



Distr.: General
28 April 2009

Original: English

International Conference on Chemicals Management

Second session

Geneva, 11–15 May 2009

Item 4 (e) of the provisional agenda*

**Implementation of the Strategic Approach to International
Chemicals Management: financial and technical resources for implementation**

**Report of the Quick Start Programme Executive Board to the
International Conference on Chemicals Management at its second
session**

Addendum

**Supplement to the report of the Quick Start Programme Executive
Board to the International Conference on Chemicals Management at
its second session****

1. The report of the Quick Start Programme Executive Board to the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its second session, contained in document SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/30, was prepared between May and December 2008 and adopted by the Executive Board at its fourth meeting. It reflects information available as at November 2008, in particular in relation to the level of contributions and the status of trust fund projects. The present addendum provides updated information to cover the period between November 2008 and April 2009. Detailed supplementary data on the operation of the Quick Start Programme are available in document SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/30/Add.1.
2. In addition to the meetings noted in the report, the Trust Fund Implementation Committee held its seventh meeting on 16 and 17 April 2009 in Geneva, chaired by Mr. Robert Visser of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development. The fourth meeting of the Executive Board was held on 23 and 24 April 2009 in Geneva.
3. Since 2006, the Trust Fund has received pledges for contributions totalling approximately \$19,313,000. Over six application rounds, the Trust Fund Implementation Committee has approved

* SAICM/ICCM.2/1.

** The full version of the report is available in English only as document SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/30. The introduction and executive summary of the report, however, are available in the six official United Nations languages as document SAICM/ICCM.2/5.

projects with a total value of \$16,019,986.¹ In addition, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) levies a 5 per cent fee on disbursements made to cover its trustee functions. After completion of all disbursements, the fee will total approximately \$796,000. As at April 2009, the approximate balance of funds in the Trust Fund, taking into account future payment of pledges received, is approximately \$2,506,000, of which \$2,242,000 is earmarked for projects relating to the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries under the terms of a funding agreement with the European Commission. As at April 2009, declared financial and quantified in kind contributions had reached a total of \$23,690,400. Additional in kind contributions had also been provided in the form of staff time and other resources for programme and project implementation.

4. Over the first six rounds of applications to the Trust Fund the secretariat received 185 project proposals. Following the secretariat's screening of applications for completeness and eligibility, 151 applications were appraised by the Trust Fund Implementation Committee. The Committee approved 82 projects for total funding of approximately \$16,019,986. In addition, 51 projects were recommended for further development and resubmission. The approved projects will be implemented by 74 Governments and 12 civil society organizations and will involve activities in 76 countries, including 35 least developed countries and small island developing States.

5. First and second round projects are progressing, with several first round projects close to completion. A few first round projects will not be completed on time and in these cases project extensions have been requested. Most projects approved in the second and third rounds have begun and are progressing in line with their workplans and objectives.

6. At the time of preparation of the present addendum, 46 of a total 74 projects approved over five rounds were being implemented in accordance with the corresponding agreements, four projects with the UNEP Chemicals Branch as the executing agency did not require an agreement between UNEP and the recipient Government or organization and 24 projects remained pending while implementation agreements awaited finalization. For three of the projects from the latter category, agreements had been signed by UNEP and sent to the executing agencies and applicants for signature. Draft agreements for a further nine projects had been developed and were awaiting feedback from executing agencies or Governments. Three more agreements were under development and agreements for another nine projects were pending subject to the outcome of consultations on legal templates between UNEP and executing agencies (United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Health Organization (WHO)). Consultations with UNDP had resulted in a recent agreement on the legal template to be used for pending projects while consultations with WHO had progressed but had not yet been completed. For eight projects approved in the sixth round of applications, project arrangements were expected to be made in late 2009, subject to conditionally approved projects meeting the conditions.

7. Good progress was achieved from 2007 to 2009 in attaining the targets established in the Quick Start Programme business plan adopted by the Executive Board in 2007 (see document SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/24). Funds raised for the year 2007 amounted to \$7,678,000 million, exceeding the target range of \$6.3–\$6.6 million. Pledges for 2008 amounted to \$5,342,000, falling short of the target range of \$6.6–\$7.25 million. Pledges received for 2009 total \$386,000 to date. The 2009 target range is \$6.9–\$7.9 million. In 2006–2009, 60 per cent of donors made more than one contribution to the programme, meeting the plan's target in that regard. Two new donors made contributions to the Trust Fund in 2009 in addition to four new donors in 2007 and two in 2008. Broadening the donor base to include non-governmental entities and industry has not yet been achieved.

8. Trust Fund support has already been provided to 35 least developed countries and small island developing States out of the target total of 57 and to 74 developing countries and countries with economies in transition out of the target total of 95. Since the adoption of the business plan, the Trust Fund Implementation Committee has met the target of disbursing 100 per cent of available funds in each funding round, including by approving civil society projects for up to 10 per cent of the funds available in each round.

¹ The total includes \$1,966,262 in the first round, \$1,861,841 in the second round, \$2,232,155 in the third round, \$3,888,505 in the fourth round, \$4,071,489 in the fifth round and \$1,999,734 in the sixth round.