental

participants shall serve as the Bureau of each session of the Conference. These officers shall commence their term at the closure of each session of the Conference and shall serve until the closure of the next session of the Conference.

3. In electing the officers, the governmental participants shall have due regard to the principle of equitable geographical representation. Each of the five regions of the United Nations shall be represented by one officer in the Bureau.

4. The offices of President and Rapporteur shall normally be subject to rotation among the United Nations regions for each session of the Conference. No elected officer may serve on the Bureau for more than two consecutive terms.

5. For the purpose of this rule, governmental participants shall not include a regional economic integration organization.

6. Each member of the Bureau may designate a representative of the same governmental participant to represent him or her at those Bureau meetings which the member is unable to attend.

Rule 15

1. The Bureau shall meet as necessary, either in person or by telecommunication means, to advise the President and the secretariat on the conduct of the business of the Conference and its subsidiary bodies. The secretariat shall service its meetings. The chair of any subsidiary body may be invited to participate in Bureau meetings to report on and discuss the progress of work of the body for which he or she is responsible.

2. In light of the multi-stakeholder character of the Strategic Approach, the President shall invite four representatives of non-governmental participants and one representative of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals to participate in the discussions during the meetings of the Bureau for the purpose of advising and responding to the Bureau, unless the Bureau decides that part or all of its meeting shall be limited to governmental participants.

3. Pursuant to paragraph 2, one representative of each of the health, industry, trade union, and public interest groups of non-governmental participants shall be elected at the second session of the Conference by and from representatives present from each group. The elected representatives shall remain in that capacity until the end of the third session. The terms of these representatives are deemed to constitute two consecutive terms. Thereafter, such representatives shall be elected at the end of each session of the Conference, and remain in that capacity until the end of the next session. No elected representative may serve for more than two consecutive terms.

4. For the purpose of paragraph 2, the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals shall be represented by the Chair of the Inter-Organization Coordinating Committee of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals.

5. In addition, the President may, in consultation with the other members of the Bureau, invite such participants and others as he or she deems appropriate to discuss specific matters concerning the work of the Bureau that he or she considers would benefit from such consideration.

Rule 16

1. In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him or her elsewhere in these rules, the President shall:

- (a) Declare the opening and closure of each session;
- (b) Preside at sessions of the Conference and meetings of the Bureau;
- (c) Ensure the observance of these rules;
- (d) Accord participants the right to speak;
- (e) Put questions to the vote or apply the decision-making procedure in rule 33, in accordance with these rules, and announce decisions;

- (f) Rule on any points of order; and
 - (g) Subject to these rules, have complete control over the proceedings and maintain order.
2. The President may also propose:
 - (a) The closure of the list of speakers;
 - (b) A limitation on the time to be allowed to speakers and on the number of times a participant may speak on an issue;
 - (c) The adjournment or closure of debate on an issue; and
 - (d) The suspension or adjournment of a meeting.
 3. The President shall decide when sufficient time for consultation under rules 4, 7, 8, 23 or 46 has elapsed.
 4. The President, in the exercise of his or her functions, remains at all times under the authority of the Conference.

Rule 17

The President shall participate in sessions of the Conference in that capacity and shall not at the same time exercise the rights of a representative of a governmental participant. The governmental participant concerned shall designate another representative who shall be entitled to represent it at sessions and exercise the right to vote.

Rule 18

1. The President, if absent from a session or any part thereof, shall designate a Vice-President to act as President.
2. A Vice-President acting as President shall have the same powers and duties as the President and shall not at the same time exercise the rights of a representative of a governmental participant.

Rule 19

1. If an officer of the Bureau resigns or is otherwise unable to complete his or her term of office or to perform the functions of that office, a replacement representative of the same governmental participant shall be provided by that governmental participant as soon as possible.
2. If a non-governmental representative elected in accordance with paragraph 3 of rule 15 resigns or is otherwise unable to complete his or her term or perform his or her functions during that term, a replacement representative of the same non-governmental group shall be designated by accredited participants of that group as soon as possible.

VIII. Secretariat

Rule 20

The Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme shall provide and direct the staff of the secretariat required to service the Conference, including any subsidiary bodies which the Conference may establish.

Rule 21

The Executive Director shall be responsible for convening sessions in accordance with rules 4 to 6 and for making all the necessary arrangements for such sessions, including the preparation and distribution of official documents in the six official languages of the United Nations at least six weeks in advance of the sessions.

Rule 22

In addition to the functions specified in paragraph 28 of the Overarching Policy Strategy the secretariat shall, in accordance with these rules:

- (a) Arrange for interpretation at sessions;
- (b) Receive, translate, reproduce and distribute the official documents for the sessions;
- (c) Arrange for the custody and preservation of the documents of each session in the archives of the secretariat; and
- (d) Perform such other tasks as the Conference may require in relation to its functions.

IX. Subsidiary bodies**Rule 23**

1. The governmental participants may, after consulting the intergovernmental participants and non-governmental participants:

- (a) Establish subsidiary bodies to carry out such objectives as may be agreed upon at a session of the Conference;
- (b) Determine the matters to be considered by a subsidiary body; and
- (c) Establish its terms of reference.

2. Unless the Conference decides otherwise, the present rules of procedure shall apply mutatis mutandis to the proceedings of any subsidiary body, except that:

- (a) The Bureau of a subsidiary body shall not exceed five in number;
- (b) The chair of a subsidiary body shall be appointed by the governmental participants from among governmental participants after consultation with the intergovernmental participants and non-governmental participants;
- (c) Any vice-chair and rapporteur of a subsidiary body shall be appointed by the governmental participants from among governmental participants represented in the subsidiary body after consultation with the intergovernmental participants and non-governmental participants represented in the body; and
- (d) A subsidiary body may opt for a chair or co-chair arrangement in lieu of a Bureau.

3. The Conference shall keep under review the composition, effectiveness and need for its subsidiary bodies, as part of the periodic reviews of the Strategic Approach, in accordance with paragraph 24 of the Overarching Policy Strategy.

X. Conduct of business**Rule 24**

The President may declare a meeting of the session open and permit debate to proceed when the representatives of at least one-third of those participating in the session are present. The presence of two-thirds of the participants at the session shall be required for any consensus decision among participants to be taken; however the presence of two-thirds of the governmental participants at the session shall be required where these rules provide that decisions may be taken only by the governmental participants.

Rule 25

1. No one may speak at a meeting of the session without obtaining the permission of the President. Without prejudice to rules 26, 27, 28 and 30, the President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The secretariat shall maintain a list of speakers. The President may call a speaker to order if the speaker's remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

2. The Conference may, on a proposal from the President or from any participant, limit the time allowed to each speaker and the number of times that each participant may speak on a question. Before a decision is taken, two representatives may speak in favour of and two against a proposal to set such limits. When the debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the President shall call the speaker to order without delay.

Rule 26

The chair or rapporteur of a subsidiary body may be accorded precedence for the purpose of explaining the conclusions reached by that subsidiary body.

Rule 27

During the discussion of any matter, a participant may at any time raise a point of order which shall be decided immediately by the President in accordance with the present rules. A participant may appeal against the ruling of the President. The appeal shall be put to the vote immediately and the ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the governmental participants present and voting. A participant may not, in raising a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Rule 28

Any motion calling for a decision on the competence of the Conference to discuss any matter or to adopt a proposal or an amendment to a proposal shall be decided upon in accordance with the procedures set out in rule 33, paragraphs 1 and 2 before the matter is discussed or a decision is taken on the proposal or amendment in question.

Rule 29

Proposals and amendments to proposals shall normally be introduced in writing in one of the official languages by a participant and handed to the secretariat, which shall circulate copies to participants. Proposals for conference decisions or resolutions shall be circulated, where possible, to participants no later than 30 days before the session is due to commence. As a general rule, no proposal may be discussed or put to the vote at any session unless copies of it have been circulated to the participants at least 24 hours before the proposal is debated. The President may permit the discussion and consideration of proposals, amendments to proposals or procedural motions even though these proposals, amendments or motions have not been circulated or have been circulated only the same day.

Rule 30

1. Subject to rule 27, the following motions shall have precedence in the order indicated below over all other proposals or motions:

- (a) To suspend the session;
- (b) To adjourn the session;
- (c) To adjourn the debate on the question under discussion;
- (d) To close the debate on the question under discussion.

2. Permission to speak on a motion falling within paragraphs 1 (a)–(d) shall be granted to the proposer and, in addition, to one speaker in favour of and two against the motion, after which it shall be immediately decided in accordance with the procedure set out in rule 33, paragraph 3.

Rule 31

A proposal or motion may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before a decision is made on it or voting has begun, provided that the proposal or motion has not been amended. A proposal or motion thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any other participant.

Rule 32

When a proposal has been adopted or rejected, it may not be reconsidered at the same session, unless the Conference decides otherwise in accordance with the procedures set out in rule 33, paragraphs 1 and 2. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to the mover and one other supporter, after which it shall be immediately decided in accordance with the procedures set out in rule 33, paragraphs 1 and 2.

XI. Adoption of decisions

Rule 33

1. The participants shall make every effort to reach agreement on all matters of substance and procedure by consensus.
- [2. If all efforts by the participants at consensus on a matter of substance, other than a financial matter, have been exhausted, and no consensus reached, the decision shall, as a last resort, unless otherwise provided by the present rules of procedure, be taken by [consensus of the governmental participants][a two-thirds majority vote of the governmental participants present and voting].]
3. If all efforts by the participants at consensus on a matter of procedure have been exhausted, and no consensus reached, the decision shall, as a last resort, unless otherwise provided by the present rules of procedure, be taken by a majority vote of the governmental participants present and voting.
4. If the question arises whether a matter is procedural or substantive, the President shall rule on the question. An appeal against this ruling shall be put to the vote immediately and the President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the governmental participants present and voting.
5. For the purpose of paragraphs 2, 3, and 4 above and any decision-making which involves voting, government participants shall not include a regional economic integration organization.

Rule 34

As is accepted international practice, in the event that a participant wishes to explain its position in respect of a matter under consideration at a session of the Conference, such participant may include a statement of view in the report resulting from the session of the Conference. Such statement should be a reasonable length.

