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Strategic Approach
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Implementation of the Strategic Approach to

International Chemicals Management:

Financial and technical resources for implementation

**UNDP-UNEP Partnership Initiative for the integration of the Sound
Management of Chemicals (SMC) into Development Planning
Processes**

Note by the secretariat

1. The secretariat has the honour to circulate, in the annex to the present note, information provided by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), on the UNDP-UNEP Partnership Initiative for the Integration of Sound Management of Chemicals (SMC) into Development Planning Processes (UNDP-UNEP PI). The document has been developed pursuant to resolution II/3 of the Conference on technical and financial resources for implementation, section V of the Overarching Policy Strategy of the Strategic Approach on financial considerations and the strategic priorities for the Quick Start Programme of the Strategic Approach.
2. The document provides an update on progress of the Partnership Initiative, including lessons learned and future directions as well as information relevant to wider efforts to mainstream the sound management of chemicals into development and planning agendas.
3. The report is presented as received by the secretariat for the information of participants and has not been formally edited.

* SAICM/ICCM.3/1

Annex

UNDP-UNEP Partnership Initiative for the Integration of Sound Management of Chemicals (SMC) into Development Planning Processes: Information Paper for ICCM3

1.0 Purpose

This paper is intended to provide the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM), on the occasion of its 3rd meeting, with an update on progress for the development and implementation, including lessons learned and future directions recommendations, of the UNDP-UNEP Partnership Initiative for the Integration of Sound Management of Chemicals (SMC) into Development Planning Processes (UNDP-UNEP PI) as well as wider Mainstreaming of Sound Chemicals Management into the Development Planning agendas of development partners.

2.0 Recalling the Context for the UNDP-UNEP PI

2.1 Mainstreaming in SAICM

Seen in its entirety, the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) represents the first internationally agreed mechanism, albeit non-legally binding, that attempts to strengthen *chemicals management governance across all relevant sectors of society for purposes of achieving the WSSD goal*. As a result, mainstreaming chemicals management priorities into major development policies and plans of governments, including sectoral development plans, is an essential and central aspect of SAICM.

The core objectives of mainstreaming, and the UNDP-UNEP PI more specifically, are well addressed in the negotiated documents of SAICM; the High Level Declaration (the Dubai Declaration on International Chemicals Management) and the Overarching Policy Strategy¹, as can be seen in Table 1 below.

¹ See Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, http://www.saicm.org/documents/saicm%20texts/SAICM_publication_ENG.pdf (UNEP (2006))

Table 1: References to Mainstreaming Topics in the SAICM Dubai Declaration and Overarching Policy Strategy

Source	Relevant Citation
Dubai Declaration	Paragraph 26: "We will promote the sound management of chemicals and hazardous waste as a priority in national, regional and international policy frameworks, including strategies for sustainable development, development assistance and poverty reduction..."
Overarching Policy Strategy (OPS)	
Statement of Needs	<p>9. Governance is an important issue that needs to be addressed through a multi-sector and multi-stakeholder approach in pursuing the sound management of chemicals. There is therefore a need to recognize...</p> <p>(d) That chemicals issues are only sometimes featured in relevant national policy documents, including development assistance plans or strategies, sustainable development strategies and, as appropriate, poverty reduction strategies</p> <p>(e) That there is a need to promote the role of all sectors of civil society and the private sector in the implementation of the Strategic Approach...</p>
Paragraph 14: Risk Reduction...	(c) To implement transparent, comprehensive, efficient and effective risk management strategies based on appropriate scientific understanding, including of health and environmental effects, and appropriate social and economic analysis aimed at pollution prevention, risk reduction and risk elimination, including detailed safety information on chemicals, to prevent unsafe and unnecessary exposures to chemicals...
Paragraph 15: Knowledge and Information...	(j) To develop knowledge and information on the estimated current and projected financial and other impacts on sustainable development associated with the unsound management of chemicals of concern on a global basis...
Paragraph 16: Governance...	<p>(b) To promote the sound management of chemicals within each relevant sector and integrated programmes for sound chemicals management across all sectors;</p> <p>(c) To provide guidance to stakeholders in identifying priorities for chemicals management activities...</p> <p>(j) To support coordinated assistance activities at the international level in accordance with the implementation of the Strategic Approach...</p>
Paragraph 17 Capacity-building and Technical Cooperation...	<p>(f) To include capacity-building for the sound management of chemicals as a priority in social and economic development strategies, including national sustainable development strategies, poverty reduction strategy papers and country assistance strategies, and to make chemicals an important part of national policy...</p> <p>(i) To promote the awareness of donors, multilateral organizations and other relevant actors of the relevance of chemical safety for poverty reduction and sustainable development...</p>
Paragraph 19: Financial Considerations ...	<p>(a) Actions at the national or sub-national levels to support financing of Strategic Approach objectives, including by:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(i) Integrating Strategic Approach objectives in relevant programmes, plans and/or strategies at various levels...</p> <p>Integration of the Strategic Approach objectives into multilateral and bilateral development assistance cooperation, including by:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(i) Developing countries and countries with economies in transition, where necessary with the technical support of donors, considering the integration of Strategic Approach objectives into relevant national documents that influence development assistance cooperation</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(ii) Donors responding to requests by, and working in partnership with, developing countries and countries with economies in transition by recognizing Strategic Approach objectives as an important element of bilateral aid agency cooperation in support of sustainable development</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(iii) Inviting United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes and</p>