Rule 35

If two or more amendments to a proposal are moved, the Conference shall first decide on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal, then on the amendment next furthest removed therefrom, and so on until decisions have been made on all the amendments.

Rule 36

Voting on a single proposal shall normally be by show of hands. A roll-call vote shall be taken if one is requested by any governmental participant. It shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the countries which the governmental participants represent, beginning with the country whose name is drawn by lot by the President.

Rule 37

The vote of each governmental participant in a roll-call vote shall be recorded in the report of the session.

Rule 38

After the President has announced the beginning of voting, no participant shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of the voting. The President may permit governmental participants to explain their votes, either before or after the voting, and may limit the time allowed for such explanations.

Rule 39

In the absence of consensus, elections shall be decided by secret ballot.

Rule 40

1. If, when one person is to be elected, no candidate obtains in the first ballot a majority of the votes cast by the governmental participants present and voting, a second ballot restricted to the two candidates obtaining the largest number of votes shall be taken. If in the second ballot the votes are equally divided, the President shall decide between the candidates by drawing lots.

2. In the case of a tie in the first ballot between three or more candidates obtaining the largest number of votes, a second ballot shall be held. If a tie results between more than two candidates, the number shall be reduced to two by lot and the balloting, restricted to them, shall continue in accordance with the procedure set out in paragraph 1.

XII. Public and private sessions

Rule 41

The plenary sessions of the Conference shall be held in public unless the governmental participants decide otherwise.

Rule 42

The meetings of subsidiary bodies, other than those of any drafting group which may be set up, shall be held in public unless the governmental participants in the Conference decide otherwise.

XIII. Languages

Rule 43

The official languages of the Conference shall be Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

Rule 44

1. Statements made in one official language shall be interpreted into the other official languages.
2. A participant may speak in a language other than an official language if the participant provides for interpretation into one of the official languages.

Rule 45

Official documents of the Conference shall be drawn up in one of the official languages and translated into the other official languages.

XIV. Amendments to rules of procedure

Rule 46

Amendments to these rules of procedure shall be adopted by consensus of the governmental participants after consultation with the intergovernmental participants and the non-governmental participants.

II/2: Regional activities and coordination

The Conference,

Recalling the importance accorded to regional meetings in paragraph 26 of the Overarching Policy Strategy¹ and in resolution I/1 of the Conference,

Noting the outcomes of the regional meetings held since the first session of the Conference,

Recognizing that priorities and capacities for implementation of the Strategic Approach vary among regions and subregions according to their different economic and other circumstances,

1. *Expresses appreciation* to the Governments and organizations which have facilitated the holding of regional meetings during the period between the first and second sessions of the Conference by providing financial and in-kind resources as sponsors and hosts;

¹ *Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management: SAICM Texts and Resolutions of the International Conference on Chemicals Management* (ISBN 978-92-807-2751-7).

2. *Commends* the establishment of regional coordination mechanisms and the development of terms of reference for regional representatives by the African, Asian-Pacific, Central and Eastern European and Latin American and Caribbean regions;
3. *Underlines* the important role of regional meetings and coordination mechanisms in enabling stakeholders in each region to exchange experience and identify priority needs in relation to implementation of the Strategic Approach and to develop regional positions on key issues;
4. *Encourages* regions and subregions, where appropriate, to identify common priorities, develop Strategic Approach regional implementation plans and consider regional or subregional approaches and projects, including projects which may be supported under the Quick Start Programme;
5. *Also encourages* regional networks to discuss the further development and implementation of the Strategic Approach, including new emerging policy issues;
6. *Further encourages* regional organizations and financial institutions to provide assistance for Strategic Approach implementation within their regions;
7. *Calls upon* Governments and organizations in a position to do so to provide financial and in-kind resources to enable at least one meeting for each of the five United Nations regions to be organized in the coming intersessional period;
8. *Requests* the secretariat, within available resources, to assist in regional coordination through the provision of teleconference services, use of the Strategic Approach website and other relevant measures;
9. *Encourages* regional focal points to continue to play a facilitative role within their regions including undertaking activities as determined within each region such as, among others: chairing regional meetings, disseminating information of interest to focal points within their region, collecting views from Strategic Approach national focal points on matters of interest to the region, and assisting in the flow of information and views from the region to its Bureau member, as appropriate;
10. *Requests* regional focal points to report to the Conference at its third session on the outcomes of their regional meetings and other regional activities during the coming intersessional period.

II/3: Financial and technical resources for implementation

The Conference,

Recalling paragraph 19 of the Overarching Policy Strategy,

1. *Stresses* that the sound management of chemicals is essential to the attainment of sustainable development, including the eradication of poverty and disease, the improvement of human health and the environment and the elevation and maintenance of the standard of living in countries at all levels of development;
2. *Reaffirms* that achieving the objectives of the Overarching Policy Strategy for the sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle by 2020 depends in part on the financing of diverse action at all levels and on enhanced synergies and the complementarity of the multiple financial arrangements foreseen in the Strategic Approach for its implementation;
3. *Encourages* additional research on the economic and social costs of unsound chemicals management, including the cost of inaction and the implications for the health sector, at the national, regional and international levels, to facilitate appropriate priority being given to the implementation of the Strategic Approach objectives;
4. *Also encourages* research on and, where appropriate, the assessment and adoption at the national and subnational levels of economic instruments that internalize the external costs related to chemicals, bearing in mind that such instruments need careful design, in particular in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
5. *Recognizes* the need for sustainable, predictable, adequate and accessible funding for activities in support of the sound management of chemicals and the achievement of the objectives set forth in the Strategic Approach, taking into account the priorities identified by developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

6. *Encourages* efforts by all countries aimed at mainstreaming sound chemicals management and calls upon donors and relevant organizations in their assistance strategies to prioritize financial and technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition to support their efforts to mainstream sound chemicals management into national development policies and plans;
7. *Invites* funding for the implementation of the Strategic Approach from all stakeholders;
8. *Encourages* action by all stakeholders at the national or subnational level to support financing for the achievement of Strategic Approach objectives, within their capabilities, including by giving adequate priority to the sound management of chemicals in development, health and environmental planning and related budget allocation processes;
9. *Calls upon* all stakeholders to integrate and give adequate priority to Strategic Approach objectives in multilateral and bilateral development assistance cooperation to facilitate the allocation of necessary resources at the national, subregional, regional, bilateral and multilateral levels;
10. *Invites* all relevant financial institutions, in particular existing international financial institutions, including the World Bank and regional development banks, other international, regional and subregional funding institutions and intergovernmental organizations, to build on existing synergies and to strengthen their support for activities contributing to the achievement of the Strategic Approach objectives, including through in-kind contributions, within their respective mandates;
11. *Calls upon* the private sector, including industry, to enhance its support for the implementation of Strategic Approach objectives, including through voluntary initiatives, in kind contributions, partnerships and financial and technical participation;
12. *Recognizes* the need to broaden the donor base for the Quick Start Programme, urges potential donors, including Governments in a position to do so, intergovernmental organizations, the private sector, including industry, foundations, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders, to contribute to the Quick Start Programme and calls on current donors to continue and strengthen their support;
13. *Welcomes* the consideration being given to the sound management of chemicals during the fifth Global Environment Facility replenishment process;
14. *Urges* the Global Environment Facility within this process to consider expanding its activities related to the sound management of chemicals to facilitate Strategic Approach implementation while respecting its responsibilities as the financial mechanism for the Stockholm Convention;
15. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to consider the priorities and activities identified in the Strategic Approach in support of the achievement of its objectives;
16. *Decides*, in order to accommodate some potential donors' budgetary planning horizons and to facilitate the evaluation mentioned in paragraph 17 of the present resolution, to allow the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund to remain open for voluntary contributions until the third session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management while the time limit for disbursement of funds from the Trust Fund will remain the end of 2013;
17. *Requests* the Quick Start Programme Executive Board to evaluate the Quick Start Programme, report on its effectiveness and the efficiency of its implementation and make recommendations in the light of its findings for the consideration of the Conference at its third session;
18. *Invites* all stakeholders, in particular those referred to in the present resolution, to assess and report to the secretariat on the steps that they have taken to implement the Strategic Approach financial arrangements at the latest six months before the third session of the Conference and requests the secretariat to compile and synthesize these reports, including any additional relevant information, for consideration by the Conference at its third session;
19. *Calls upon* the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its third session to review and evaluate the reports referred to in paragraphs 17 and 18 and to consider the adequacy of financial and technical arrangements for Strategic Approach implementation for action as appropriate.

II/4: Emerging policy issues

A

Introduction

The Conference,

Recognizing the need to take account of current and ever changing social needs in relation to implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and the importance of having procedures that enable due attention to be given to issues which may not have been generally recognized, or sufficiently addressed,

Committed to meeting the need for open, transparent procedures for dealing with emerging policy issues that include effective dialogue with all Strategic Approach stakeholders,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the proposals for cooperative action relating to the emerging policy issues of lead in paint, chemicals in products, hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products and nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials;
2. *Requests* the secretariat to implement, subject to available resources, the procedures set out in annex I to the present resolution for receiving nominations of emerging policy issues from stakeholders, screening them for completeness and prioritizing and assessing them for future consideration;
3. *Also requests* the secretariat to report on the progress made with the work on emerging policy issues to the Open-ended Working Group at its first meeting and to the Conference at its third session.

B

Lead in paint

The Conference,

Considering the decision by the World Summit on Sustainable Development to protect children's health from exposure to lead, as set out in paragraph 57 of the Summit's Plan of Implementation, which calls for the phase-out of lead in lead-based paints and in other sources of human exposure and for work to prevent, in particular, children's exposure to lead and to strengthen monitoring and surveillance efforts and the treatment of lead poisoning, and welcoming the actions identified to phase out lead in paint in the context of children's health and the environment at the meeting of ministers of the environment of the Group of Eight, held in Syracuse, Italy, from 22 to 24 April 2009,

Acknowledging the Dakar Resolution for Eliminating Lead in Paints, adopted by the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety at its sixth session, held in Dakar from 15 to 19 September 2008,

Recognizing the progress being made towards achieving a global phase-out of lead in automotive fuels by the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles,

1. *Endorses* a global partnership to promote phasing out the use of lead in paints as an important contribution to the implementation of paragraph 57 of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and to the Strategic Approach;
2. *Invites* all interested stakeholders to become members of the global partnership and, where appropriate, to commit themselves to contributing financial or in-kind resources or expertise towards the development and implementation of partnership activities;
3. *Requests* the global partnership to adopt terms of reference using the draft terms of reference presented to the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its second session² as

2 SAICM/ICCM.2/10/Add.1.

their basis and to develop a business plan articulating clear milestones for progress in achieving a global phase-out of lead in paint in the following areas:

- (a) Raising awareness of toxicity to human health and the environment and alternatives;
- (b) Guidance and assistance to identify potential lead exposure;
- (c) Assistance to industry (manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers);
- (d) Prevention programmes to reduce exposure;
- (e) Promotion of national regulatory frameworks;

4. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organization within their respective mandates and available resources to serve as the secretariat of the global partnership;

5. *Invites* the global partnership to report on progress to the Open-ended Working Group at its first meeting and to the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its third session.

C

Chemicals in products

The Conference,

Recalling the Overarching Policy Strategy of the Strategic Approach and its provisions on knowledge and information, which state, among other things, the objective of ensuring that information on chemicals throughout their life cycle, including, where appropriate, chemicals in products, is available, accessible, user-friendly, adequate and appropriate to the needs of all stakeholders,

1. *Agrees*, with a view to taking appropriate cooperative actions, to consider further the need to improve the availability of and access to information on chemicals in products in the supply chain and throughout their life cycle, recognizing the need for further action to fulfil the overall objective of the Strategic Approach that by 2020 chemicals are used and produced in ways that minimize significant adverse effects on human health and the environment;

2. *Decides* to implement a project with the overall objective of promoting the implementation of paragraph 15 (b) of the Overarching Policy Strategy of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management with reference to relevant portions of the Global Plan of Action;

3. *Agrees* that the project will:

(a) Collect and review existing information on information systems pertaining to chemicals in products including but not limited to regulations, standards and industry practices;

(b) Assess that information in relation to the needs of all relevant stakeholders and identify gaps;

(c) Develop specific recommendations for actions to promote implementation of the Strategic Approach with regard to such information, incorporating identified priorities and access and delivery mechanisms;

4. *Recommends* that proposals for cooperative actions should take into account the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals and avoid any duplication of efforts under that system;

5. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme, as part of its programme of work, to lead and facilitate the project in an open, transparent and inclusive manner, for instance through use of the Strategic Approach clearing-house mechanism and to constitute a steering group to advise it on the development and implementation of the project;

6. *Requests* each member of the Bureau of the Conference, following consultation within the member's region, to nominate one expert each from the respective region to the steering group, and the four representatives of non-governmental participants and one representative of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals participating in discussions of the Bureau in accordance with paragraph 2 of rule 15 of the rules of procedure to nominate one expert

each and decides that the steering group should be established no later than 15 July 2009 and should operate to the extent possible using electronic means;

7. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme to prepare relevant background documents and to facilitate a workshop to implement the objectives indicated in paragraphs 3 (b) and (c);

8. *Encourages* interested stakeholders and organizations to provide support to the project, including by developing and using relevant information and guidelines and compiling case examples, approaches and tools;

9. *Requests* all Governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, including from the private sector, to provide expertise and financial and in-kind resources on a voluntary basis to support the project;

10. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme to report on the project and its outcomes to the Open-ended Working Group at its first meeting and to the Conference at its third session for consideration and possible decision on cooperative actions.

D

Hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products

The Conference,

Recalling that the implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and its objectives and the relevant work areas of the Global Plan of Action are based upon a life-cycle approach to the sound management of chemicals, including waste management,

Recalling also the objectives of the Strategic Approach to enhance synergies between the activities of Governments, international institutions and multilateral organization secretariats and to enhance cooperation on the sound management of chemicals between Governments, the private sector and civil society at the national, regional and global levels,

Recognizing the work of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal on this issue, in particular that pursuant to the Nairobi Declaration on the Environmentally Sound Management of Electrical and Electronic Waste,³

Recognizing also that:

(a) Near-end-of-life and end-of-life electrical and electronic products are a growing concern as a result of dumping in developing countries, which results in the illegal transboundary movement of their hazardous constituents such as heavy metals and brominated flame retardants;

(b) There is a lack of capacity to handle electronic waste in an environmentally sound manner in almost all developing countries and countries with economies in transition, leading to the release of hazardous substances causing harm to human health and the environment;

(c) There is a pressing need for the continued development of clean technology and the environmentally friendly design and recycling of electronic and electrical products, with the goal of phasing out, where feasible, those hazardous substances contained in electronic and electrical products;

(d) It is important to consider product stewardship and extended producer responsibility aspects in the life-cycle management of electronic and electrical products;

(e) The Basel Convention electrical and electronic waste programme needs further strengthening by the provision of additional and adequate resources towards its effective implementation;

(f) Other organizations, including participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals, have consolidated experience and are currently undertaking efforts to address electrical and electronic products and waste,

3 UNEP/CHW.8/16*, Annex IV.

1. *Invites* the participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals and the secretariats of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants to develop, plan and convene, within available resources, a workshop to consider issues in relation to electrical and electronic products, based on a life-cycle approach. The workshop would seek to identify and assess where issues relating to the sound management of chemicals arise during the lifespan of electrical and electronic products, including the design of such products, green chemistry, recycling and disposal, in particular in the context of the requirements of the Basel and Stockholm conventions, and would develop a series of options and recommendations for future work, through existing mechanisms to the extent possible, which would be provided at the intersessional meeting and to the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its third session for its consideration and possible cooperative actions;
2. *Suggests* that the workshop be held in the margins of the meeting of the Open-ended Working Group meeting of the Basel Convention scheduled for May 2010 and that the workshop organizers engage with all relevant stakeholders including Governments, intergovernmental organizations, the industry sector and non-governmental organizations in both the preparation and delivery of the workshop;
3. *Requests* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, the industry sector and non-governmental organizations to provide expertise and financial and in kind resources on a voluntary basis to support the organization of the workshop referred to in paragraph 1.

E

Nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials

The Conference,

Recognizing that there are potential benefits and potential risks to human health and the environment associated with nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials,

Recognizing also that the development of nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials should be consistent with the 2020 World Summit on Sustainable Development goals related to chemicals,

Recognizing further that the relevance of nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials to national development needs to be appreciated by all countries;

1. *Encourages* Governments and other stakeholders to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to enhance their capacity to use and manage nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials responsibly, to maximize potential benefits and to minimize potential risks;
2. *Requests* Governments and industry to promote appropriate action to safeguard human health and the environment, including for example through engagement with workers and their representatives;
3. *Recognizes* the role of regulatory, voluntary and partnership approaches in promoting the responsible management of nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials throughout their life cycles;
4. *Agrees* that further research aimed at realizing the potential benefits and understanding better the potential risks to human health and the environment needs to be undertaken;
5. *Invites* Governments and intergovernmental, international and non-governmental organizations, the industry sector, the academic community and other stakeholders to work together on research in order to maximize synergies and understanding;
6. *Recommends* that Governments and other stakeholders begin or continue public dialogue on nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials and strengthen the capacity for such engagement by providing accessible information and channels of communication;
7. *Encourages* the wider dissemination of human health and environmental safety information in relation to products containing nanomaterials, while recognizing the need to protect confidential business information in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the Overarching Policy Strategy of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management;

8. *Requests* Governments and intergovernmental, international and non-governmental organizations, including the private sector, subject to available resources:
- (a) To facilitate access to relevant information, realizing the needs of different stakeholders;
 - (b) To share new information as it becomes available;
 - (c) To use upcoming regional, subregional, national and other meetings to further increase understanding of such information, for example through the use of workshops if appropriate;
9. *Invites* Governments and other stakeholders to develop a report that focuses on nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials including, in particular, issues of relevance to developing countries and economies in transition, and to make the report available to the Open-ended Working Group at its first meeting and to the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its third session;
10. *Invites* relevant international organizations, including the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, other organizations participating in the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals and the International Organization for Standardization, to engage in dialogue with stakeholders with a view to gaining further understanding of nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials;
11. *Notes* the role of existing information exchange systems such as the Strategic Approach website and its information clearing-house and that additional information exchange could be developed as appropriate.

Annex to resolution II/4

Modalities for considering emerging policy issues

Introduction

The process for the consideration of emerging policy issues by the International Conference on Chemicals Management will be open and transparent. It will be facilitated by the secretariat and provide for the participation of all stakeholders.

A. Call for nominations

1. Given that the nature of emerging policy issues will vary according to the perspectives and needs of different stakeholders, the process for nominating emerging policy issues should be an open one in which any Strategic Approach stakeholder is free to participate. The nomination procedure will be published on the Strategic Approach website. To promote communication at the national level, nominations should be copied to Strategic Approach focal points. Regions may also wish to add the subject to their meeting agendas. Because emerging policy issues will arise and evolve over time, nominations will be allowed at any point but will only be formally invited from stakeholders once during the period leading up to each session of the Conference. This periodic call for the nomination of issues will serve to encourage the systematic monitoring, review and regular discussion of emerging policy issues among Strategic Approach stakeholders. To allow for sufficient time for subsequent steps in the procedure, nominations will need to be submitted 18 months in advance of the session of the Conference at which they will be considered.