other intergovernmental organizations to include Strategic Approach objectives within their activities, as appropriate...

2.2.1 Mainstreaming Profiled in the SAICM Financial Mechanism

The ICCM also called for a UNEP trust fund and multilateral, bilateral and other forms of cooperation, in resolution I/4, that profiled mainstreaming as a top priority for SAICM. The trust fund, named the Quick Start Programme (QSP), identified three strategic priorities as eligible for funding consistent with the work areas set out in the strategic objectives of Section IV of the Overarching Policy Strategy:

- a) Development or updating of national chemical profiles and the identification of capacity needs for sound chemicals management.
- b) Development and strengthening of national chemicals management institutions, plans, programmes and activities to implement the Strategic Approach, building upon work conducted to implement international chemicals-related agreements and initiatives.
- c) Undertaking analysis, interagency coordination, and public participation activities directed at enabling the implementation of the Strategic Approach by integrating – i.e., mainstreaming – the sound management of chemicals in national strategies, and thereby informing development assistance cooperation priorities.

2.2 The Rationale for the UNDP-UNEP PI

The UNDP-UNEP PI was launched soon after the adoption of SAICM in 2006. The objective of the UNDP-UNEP PI is:

To facilitate the integration of sound management of chemicals, as part of the poverty-environment linkage, into national development planning processes to support sustainable development in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

The rationale for the initiative is best explained by developing countries and countries with economies in transition (CEITs); the clients for mainstreaming support. In this regard, participants at ICCM 3 may wish to recall the Information Paper submitted to ICCM 2 entitled: *Views of Developing Countries and CEITs on the Issue of Mainstreaming (Integrating) SMC Priorities into Development Planning* (SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/46).

The ICCM 2 Information Paper was developed through four regional workshops involving participants from 22 countries, run by UNEP Chemicals Branch on behalf of the UNDP-UNEP PI.² The following points broadly summarize what the countries concluded:

² The Government of Norway generously funded the workshops.