B. Submission of initial information

2. In nominating an emerging policy issue for consideration by the Conference, a proponent will be required to complete a questionnaire that includes the criteria listed below in subparagraph (b). The information to be submitted to the secretariat should include:

- (a) Information demonstrating why a given issue is considered to be an emerging policy issue, in particular how it is consistent with the definition of an emerging policy issue, i.e., an issue involving any phase in the life cycle of chemicals and which has not yet been generally recognized, is insufficiently addressed or arises from the current level of scientific information and which may have significant adverse effects on human health and/or the environment;
- (b) Information demonstrating how the issue meets the following criteria:

- (i) Magnitude of the problem and its impact on human health or the environment, taking into account vulnerable subpopulations and any toxicological and exposure data gaps;
 - (ii) Extent to which the issue is being addressed by other bodies, particularly at the international level, and how it is related to, complements, or does not duplicate such work;
 - (iii) Existing knowledge and perceived gaps in understanding about the issue;
 - (iv) Extent to which the issue is of a cross-cutting nature;
 - (v) Information on the anticipated deliverables from action on the issue.
3. Proponents are encouraged to include a description of proposed actions to be considered in moving forward on emerging policy issues, including a rationale for how proposed actions would address the emerging policy issues identified. Proponents are encouraged to consider a wide range of options for action, which would include identification of any tools, institutions and other mechanisms and expected resources that could support the proposed action, as described in paragraph 4 below.
4. Actions that proponents might want to consider may include:
- (a) Dissemination of information through the secretariat's clearing-house function or other mechanisms;
 - (b) Recommendations from the Conference, which could include requests for action addressed to the governing bodies of intergovernmental organizations, Governments, scientific bodies, civil society stakeholders and the private sector;
 - (c) Initiation of follow-up work under the auspices of the Conference, including through intersessional work at regional meetings, workshops, training sessions, internet-based consultations, teleconferences, work by subsidiary bodies, the secretariat or other mechanisms;
 - (d) Specific commitments by Governments, civil society, intergovernmental organizations and the private sector, such as intersessional work or partnerships;
 - (e) Relevance, as appropriate, to the Global Plan of Action and the Overarching Policy Strategy of the Strategic Approach or other mechanisms for providing capacity-building to proponents.

C. Initial review and publication of submissions

5. The secretariat will check nominations for new emerging policy issues against the agreed definition and criteria with the aim of assisting proponents in completing their nominations and sorting the nominations for future prioritization. Proponents will be contacted to provide any missing information.
6. The secretariat will compile a list of nominations, annotated with a summary of information on each of the criteria. Similar nominations will be clustered so that similar issues can be considered in thematic groups. The list of nominations and the nominations themselves will be made publicly available and an invitation to provide comments will be issued 15 months prior to the session of the Conference at which they will be considered. Comments received by the secretariat will be made publicly available.
7. The proponents of an issue will have an opportunity to revise their nomination to take into account comments or to clarify information provided and to work with other proponents to consolidate nominations that are similar or complementary. Revised nominations must be submitted to the secretariat 12 months in advance of the session of the Conference at which they are to be considered.
8. The secretariat will consolidate a final list of nominations, annotated with a summary of information on each of the criteria.

D. Prioritization of submissions

9. After publication of the nomination list, the regions may prioritize submissions by engaging formally the full range of their stakeholders. In doing so, they are encouraged to consider the criteria in paragraph 2 (b), above, and to communicate the priorities to the secretariat. Such consultations will be pursued through regional focal points and with national focal points, including non-government participants, at regional meetings or through other mechanisms.

10. The secretariat will compile input received from the regional consultations and input from other stakeholders on the prioritization of submissions.

E. Inclusion of emerging policy issues on the provisional agenda of the Conference

11. The Open-ended Working Group will consider the regional inputs and other information to assess the proposals, taking into account the criteria outlined in paragraph 2 (b) above. It should propose a limited number of priority emerging policy issues to the Conference for its consideration. Those issues will be submitted for inclusion on the provisional agenda of the next session of the Conference in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conference.

12. In the event that an issue is nominated but not included on the provisional agenda for a session of the Conference, its proponent may seek other ways to focus attention on it. This might include:

- (a) Disseminating information about the issue through the secretariat's clearing-house function;
- (b) Including the issue as a topic for workshop agendas or internet-based consultations;
- (c) Encouraging regional groups to include the issue on the agenda of regional meetings;
- (d) Forwarding the submission to other forums or individual stakeholders with relevant mandates for their consideration;
- (e) Highlighting the issue as a possible priority for Strategic Approach participants;
- (f) Making Strategic Approach participants aware of any funding associated with the proposal that may be available for intersessional work, bilateral projects or other opportunities.

II/5: Managing perfluorinated chemicals and the transition to safer alternatives

The Conference,

Recognizing the decision by the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants to list perfluorooctyl sulfonate and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride,

Recognizing also that further scientific research may be needed to show whether certain other perfluorinated chemicals are persistent, widely present in humans and the environment, have a long half-life in humans, and possibly cause adverse effects in humans and the environment,

Mindful that the development of alternatives to replace these chemicals, or new processes and technologies to reduce and eliminate their presence as impurities in products, has been a significant technical challenge and that additional challenges exist in countries at different levels of development,

1. *Invites* the other organizations participating in the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals in cooperation with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, as part of their mandate and work programme, together with Governments and other stakeholders to consider the development, facilitation and promotion in an open, transparent and inclusive manner of national and international stewardship programmes and regulatory approaches to reduce emissions and the content of relevant perfluorinated chemicals of concern in products and to work toward global elimination, where appropriate and technically feasible;

2. *Encourages* Governments and other stakeholders participating in the stewardship programme also to work with the organizations participating in the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals in cooperation with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, to contribute to:

- (a) Information-gathering activities, such as the recently developed Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development survey of product content and environmental release information on perfluorinated sulfonate, perfluorooctanoic acid, their related substances and products and mixtures containing these substances;⁴

⁴ May be consulted by following the internet link:
www.chem.unep.ch/unepea/cm/cheminprod_dec08/PFCWorkshop/Presentations/HHarjula - OECD - PFC 2009 survey Geneva 09.pdf

(b) Information exchange on alternatives currently in use, including short-chain-length fluorocarbons, and potentially safer alternative substances or technologies for their use; on criteria for alternatives; on the necessity and possibility of technology transfer; on progress in and examples of regulatory actions and voluntary programmes; on monitoring; on emissions; on exposure; on environmental fate and transport; and on the potential effects of perfluorinated chemicals and alternatives on human health and the environment;

3. *Invites* the secretariat to make such information available to all stakeholders, for instance, by using the information clearing-house of the Strategic Approach or similar mechanisms that are open and accessible to all stakeholders and to facilitate their participation in the stewardship programmes;

4. *Notes* that such work may contribute relevant information to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, and also complements activities associated with the Strategic Approach emerging policy issue on chemicals in products;

5. *Invites* the stewardship programmes to submit a report on progress, consider comments, and invite further actions at the first meeting of the Open-ended Working Group and the third session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management.

II/6: Establishment of an open-ended working group

The Conference,

Recognizing the need to ensure the comprehensive and effective preparation of the sessions of the International Conference on Chemicals Management,

1. *Establishes* an open-ended working group as a subsidiary body subject to confirmation at the third session of the Conference;

2. *Decides* that the Open-ended Working Group shall consider the implementation, development and enhancement of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, including by:

(a) Reviewing and prioritizing proposals for emerging policy issues in preparation of the next session of the Conference;

(b) Continuing discussion on work on emerging policy issues;

(c) Considering proposals for the inclusion of new activities in the Global Plan of Action;

(d) Considering initiatives that are being undertaken and addressing progress and gaps in achieving the goal that, by 2020, chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment;

(e) Considering the outcomes of regional meetings;

(f) Identifying priority issues for consideration for inclusion in the agendas of the sessions of the Conference;

(g) Undertaking such other activities as the Conference may direct;

3. *Also decides* that the Open-ended Working Group may prepare draft decisions or resolutions for possible adoption by the Conference;

4. *Further decides* that the Open-ended Working Group shall meet once, in the year prior to the sessions of the Conference, if possible back to back with other related meetings;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of full and effective participation by developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the Open-ended Working Group and urges those in a position to do so to make contributions to defray the travel costs of eligible participants;

6. *Decides* that the Bureau of the Conference shall serve as the Bureau of the Open-ended Working Group.

II/7: Commission on Sustainable Development

The Conference,

Recalling that the overall objective of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management is to achieve the sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle in support of the commitment expressed at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, aiming to achieve, by 2020, that chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment,

Recalling also that the Overarching Policy Strategy of the Strategic Approach flows from the commitments expressed in the Dubai Declaration on International Chemicals Management developed in the context of the Rio Declaration, Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and considering the progress already achieved in the implementation of the Strategic Approach,

Bearing in mind the multi-year programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, as adopted at its eleventh session, and the thematic cluster for consideration by the Commission in the 2010–2011 cycle, which includes chemicals,

Bearing in mind also decision 22/4 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, in which the Governing Council called for the Strategic Approach to be regularly reviewed to assess progress on chemical safety, in the light of the targets set at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in cooperation with other relevant processes,

Mindful of the need to take concerted action to achieve further progress towards the sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle and committed to offering support to the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development in the implementation of its mandate in that regard,

Conscious of the need to broaden the donor base in support of activities aimed at fostering the production and use of chemicals in ways that minimize adverse impacts on environment and human health,

1. *Welcomes* the thematic focus on chemicals in the 2010–2011 cycle of the Commission on Sustainable Development in accordance with its multi-year programme of work and the thematic clusters envisaged therein, and expresses its readiness to support consideration by the Commission of chemicals in relation to sustainable development;
2. *Requests* the Strategic Approach secretariat to cooperate with the secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development in facilitating the Commission's consideration of chemicals issues;
3. *Encourages* Strategic Approach stakeholders to participate in the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development on chemicals, including through regional preparatory processes;
4. *Commends* to the attention of the Commission on Sustainable Development the report of the present session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management;
5. *Invites* the Commission on Sustainable Development to highlight the importance of sound chemical management for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
6. *Emphasizes* the need to mainstream chemical management in development strategies and assistance efforts and invites the Commission on Sustainable Development to pay special attention to this issue;
7. *Invites* the Commission on Sustainable Development to explore the role of the private sector in supporting the global sound management of chemicals;
8. *Draws the attention* of the Commission on Sustainable Development to progress achieved in fostering synergies between the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and with the Strategic Approach in improving the effectiveness of multilateral environmental agreements and processes;
9. *Invites* the Commission on Sustainable Development to provide information to the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its third session on its consideration of chemicals during the 2010–2011 cycle.