- It is internationally agreed in SAICM that sound chemicals management is important for sustainable development.
- Needed economic development is accompanied by increased chemical intensity and human and environmental exposure in our countries. As such, the development aspirations of our countries need to devote better care for the management of chemicals produced and/or used and disposed of in our countries.
- Chemical vulnerability is strongly correlated with conditions of poverty. Developing countries (being highly dependent on natural resources; agriculture, fisheries etc.) are especially vulnerable to negative chemical effects. When we address poverty through our development plan we need to address the exposure of the poor to chemicals.
- Chemicals are in all sectors of our societies and thus must be managed government-wide, including in line ministry relationships with private stakeholders, and not just in the mandates of environment and public health ministries.
- Development planning is one of the few government-wide priority setting and integrating governance tools available to many of our governments. As such, concerns for sound chemicals management must influence development planning in order to influence government-wide actions, including relationships with the private sector, that affect chemicals management directly or indirectly.
- The mainstreaming approach can illustrate the relevance of chemicals management priorities to national development priorities, which in turn increases prospects for influencing senior political and policy decision makers and public stakeholders regarding the need for improved chemicals management.
- The mainstreaming approach, with its emphasis on influencing future development planning, can encourage our governments to focus on prevention. We need to avoid or prevent increasingly costly damages to human health, the environment and development associated with unsound chemicals management as we grow our economies.
- The mainstreaming approach encourages lead agencies at the national level, usually environment and health agencies, to identify SMC priorities that have greater relevance to the development planning of our countries, and thus greater prospects for implementation under conditions of national resource scarcity.
- Resource mobilization is a well-known and often discussed challenge for progress on sound chemicals management. Bringing sound chemicals management priorities into the national development plan is essential to enhance mobilization of both internal and external resources.

3.0 Guidance and Implementation Efforts To-Date

3.1 Guidance

The main guidance for the mainstreaming methodology is contained in two documents developed by UNDP and UNEP respectively, the UNDP Guide for Integrating the Sound Management of Chemicals in MDG-Based Policies and Plans, and the UNEP Supplemental Cost-Benefit Economic Analysis Guide.³ These two guidance documents are process oriented, designed to help a country to understand the stages to go through to identify and build buy-in, including with economic, finance and planning officials, for chemicals management issues to be prioritized in national development plans.⁴

3.2 Costs of Inaction

The Costs of Inaction (COI) publication, led by UNEP Chemicals, aims to raise political awareness of the benefits stated in economic terms of providing resources to sound management of chemicals; a critical support for mainstreaming sound chemicals management priorities in national development policies and plans.

ICCM3 will receive briefings on this initiative in separate documents.

4.0 Lessons Learned By National Project Teams and Independent Evaluation of Country Projects

Table 2: Country Projects To-Date⁵

Belize	Kyrgyzstan	Nigeria
Burkina Faso	Liberia	Suriname
Cambodia	Macedonia	Uganda
Ecuador	Mauritania	Vietnam
Honduras	Mauritius	Zambia
Kazakhstan	Moldova	

³ UNDP Environment and Energy Group. 2009. UNDP Technical Guide for Integrating the Sound Management of Chemicals in MDG-Based Policies and Plans, <http://www.undp.org/chemicals/mainstreamingsmc.htm>; UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Initiative. 2009. UNEP Chemicals 2009. Supplemental Cost-Benefit Economic Analysis Guide, <http://www.chem.unep.ch/unepsaicm/mainstreaming/UNDPPartnership.htm>.

⁴ In addition, UNEP has developed Guidance on Development of Legal and Institutional Infrastructures and Cost Recovery Measures for SMC. While developed in a different context, this guidance has proven useful because most mainstreaming countries prioritize some sort of legislative or institutional strengthening. <http://www.chem.unep.ch/unepsaicm/mainstreaming/UNDPPartnership.htm>

⁵ The Government of Sweden has played a vital donor role in development of mainstreaming guidance and directly funding five mainstreaming countries. The SAICM QSP provided funding for the other mainstreaming countries.

4.1 *Project Team Experiences at Country Level*

The first countries to apply the mainstreaming methodology have contributed significantly to refinement of the guidance and accumulation of experience that can be shared with other countries. At the broadest level, mainstreaming countries acquired enhanced capacities to:

1. Redefine their priority setting efforts away from “wish lists” to identifying sound management of chemicals priorities in context of the country’s development priorities;
2. Enhance the economic content of their policy recommendations to make better arguments for needed investments; and,
3. Engage new stakeholders from other sectors of the economy on as yet unfamiliar sound chemicals management issues, including finance and development planning officials.

Prior to the mainstreaming efforts, environment and health officials at the national level often talked about but rarely attempted these undertakings in any kind of a planned or systematic manner.

In addition to these broad achievements, these countries can share more specific lessons learned with future mainstreaming countries, including:

- a) Access to the ministerial level for regular briefings is critical for mainstreaming projects since they are largely high level policy projects with technical dimensions rather than typical technical projects that attempt to enhance technical capacities but do not emphasize accessing and influencing the policy domain at the centre of government.