II/8: Health aspects of the sound management of chemicals

The Conference,

Mindful that the sound management of chemicals is essential if we are to achieve sustainable development, including the eradication of poverty and disease, the improvement of human health and the environment and the elevation and maintenance of the standard of living in countries at all levels of development,

Recognizing the need to make special efforts to protect those groups in society that are particularly vulnerable to risks from hazardous chemicals or are highly exposed to them,

Determined to protect children and the unborn child from chemical exposures that impair future lives, and also to minimize risks to human health, including that of workers, throughout the life cycle of chemicals,

Reiterating that the involvement of all relevant sectors and stakeholders, on an equal basis and at all levels is key to achieving the objectives of the Strategic Approach,

Recognizing that more than 25 per cent of the global burden of disease is linked to measurable environmental determinants, including exposure to chemicals, some of which persist or bioaccumulate or both, and that the health sector has substantive roles and responsibilities in chemicals management,

Welcoming the support of the World Health Assembly through its resolution WHA59.15, which urged Member States to take full account of the health aspects of chemical safety in national implementation of the Strategic Approach, noting the substantive progress already made, but recognizing that much remained to be done,

Noting the contribution by the World Health Organization to Strategic Approach implementation through the Organization's work programme, and participation in the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund Implementation Committee and the Strategic Approach secretariat,

Noting also that the World Health Assembly plans to consider a report on the Strategic Approach from a health-sector perspective, including further opportunities for action,

1. *Recognizes* the fundamental importance of collecting information to identify the hazardous chemicals to which populations are exposed, in particular those that have special vulnerability, identifying effective interventions on chemicals of major public health concern, and enhancing local arrangements for the public health management of chemical emergencies;

2. *Also recognizes*, to that end, the critical importance of building capacity at the local level to recognize, monitor and mitigate the impacts of chemicals on human health, with the development of indicators; this may include but not be limited to the development or strengthening of centres and networks of expertise, to share information and experience gained by countries that have successfully promoted effective actions;

3. *Emphasizes* the need to engage fully the health sector in national, regional and international Strategic Approach forums and in particular in the national inter-ministerial processes called for in paragraph 23 of the Overarching Policy Strategy and, with that in mind, also emphasizes the essential cross-sectoral responsibilities of national focal points;

4. *Also emphasizes* the importance of regional health and environment inter-ministerial processes as a springboard for effective intersectoral actions;

5. *Encourages* the health sector to take full advantage of the Strategic Approach institutional arrangements, for example by including health priorities in national Strategic Approach implementation plans, gaining access to Quick Start Programme funding, leading or participating in ministerial coordination on problems of a multisectoral nature, and using regional and international Strategic Approach forums to engage with other sectors in the sound management of chemicals;

6. *Underlines* the need for all stakeholders to assist in the development of resources to permit a greater degree of sectoral balance in representation in Strategic Approach forums and in implementation activities;

7. *Calls upon* the health sector to participate actively in actions to implement the decisions of the Conference in respect of identified emerging policy issues;

8. *Invites* the World Health Organization to intensify its activities in the sound management of chemicals in support of the Strategic Approach, in particular at regional and country levels and including the strengthening or establishment of information networks;
9. *Invites* the Strategic Approach secretariat to develop in consultation with the World Health Organization and within available resources a strategy for strengthening the engagement of the health sector in the implementation of the Strategic Approach during the intersessional period for consideration at the third session of the Conference;
10. *Invites* the World Health Assembly to consider endorsing the outcomes of the present session of the International Conference regarding human health.

II/9: Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety

The Conference,

Recalling resolution I/3, in which the Conference recognized the unique, multifaceted and significant role which the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety has played in the area of sound chemicals management at the international, regional and national levels, and in which the Conference invited the Forum to continue its important role in providing an open, transparent and inclusive forum for discussing issues of common interest and also new and emerging policy issues, and to continue to contribute through this to the implementation of the Strategic Approach,

Recognizing the essential contributions of the Forum to the development and adoption of the Strategic Approach,

Having received and carefully considered the Dakar Resolution on the Future of the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety,

Having decided to establish an open-ended working group as a subsidiary body of the Conference, to ensure the comprehensive and effective preparation of the meetings of the Conference,

1. *Commends* the Forum on its historic contributions towards the achievement of the objectives of chapter 19 of Agenda 21, on the environmentally sound management of toxic chemicals, including the prevention of illegal international traffic in toxic and dangerous products;
2. *Decides*, in the light of the establishment of an open-ended working group as a subsidiary body of the Conference, not to integrate the Forum into the Conference at this time;
3. *Acknowledges* that the Forum remains the appropriate venue to determine whether and how it may continue to serve its functions.

II/10: Indicative budget, staffing table and programme of work for the period 2010–2012

The Conference

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work undertaken by the secretariat since the adoption of the Strategic Approach on International Chemicals Management;
2. *Welcomes* the contribution made by the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organization by providing the secretariat with, respectively, a P-5 position and a P-4 position with their corresponding funding;
3. *Approves* the indicative budget and staffing structure for the secretariat for the period 2010–2012 as set out in tables 1 and 2, respectively;
4. *Also approves* the 2010–2012 programme of work as set out in table 3;
5. *Recalls* that funding for the secretariat is provided on a voluntary basis;
6. *Notes* that currently only a limited number of donors have contributed financially to the Strategic Approach;
7. *Encourages* all Governments and organizations in a position to do so to contribute financial resources to enable the secretariat to perform its mandated functions as set out in paragraph 28 of the Overarching Policy Strategy and the tasks set out in resolutions of the Conference, in particular resolution I/4;

8. *Invites* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to establish a P-3 Programme Officer position in support of the Strategic Approach clearing house, fund-raising and outreach activities, and a P-2 Associate Programme Officer position in support of the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund activities upon availability of funding;

9. *Requests* the secretariat to prepare a budget for the period 2013–2015 for consideration by the Conference at its next session.

Table 1**SAICM budget 2010–2012**

			2010	2011	2012	Total US\$
10	Project personnel component					
	1100					
	1101	Senior Programme Officer P-5 (UNEP EF)*	0	0	0	0
	1102	Programme Officer P-4 (WHO)**	0	0	0	0
	1103	Programme Officer P-4	186 439	193 897	201 653	581 989
	1104	Programme Officer P-3	157 077	163 360	169 894	490 331
	1105	Associate Programme Officer P-2	131 276	136 527	141 988	409 791
	1106	Programme Officer P-3	157 077	163 360	169 894	490 331
	1107	Associate Programme Officer P-2	131 276	136 527	141 988	409 791
	1199	Total	763 145	793 671	825 417	2 382 233
	1200	Consultants (description of activity/service)				
	1201	Consultants SAICM	40 000	42 000	44 100	126 100
	1202	Review of the Quick Start Programme	0	50 000	0	50 000
	1299	Total	40 000	92 000	44 100	176 100
	1300	Administrative support (title and grade)				
	1301	Secretary (SAICM) G-4/5	110 000	114 400	118 976	343 376
	1320	Overtime/Temporary assistance	0	0	12 000	12 000
	1321	Conference services Open-ended Working Group	0	675 000	0	675 000
	1322	Conference services (ICCM3)	0	0	400 000	400 000
	1399	Total	110 000	789 400	530 976	1 430 376
	1600	Travel on official business				
	1601	Staff travel	50 000	52 500	55 125	157 625
	1699	Total	50 000	52 500	55 125	157 625
1999	Component total		963 145	1 727 571	1 455 618	4 146 334

			2010	2011	2012	Total US\$
20	Subcontract component					
	2100	Subcontracts (letters of agreement with cooperating agencies)				
	2101	ICCM3 hosting	0	0	100 000	100 000
	2199	Total	0	0	100 000	100 000
	2200	Subcontracts (letters of agreement with supporting organizations)				
	2201	Regional meeting hosting	100 000	105 000	110 250	315 250
	2299	Total	100 000	105 000	110 250	315 250
	2999	Component total	100 000	105 000	210 250	415 250
30	Training component					
	3100	Meetings/conferences (title)				
	3101	Quick Start Programme Executive Board participant travel	22 000	23 100	24 155	69 255
	3102	Regional meetings participant travel	100 000	105 000	110 250	315 250
	3103	Open-ended Working Group participant travel		380 000		380 000
	3104	Bureau meetings participant travel	22 000	23 100	24 155	69 255
	3105	ICCM3 participant travel	0	0	1 200 000	1 200 000
	3399	Total	144 000	531 200	1 358 560	2 033 760
	3999	Component total	144 000	531 200	1 358 560	2 033 760
40	Equipment and premises component					
	4100	Expendable equipment (items under \$1,500 each)				
	4101	Office supplies	1 200	1 200	1 200	3 600
	4102	Computer software	6 000	2 000	2 000	10 000
	4199	Total	7 200	3 200	3 200	13 600
	4200	Non-expendable equipment)				
	4201	Computer hardware	6 000	4 000	4 000	14 000
	4299	Total	6 000	4 000	4 000	14 000

			2010	2011	2012	Total US\$
4300	Premises (rent)					
		4301 Office rental and premises	14 000	14 700	15 435	44 135
		4399 Total	14 000	14 700	15 435	44 135
4999	Component total		27 200	21 900	22 635	71 735
50	Miscellaneous component					
	5200 Reporting costs					
		5201 Printing and translation	6 000	6 300	6 615	18 915
		5221 Publication of SAICM texts	20 000	0	0	20 000
		5299 Total	26 000	6 300	6 615	38 915
	5300 Sundry					
		5301 Communications (telex, telephone, fax, internet)	40 000	42 000	44 100	126 100
		5399 Total	40 000	42 000	44 100	126 100
	5500 Evaluation					
		5501 Evaluation consultant	0	0	5 000	5 000
		5499 Total	0	0	5 000	5 000
5999	Component total		66 000	48 300	55 715	170 015
Direct project cost			1 300 345	2 433 971	3 102 778	6 837 094
60						
		6131 Programme support cost	100 115	121 032	217 903	439 050
6999	Total UNEP participation costs		100 115	121 032	217 903	439 050
99	Grand total		1 400 460	2 555 003	3 320 681	7 276 144
	Previous budget schedule		0	0	0	0
	Increase/decrease					