Related to this point is the lesson that mainstreaming projects need to beware of the dangers of defaulting to technical agencies that have “typically done SMC projects in the country”.

Mainstreaming projects are not SMC technical in the same sense as what has gone on to-date, such as national chemical profiles or Stockholm Convention National Implementation Plans (NIPs). Rather, the lead agency should have an ongoing role to regularly engage the Minister on important environment or public health issues.

The Minister(s) of the lead agency(ies) should at a minimum receive formal project briefings at a) project start-up, b) in the middle of the project at the point of agreeing on high priority SMC issues for the next 4-5 year planning cycle and, c) at the end of the project when the mainstreaming roadmap is to be decided and agreed by the Interagency Coordinating Mechanism (ICM) for the project.

- b) A broadly representative, senior Inter-ministerial Coordinating Mechanism (ICM) is absolutely essential for mainstreaming projects. The ICM would include at a minimum line ministries with significant chemicals management related mandates and central development planning authorities. In some cases, major non-governmental organizations can also be included, typically, though not exclusively, industry associations and environment and public health advocacy groups.

The ICM format can also be adapted to country practices. For instance, in some countries trying to combine forces at the technical and policy levels can be difficult. In those cases, the ICM might have a technical group and a senior policy group engaged in different ways throughout the project.

- c) The Project Director should be a senior official in a lead ministry responsible for chemicals management, usually the environment or health ministry. This person should be in a position to fully engage the responsible development planning authority, ideally inviting a representative to be co-chair of the Inter-Ministerial Coordinating Mechanism (ICM). The Project Director should also be experienced at conducting briefings at the ministerial level, well connected with all relevant policy making arms of government, and not just the technical side, and should be committed to see the project through from start to finish as a reasonably scaled portion of their core mission.

From the very start of the project, the Project Director should hold meetings with senior development planning officials and prepare a clear roadmap for how the development planning process works, what stages of the process provide the best opportunities for influence, and what type of information will be needed for each opportunity. This information should play a major role in how the project is managed by the Project Director, usually supported by a Project Coordinator.

Furthermore, a major part of the Project Director's job should be to ensure strong interagency communication aimed at, a) awareness raising and education of the ICM members about important chemicals management priorities in the country, and b) encouraging the ICM to take widely accepted decisions at key points in the mainstreaming effort so that their buy-in is made stronger through the scope of the project.

- d) Country mainstreaming projects benefit significantly from constituting sectors teams with active representation from topical ministries and key stakeholders. Sector teams, a) improve the quality of research about chemicals management priorities across economic sectors and, b) enhance prospects for acceptance of project results at the political and policy levels because the project has been relatively inclusive of different sector expertise.

Countries should be encouraged to have the sector teams produce their own individual reports and then oversee inclusion of their findings into the final National Situation Report. This greatly encourages project buy-in and ownership with stakeholders.

- e) Economic analysis in the mainstreaming approach is at once the most challenging and yet the most important aspect of the mainstreaming effort. It is important to assign a significant share of project time and resources to this step because the learning curve is the steepest but, in return, the engagement with finance and development planning officials is the most fruitful. While data availability for economic analyses is a significant problem in most developing countries and CEITs that should not prevent taking the first steps to enhance economic analysis capacities.

4.2 Findings of the Independent Evaluation of Mainstreaming Projects

An independent evaluation, supported by Sweden, considered results of the mainstreaming projects in Zambia and Cambodia, both of which were funded directly by the Government of Sweden. The evaluation also reviewed in less detail QSP funded mainstreaming projects in Belize, Macedonia and Uganda in order to draw comparisons.