* Cost of the P-5 position is currently covered by the Environment Fund of UNEP

** Cost of the P-4 position is currently covered by WHO.

Table 2

**Staffing structure for the secretariat of the Strategic Approach to
International Chemicals Management for the period 2010–2012**

Table 1
Proposed indicative staffing table

<i>Staff category and level</i>	<i>2010–2012</i>
A. Professional category	
D-1	0
P-5	1
P-4	2
P-3	2
P-2	2
Subtotal	7
B. General Service category	1
Total (A + B)	8

<i>Standard staff costs (revised) (per post)*</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>2012</i>
A. Professional category			
D-1	243 977	253 736	263 885
P-5	215 802	224 434	233 411
P-4	186 439	193 897	201 653
P-3	157 077	163 360	169 894
P-2	131 276	136 527	141 988
B. General Service category	110 000	114 400	118 976

* United Nations standard salary costs for Geneva (2010)

Table 3

Strategic Approach secretariat programme of work for 2010–2012

<i>Strategic Approach secretariat function</i>		<i>Activities 2010–2012</i>
<i>Core mandate (Overarching Policy Strategy)</i>		
1	Facilitate meetings and intersessional work of the International Conference on Chemicals Management	Preparation and organization of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The third session of the Conference, 2012 • Three annual bureau meetings • One or possibly two regional meetings for each of the African, Asian-Pacific, Central and Eastern European and Latin American and Caribbean regions and for the European Union and JUSSCANNZ⁵ countries, 2010–2011 • Approximately four meetings for sub-regional groups, 2010–2011 • Approximately six meetings for regional coordinating committees, 2010–2012 • One meeting of an Open-ended Working Group and/or facilitation of other mandated intersessional activities, for example in relation to current and future emerging policy issues
2	Report to the Conference on Strategic Approach implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the reporting framework agreed on by the Conference at its second session, including the preparation of a baseline report, elaboration of questionnaires in relation to the agreed reporting indicators, management of the reporting process, and the collation, analysis and summary of submissions for incorporation in a report on Strategic Approach implementation to the Conference at its third session • Possible assistance to pilot countries in the preparation of national reports
3	Promote a network of Strategic Approach stakeholders	Further expansion of the network of stakeholders through the encouragement of additional focal point nominations, outreach to relevant organizations and development of tools such as website forums
4	Facilitate the development and dissemination of guidance materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of periodic updates of the guidelines for applications to the Quick Start Programme trust fund • Further development of guidelines for Strategic Approach implementation plans in collaboration with UNITAR and other IOMC participating organizations⁶ • Publication of additional themed bulletins, for example highlighting the relevance of the Strategic Approach in individual sectors • Other guidance materials as required
5	Provide guidance to stakeholders on the initiation of project proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of feedback on draft applications to the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund • Side events on the Quick Start Programme at relevant international and regional meetings • Possible further workshops in conjunction with other funding mechanisms, if requested
6	Provide information clearing-house services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch and continuous further development of the information clearing house on the basis of the information technology platform developed during 2008–2009, subject to the availability of additional staff resources • Provision of inquiry response and referral services through the clearing house

5 JUSSCANNZ refers to Japan, the United States of America, Switzerland, Canada, Australia, Norway and New Zealand.

6 The seven participating organizations of IOMC are the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, UNEP, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and the World Health Organization. In addition, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank participate as observers.

<i>Strategic Approach secretariat function</i>		<i>Activities 2010–2012</i>
<i>Core mandate (Overarching Policy Strategy)</i>		
7	Ensure that Conference recommendations are conveyed to relevant organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dispatch of a letter concerning the outcomes of the second session of the Conference to a broad range of organizations in June 2009 • Dissemination of the outcomes of the second session of the Conference as widely as possible, including through the Strategic Approach website • Republishing of the Strategic Approach texts, incorporating resolutions of the Conference adopted at its second session • Attendance and presentations at key meetings of organizations such as those of the conferences of the Parties of conventions dealing with chemicals and hazardous wastes
8	Promote the exchange of scientific and technical information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further development of working relations and pursuit of collaborative activities with major scientific groups • Use of the information clearing house (above) to facilitate the exchange of scientific and technical information
9	Maintain a working relationship with IOMC participating organizations and with UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued participation in bi-annual meetings of the IOMC Inter-Organization Coordinating Committee • Collaboration with IOMC organizations, UNDP and the World Bank in the development of guidance materials and regional activities
<i>ICCM resolution I/4 (Quick Start Programme)</i>		
10	Facilitate meetings of the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund Implementation Committee and Executive Board	Preparation and organization of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five bi-annual meetings of the Trust Fund Implementation Committee • Three annual meetings of the Executive Board
11	Provide administrative support to the QSP trust fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of project agreements for approximately 80 new projects • Facilitation of reporting on approximately 200 existing and new projects • Facilitation of fundraising for the trust fund • Facilitation of a review of the Quick Start Programme
12	Screen trust fund project proposals for completeness and eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screening of an estimated 200 project proposals

Annex II

Procedure for the inclusion of new activities in the Global Plan of Action of the Strategic Approach

Summary

1. The purpose of the present procedure is to provide a simple, clear, transparent and participatory mechanism to add new activities to the Global Plan of Action.
2. The procedure itself is not intended to review the activities currently included in the Global Plan of Action, or to change the status of table C, as contained in the report of the first session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (SAICM/ICCM1/7).
3. The procedure will apply from the end of the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management.

I. Proposed procedure

4. Proposals for additional activities for inclusion in the Global Plan of Action may be presented by a stakeholder or a group of stakeholders.
5. The mechanism for the discussion and endorsement of proposals for new activities to be included in the Global Plan of Action shall comprise the following steps:
 - (a) The stakeholder(s) making the proposal will prepare a justification document (an outline of its contents is referenced in chapter II);
 - (b) The stakeholder(s) will send the document to the secretariat and must also send a copy to the regional focal point(s) for discussion at the regional level. The regional focal point(s) will propose the inclusion of an agenda item to allow such discussion at the following regional meeting(s), or any other consulting process, as appropriate. The regional focal point(s) will inform the secretariat of the outcome of such consultations;
 - (c) The regional consultation will develop a list with a limited number of priority proposals for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, taking into account the justification document provided by the stakeholder(s);
 - (d) The secretariat will post proposals received along with the list developed pursuant to paragraph 5 (c) above on the Strategic Approach website, inviting comments from other stakeholders. Comments received by the secretariat will be compiled and posted on the website. Such comments might be in support of or against the proposal and should set out clear justification of the comments provided;
 - (e) The comments will be considered by the stakeholder(s) who made the proposal for further amendments as appropriate. The revised document would then be sent to the secretariat for posting on the Strategic Approach website;
 - (f) The Open-ended Working Group will consider the priority lists developed pursuant to paragraph 5 (c) above and assess the proposals contained therein, taking into account the criteria in paragraph 5 (g) below. The proposal would be presented to the meeting by the stakeholder(s), who will provide justification of their proposal. The Open-ended Working Group will select a limited number of proposals to be forwarded to the Conference;
 - (g) The Open-ended Working Group will take into account, as appropriate, the following criteria:
 - (i) Relevance of the proposal to the objectives of the Overarching Policy Strategy;
 - (ii) Extent to which the issue identified in the proposal has adverse effects on human health and the environment;
 - (iii) Magnitude of the problem identified;
 - (iv) Costs and benefits of the proposed activity;

- (v) Potential to contribute to participants' implementation of the Strategic Approach or to building their capacity;
 - (vi) Potential impact on the Strategic Approach secretariat budget and Quick Start Programme resources;
 - (vii) Consistency with and complementarity to existing international policy or agreements;
- (h) The Conference would discuss and consider the forwarded document for endorsement or other action as appropriate.

II. Proposed contents of the justification document

6. The justification document would comprise at least the following information:
- (a) Synopsis of background information, including the relevance of the activity to protecting human health or the environment;
 - (b) Ways in which the activity would contribute to achieving national, regional or global commitments, objectives, priorities and needs;
 - (c) Ways in which the activity reflects best practice and will be effective;
 - (d) Information about the means of implementation of the activity at the country or participant level (setting out examples);
 - (e) Conclusions and specific proposal.
7. As a general rule, the justification document should include a description of the activity itself, including the scale of the activity (national, regional or global level), the work area of the Global Plan of Action in which the activity would be included and a summary of its relevance to protecting human health or the environment. It should also identify suggested actors, targets and time frames, indicators of progress and implementation aspects related to the activity proposed. When proposing a specific activity, the lead proposer should endeavour to avoid duplication with other activities already included in tables A and B of the Global Plan of Action.
8. For further justification, the lead proposer might consider supplementing the proposal with more information where available.
9. The justification document could include a brief description of how the proposed activity could contribute to achieving commitments made under the Dubai Declaration, the objectives included in chapter IV of the Overarching Policy Strategy and general priorities reflected in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Global Plan of Action.
10. The justification document should not exceed five pages in length, excluding external references and annexes.

Annex III

Modalities for reporting by stakeholders on progress in implementation

I. Overall guidance

1. The following points should be considered by the secretariat when developing overall guidance on how to respond to a questionnaire that collects the data needed for each indicator. These points should also inform guidance needed for each individual indicator, as stated in chapter II below:

(a) Data will be collected from stakeholders using a simple electronic data collection tool, which will be developed by the secretariat. There is a need for overarching guidance that explains the indicators and how to respond to the data collection tool;

(b) This focus on outputs is proposed at the current stage to give the best chance of providing results that are representative of different countries and regions. In the future, indicators of the impact of sound chemicals management should also be developed to assess the effectiveness of the efforts undertaken. For example, one key area of interest in this area is data on the levels of chemicals in environmental and human media;

(c) A single set of indicators is proposed for all stakeholders: Governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations. There is a need to provide guidance to different types of stakeholders on how to respond to the data collection tool. For example, international organizations that are located in one country, but provide assistance to or have members in a broad range of countries, will need guidance on how to provide data;

(d) Supplementary reporting would also be encouraged;

(e) It is recommended that Governments provide an opportunity for a multi-stakeholder consultation at the national level so that work done by domestic non-governmental organizations is also reflected in the responses provided at the country level. There is a need to balance how comprehensive the response could be with the practical logistical challenges of collecting the information;

(f) The indicators should be structured in such a way that can take advantage of existing reporting mechanisms and avoid duplication with reporting to other multilateral environmental agreements;

(g) Each indicator needs clear guidance on what is measured and what type of information is required. For several indicators, data could be collected through a list of five possible options. For any indicator with such a list, a sixth option of “other” should be provided, so that respondents can include their own specific activities that might not be adequately captured in the standard list of options. The report should show the options selected from the list provided;

(h) In addition to the data to be collected described in the preliminary guidance for each indicator, there will be an opportunity to add narrative text to include specific information on relevant activities that might supplement the information reported;

(i) The indicators need to be clear and not contain ambiguous descriptions (e.g., “adequate”, “actively”);

(j) The indicators should include an additional qualifier to indicate the status of implementation:

- (i) Not planned;
- (ii) In development;
- (iii) Operational;
- (iv) Reviewed;

(k) Respondents could complement the information regarding status of implementation by providing the year in which the mechanism or activity was completed, updated or revised. Information on the date of the planned completion of such mechanism or activity is also appreciated;

(l) All reports will published on the Strategic Approach website;

(m) For their input to the 2011 progress report, respondents might use as their starting point their responses for the 2010 baseline report.

II. Indicators for reporting by stakeholders on progress in the implementation of the Strategic Approach

2. The following tables show the data to be collected nationally and monitored at the regional and global levels.

	Indicator	Preliminary guidance – <i>The guidance for each indicator needs to be complemented based on the comment provided below and in the overall guidance in chapter I above.</i>
Risk reduction		
1.	Number of countries (and organizations) implementing agreed chemicals management tools	<p><i>Data collection should take into account implementation of recognized tools prepared by participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals, e.g., the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides, guidance for establishing pollutant release and transfer registries and product stewardship programmes in industry. Tools would include those for pollution prevention</i></p> <p><i>This indicator should include tools to determine the chemicals used in the country, such as inventories, pesticide registration systems, Customs information systems, etc.</i></p> <p><i>For non-governmental organizations, the indicator should also allow reporting on organization specific inventories</i></p> <p><i>The guidance should include a specific list of tools that will be used for reporting, with the ability to provide additional information on other specific tools</i></p>
2.	Number of countries (and organizations) with mechanisms to address key categories of chemicals	<p><i>Countries and organizations could report on the mechanisms that they have in place to address categories of chemicals that have been designated as priorities based on a national/organizational prioritization process</i></p> <p><i>Mechanisms to be considered include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Legislation</i> • <i>Regulations</i> • <i>Programmes</i> • <i>Agreements</i>
3.	Number of countries (and organizations) with hazardous waste management arrangements	<p><i>Data collection should take into account systems for the environmentally sound management of waste:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Inventories of waste</i> • <i>Legislation</i> • <i>Policies</i> • <i>Permit systems</i>

4.	Number of countries (and organizations) engaged in activities that result in monitoring data on selected environmental and human health priority substances	<p><i>Data collection should take into account environmental and biomonitoring effort:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Environmental monitoring</i> • <i>Human biomonitoring</i> • <i>Monitoring of human poisonings</i> • <i>Chemical accidents</i> <p><i>Countries and organizations are encouraged to report data for these selected pollutants</i></p>
5.	Number of countries (and organizations) having mechanisms in place for setting priorities for risk reduction	<p><i>Data collection should take into account:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Science-based risk assessment activities</i> • <i>Risk management activities, including pollution prevention activities</i>

Knowledge and information		
6.	Number of countries (and organizations) providing information according to internationally harmonized standards	<p><i>Data collection should take account of</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Implementation of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)</i> • <i>Labelling according to national guidelines and availability of harmonized hazard information</i> <p><i>Regional initiatives (should be reported on by regional organizations)</i></p>
7.	Number of countries (and organizations) that have specific strategies in place for communicating information on the risks associated with chemicals to vulnerable groups	<p><i>Data collection should include consultative processes and training directed at vulnerable groups such as women, children, the elderly and migrant workers, and take into consideration social and economic conditions, when possible</i></p>
8.	Number of countries (and organizations) with research programmes	<p><i>Collected data should include the type of research being funded:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Human health assessment</i> • <i>Environmental assessment</i> • <i>Research on safer alternatives</i> • <i>Research on cleaner production</i>
9.	Number of countries (and organizations) with websites that provide information to stakeholders	<p><i>Collected data should include websites providing relevant information</i></p>
Governance		
10.	Number of countries (and organizations) that have committed themselves to implementation of the Strategic Approach	<p><i>A list of possible mechanisms to show such commitment should be included. Examples to consider are: implementation plans for the Strategic Approach, national policies, programmes, resolutions of boards of directors or other governing bodies, etc.</i></p>

11.	Number of countries (and organizations) with multi-stakeholder coordinating mechanism	<i>Collected data should include the types of stakeholders involved: Labour, health, public sector, private sector, scientific community, etc.</i>
12.	Number of countries (and organizations) with mechanisms to implement key international chemicals priorities	<i>Collected data should include the list of multilateral environment agreements, alongside other regional agreements or international instruments</i>

Capacity-building and technical cooperation

13.	Number of countries (and organizations) providing resources (financial and in kind) to assist capacity-building and technical cooperation with other countries	<i>Collected data should include assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition</i>
14.	Number of countries (and organizations) that have identified and prioritized their capacity-building needs for the sound management of chemicals	<i>Data collection should focus on plans that are publicly available</i>
15.	Number of countries (and organizations) engaged in regional cooperation on issues relating to the sound management of chemicals	<i>Collected data should include regional cooperation on risk reduction, knowledge and information, governance, capacity-building and illegal international traffic</i>
16.	Number of countries where development assistance programmes include the sound management of chemicals	<i>This should be a yes/no answer for donor and recipient countries</i>
17.	Number of countries (and organizations) with projects supported by the Strategic Approach's Quick Start Programme Trust Fund	<i>Report number of projects and total amount of funds on the Quick Start Programme projects. Recommend using the data from the Quick Start Programme Executive Board reports rather than collecting the information from the countries</i>
18.	Number of countries (and organizations) with sound management of chemicals projects supported by other sources of funding (not Quick Start Programme funding)	<i>Collected data should include a list of institutions providing the support for existing projects, this should include the private and not-for-profit sectors</i>

Illegal international traffic

19.	Number of countries having mechanisms to prevent illegal traffic in toxic, hazardous and severely restricted chemicals individually	<i>Collected data should include a list of mechanisms, such as legislation, regulations, programmes, permits, etc. Governments are encouraged to report the number of incidents of illegal traffic and to provide information on challenges encountered in efforts to prevent illegal international traffic</i>
20.	Number of countries having mechanisms to prevent illegal traffic in hazardous waste	<i>Collected data should include a list of mechanisms, such as legislation, regulations, programmes, permits</i>

III. Preparation of reports

3. The Conference may wish:
 - (a) To adopt the indicators listed in section II above;
 - (b) To request the secretariat to finalize the overall guidance and the individual guidance on how data will be collected under each indicator. The secretariat will subsequently make the guidance public and request comments before any reports are made. Announcements of the availability of the guidance for comment should be sent to the regional and non-governmental organizations focal points;
 - (c) To request the secretariat to prepare a baseline estimates report by the first quarter of 2010. This baseline estimates report will be based on the most recent data from 2006 to 2008. The secretariat will invite comments on this report in preparation for the next meeting of the Open-ended Working Group;
 - (d) To invite the secretariat to consider comments by the Open-ended Working Group and make any necessary adjustments to the data collection tool;
 - (e) To request the secretariat to solicit data, taking in consideration any adjustments made to the data collection tool and any progress since the baseline reporting, in order to complete the first progress report by the end of 2011. Future progress reports should be scheduled in such a way that their information may be used in future meetings of the Conference;
 - (f) To request the secretariat to analyse the reports and provide a concise summary identifying major trends;
 - (g) To make a formal evaluation of progress in implementation of the Strategic Approach at its third session, taking into account the above-mentioned reports.

Annex IV

Proposed guidelines for Strategic Approach national focal points, as part of efforts to strengthen and prioritize national chemicals management capacities: proposal by the African region

1. These guidelines were proposed for consideration by the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its second session. They have been prepared in the light of experience within the African region. The proposed guidelines are set out below.
2. The responsible national focal point should:
 - (a) Establish a national desk for the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management with the provision of an annual budgetary allocation;
 - (b) Act as an effective conduit for communications on the Strategic Approach at the national and regional levels, and ensure synergies with the focal points of chemicals and wastes-related multilateral environment agreements;
 - (c) Establish an inter-ministerial and inter-institutional committee for implementation of the Strategic Approach, including representatives of non-governmental organizations;
 - (d) Facilitate Strategic Approach implementation efforts at the national and local levels;
 - (e) Solicit and organize input from sectors and actors relevant to the Strategic Approach;
 - (f) Establish communication with subregional and regional focal points to facilitate coordination and cooperation in implementation of the Strategic Approach;
 - (g) Support the development of regional positions for presentation at sessions of the Conference;
 - (h) Facilitate the submission of progress reports to the regional focal point and the Conference on implementation of the Strategic Approach.

Annex V

Summaries of round-table discussions during the high-level segment

Background

1. The opening session of the high-level segment of the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, on Friday, 15 May 2009, took the form of two round-table discussions. The first was on the issue of finance and the second on that of public health, the environment and chemicals. The round tables were attended by representatives from Governments, intergovernmental organizations, industry and civil society and the discussions in both round tables were moderated by Mr. Paul Hohnen.

A. **Financing sound chemicals management: the way ahead for implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management**

1. Introduction

2. The round table comprised Mr. Dennis Lowe, Minister of Environment, Barbados; Mr. Alfred Wills, Deputy Director-General, Department of Water and Environmental Affairs, South Africa; Mr. Dan Reifsynder, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environment and Sustainable Development, State Department, United States of America; Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme; Mr. Olav Kjørven, Assistant Secretary-General and Director, United Nations Development Programme; Mr. Steve Gorman, Global Environment Facility Executive Coordinator, World Bank; Mr. Alain Perroy, Council Secretary, International Council of Chemical Associations and Executive Director, European Chemical Industry Council; and Mr. Joe DiGangi, Environmental Health Fund.

3. Introducing the round table, the moderator explained that its purpose was to provide a quick start to the high-level segment by giving participants the opportunity to hear the personal views and ideas of ministers and other high-level panellists on the issue of finance in an informal interactive discussion.

4. The Executive Director offered some framing remarks: pointing to the rising number of international instruments for sound chemicals management and rising chemicals production, he said that a central issue was how to match the appetite for political commitments with the ability to provide the necessary financial resources to implement them. He encouraged participants to consider how to win greater public support for sound chemicals management, which, he suggested, would be important in unlocking both public and private finance. In that context, he said, there was a need to consider afresh how international bodies and agencies active in chemicals management might work together more effectively to mobilize and disburse financial resources. To that end, he announced that UNEP proposed to convene a meeting in early 2010 to explore synergies between stakeholders.

2. Discussion

5. Participants then considered the following two questions:

- (a) Whether and how existing financial resources might be used more effectively;
- (b) Whether further resources were required and how these might be mobilized.

6. Following a detailed discussion between the panellists, the audience was invited to ask questions and make statements.

7. The main themes of the discussion included:

(a) *Mainstreaming*: the desirability of mainstreaming and prioritizing sound chemicals management in the policy framework was highlighted. Chemicals management was a cross-cutting issue, which needed attention in diverse contexts, including economic development, agriculture, human health, environment and energy. Policy mainstreaming offered multiple potential benefits, including improved synergies between responsible areas, increased effectiveness of policy interventions and access to financial resources;

(b) *Awareness and accessibility*: participants pointed to the importance of ensuring that all stakeholders were aware of the range of existing sources of finance and in-kind assistance that were available to help them meet their commitments and needs;

(c) *Equity*: there was considerable emphasis on the need for better sharing of responsibility for providing financial resources, including by increasing the number of donors to the Quick Start Programme. Consideration needed to be given to ways in which contributions from recipient countries, the private sector and civil society might be increased;

(d) *Effectiveness and indicators*: there was general recognition that it was in the interests of both donors and recipients to ensure greater transparency and accountability on the effectiveness of investments made in sound chemicals management. The relevance of improved indicators and reporting were highlighted;

(e) *Policy coordination and coherence*: it was important to encourage greater communication, information sharing and learning between Governments, intergovernmental organizations, business and civil society. The Strategic Approach rightly recognized the importance of a partnership-based approach;

(f) *Private sector and civil society*: information-sharing, awareness-raising, training and in kind contributions, together with policy contributions, were being undertaken by the private sector and civil society; those contributions were crucial.

3. Conclusions

8. Summing up, the moderator identified a number of broad conclusions that he had drawn from the discussion, as follows:

(a) There were multiple sources of financial resources available for sound chemicals management and there was strength in that diversity. There was general recognition that countries' needs varied and that financial support should be tailored to meet specific needs. A single fund, for example, could not cater to the diversity of needs that existed;

(b) Existing sources of funds were not being fully used. Countries were not necessarily leveraging resources from all of the sources that were available, including co-financing approaches. There was a need for greater support to countries, which might take the form of a practical guide to funding sources, support in making applications and what was termed a "dating agency" to facilitate introductions to sources of funding;

(c) Sound chemicals management was a cross-cutting issue, which needed to be assessed and tackled in the context of sustainable development and the Millennium Development Goals at all relevant levels. Continuing efforts in that regard by national Governments and intergovernmental organizations should be encouraged;

(d) The Strategic Approach and its Quick Start Programme were well regarded. Participants pointed to improvements such as a larger and wider funding base and better support to help Governments to make successful funding applications;

(e) There was a strong case for additional resources being made available to meet the objectives of the Strategic Approach, including for tackling emerging policy issues and helping countries to move from the ratification and policy prioritization phase to the implementation phase. A key issue was whether existing funding met user needs in terms of adequacy, accessibility and reliability, among other things. Finding further financial resources would not be easy, especially as all sectors of society had been affected by the global financial crisis. While other issues, such as climate change, were competing for resources, they could be a source of ideas. There was a need to explore in greater depth the public policy arguments that would be necessary to justify additional resources;

(f) While there was support for widening the GEF chemicals window, it was recognized that GEF was one of many sources of financing and that the scope of its mandate was problematic;

(g) It would be valuable to give further consideration to improving synergies between existing international organizations that provided finance for responsible chemicals management. The objectives of that consideration might include how to take into account emerging financial mechanisms in relation to climate change; how to promote greater policy mainstreaming and coherence; how to mobilize and leverage increased resources involving, for example, regional banks; and how to reduce transaction costs for all stakeholders;

(h) Consideration could be given to the role that economic instruments might play in promoting sound chemicals management. Some countries were already using diverse approaches, which could be studied and assessed.

B. Public health, the environment and chemicals management

1. Introduction

1. The round table was opened by Mr. Ivan Eržen, President of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, who recalled that the focus of the session was on how to improve synergies between health and the environment to build on the good work that was already under way around the world. In that regard, the President welcomed the adoption by the Conference the previous day of a resolution on the health aspects of sound chemicals management.

2. Participants in the round table were Mr. David Mwakyusa, Minister of Health and Social Welfare, United Republic of Tanzania; Ms. Jadamba Tsolmon, Vice-Minister of Health, Mongolia; Ms. Elisabet Falemo, State Secretary, Environment Ministry, Sweden; Ms. Maria Neira, Director of Public Health and Environment, World Health Organization; Mr. Ben van Beurden, Executive Vice-President, Shell Chemicals; Mr. Rob Visser, Environmental Health and Safety Division, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development; and Mr. Peter Orris, World Federation of Public Health Associations.

2. Discussion

3. Responding to an invitation to frame the current context in relation to chemicals production and related health impacts, Ms. Neira pointed to the gap between knowledge of the widespread human health impacts of poor chemicals management and the ability to respond in a timely and commensurate manner through policy, financial and procedural actions. Noting that globally a high percentage of total disease burden was attributable to the environment, including chemicals exposure, she urged Governments, the private sector and civil society to explore synergies and opportunities for building on the co-benefits of improved chemicals management and better integration of health expertise and knowledge into all areas of chemicals management.

4. The round table then moved into a panel discussion focusing on three topics:

(a) Global trends in chemicals production, potential impacts on human health, and implications for sustainable development;

(b) The current level of engagement of the health sector in the Strategic Approach process and lessons learned;

(c) Ideas for improving current approaches to health aspects of sound chemicals management.

5. Themes that ran throughout the panel discussion included:

(a) Recognition that chemicals production was rising globally, particularly in emerging economies: OECD data suggested that the trend would continue at least until 2030 as a result of rising demand for chemical-based products;

(b) Acknowledgement that, while good progress was being made in understanding the impacts of many chemicals, a great deal remained to be clarified, particularly in relation to short-term and long-term effects, and on the chemicals-related burden of disease: in some cases, existing knowledge was not well shared or understood;

(c) Awareness that countries varied in their understanding of, and capacities to understand, monitor and respond to chemical incidents and exposures: in that respect, capacity-building and financial support were identified as critical areas for attention. WHO and UNEP activities, including those within the Strategic Approach framework, were recognized as playing an important role. The establishment of poisons treatment centres was an important step, but efforts needed to be directed at raising awareness of such centres in target populations;

(d) Identification of differences in the extent to which countries were able to integrate the health sector in sound chemicals management strategies and action plans: learning based on response to incidents underlined the value of a coordinated approach. Promotion of the involvement of health professionals early in the policy process, with support for capacity where necessary, could help both to reduce the impact of chemicals used in modern society and to improve the capacity to respond to accidents. Coordination could be improved by the establishment of national mechanisms which integrated the Strategic Approach and focal points for international agreements relating to chemicals, and by working through inter-ministerial processes such as that exemplified by implementation of the Libreville Declaration on Health and Environment in Africa;

(e) Frustration at the fragmentation of chemicals management policies at both national and international levels: that fragmentation created confusion among stakeholders, raised transaction costs and often made it harder for the private sector to engage appropriately. At the same time, however, it was recognized that there was no single policy solution. Chemicals and their impacts were diverse in nature and required issue-specific action, in the form of regulations, private sector initiatives (such as common standards and product stewardship), or partnership approaches.

6. While the Strategic Approach had played a valuable role in promoting policy coherence, there remained scope for improved consultation and coordination at national, regional and international levels, including with regard to the recognition and integration of the health sector at those levels.

3. Conclusions

7. While time constraints precluded the moderator from summarizing the discussion during the meeting, his broad conclusions were as follows:

(a) Humankind's use of chemicals presented cross-cutting challenges and opportunities. Sound environmental policies were good not only for human health, but also for sustainable economic growth, development, nutrition, and so forth. For the Strategic Approach process to attract the level of policy attention and financial support needed to bridge the gap between commitment and implementation identified by both panels, greater attention needed to be given to identifying and documenting such co-benefits, which should include economic costs and benefits;

(b) Concerns regarding the fragmentation of policy approaches needed to be addressed. There was discussion on how to deal with specific and longstanding issues, including asbestos, mercury and lead in paint. It was felt that, in parallel with the suggestion in the round table on financing sound chemicals management that synergies between existing sources of finance should be explored, it might be timely to explore ways of creating greater policy coherence on chemicals management at the international level. That could include mapping the diverse institutions and approaches in use, assessing their relative costs and impacts and scoping improved coordination between the government, business and civil society sectors necessary to mainstreaming sound chemicals management;

(c) The overriding need was for policy effectiveness to be clear. Indicators and metrics, possibly alongside targets and timetables which would demonstrate progress being made, needed to be developed. Those should not, however, obscure the need for basic infrastructure measures, such as increasing the number and qualifications of health-care providers trained in chemicals issues; the existence and availability of poisons centres and laboratories; improved data on the true global burden of disease attributable to chemicals, and also more traditional indicators such as incident and injury rates.