The main “cross-cutting findings” of the evaluation, include:

1. The Country Projects successfully identified Inter-Agency Coordination Mechanisms (ICMs) to advance SMC by engaging with senior government officials in crosscutting as well as line ministries.
 - In addition to being essential to the mainstreaming projects, the ICMs enhanced capacities across participating ministries to implement integrated approaches for sound chemicals management. Furthermore, the ICMs established during the mainstreaming projects are still working overseeing and providing guidance to other projects pertaining to the sound management of chemicals.
2. The Country Projects to varying degrees successfully influenced the national planning processes, specifically the evaluation concluded:
 - Even if the project periods were short, SMC Mainstreaming Projects have, in general, succeeded in meeting the majority of their Project’s goals, and in general the strategies applied have been viable.
 - The SMC Mainstreaming Country Projects focused effectively on contributing to changing major national development plans on SMC, but the engagement of key non-governmental stakeholders could be strengthened; particularly the private sector and NGO communities should have stronger involvement.
 - The mainstreaming projects strengthened the capacity and commitment of key resource persons in sector line ministries regarding sound chemicals management, and some of these key individuals – being formerly part of the Pilot Project’s ICM – have influenced their ministries to take independent action to promote the SAICM principles.
 - At the time of the evaluation country visits, which was one to two years after the project ended, there had already been some identifiable, concrete results in some of the countries, for example:
 - The Government of Macedonia has, through the National Strategy for Sustainable Development, adopted a National Action Plan on SMC in October 2011, which has institutionalized an accountability system, where different sector ministries are obliged to report on progress every six months; first time in April 2012.
 - Cambodia identified eight high priority areas, where now - two years after the project finished – seven of these have progressed towards implementation.
 - The Governments of Belize and Uganda have both internalized the SMC framework within their national development plans, and Belize is now instituting a top priority to strengthen their chemicals legislation.
 - In Zambia, the Mainstream SMC Pilot Project did not manage to internalize the SMC framework within the revised Fifth National Development Plan; however, after the project ended, a new Law on Environmental Management has incorporated the concept of mainstreaming in general.

3. Each of the Project Management Units (PMUs) of the mainstreaming projects has identified innovations and lessons learned, which could serve as best practices for sharing with other countries in and outside the region (see Section 4.1 above).
4. The latest version of the *UNDP Guide for Integrating the Sound Management of Chemicals in MDG-Based Policies and Plans* was found to be sufficient for countries to address mainstreaming of the sound management of chemicals, with some modest recommendations for additions to the guidance, which are identified among the proposed additions noted in Section 6.1 below.
5. Although a general consensus exists amongst the mainstreaming project PMUs about the appropriateness of the level of funding for these (catalytic) projects (approximately US\$ 250,000); it was broadly accepted that the 18 months envisaged for project implementation was too short for such a major change in national programming practices.

5.0 Strategic Implications for SAICM Implementation

5.1 The Limits of Thinking Narrowly

The negotiation of SAICM reflected the international community's view that a new way of functioning is needed to manage the massive and growing number of chemicals in global commerce. The logic behind this view is straightforward; in the face of over 100,000 chemicals in global commerce, and many new chemicals being introduced to the market each year, the relatively narrow substance-by-substance or substance list approach, with thorough but time consuming hazard and risk assessments, typical of chemical-related multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) cannot possibly keep pace in terms of transaction costs and implementation financing, even for the smaller subset of the most hazardous of chemicals. As a result, a transformative agenda at the level of overall governance capacities for chemicals management in all countries is and will continue to be needed.

The transformative agenda needs to involve:

- Greater sophistication at prioritizing chemical management issues in the socio-economic context of the country (i.e. rather than creating wish lists that are rarely funded).
- Linking sound chemicals management issues to the economic development and poverty alleviation priorities of the country.
- Enhancing the economic analysis content and justification for sound chemicals management priorities and proposed investments.
- Regular dialogue between environment and health ministries and finance and development planning officials regarding the need for sound chemicals management policies and investments.

Seen from this perspective, to be effective, SAICM will need to emphasize broad-spectrum decisions and project initiatives. These would be decisions and projects that embody an understanding that the sound management of chemicals is interlinked with the economic and social development of developing countries and CEITs. Chemicals exist in all sectors of our societies, with both positive and negative outcomes. Efforts

are therefore needed to improve integrated planning for chemicals management across government. That is a vital gap in capacity building efforts of the international community to-date (i.e. which has been dominated by environment and/or health sector technical projects).

It should be noted, however, that it is not uncommon to witness a bias for more familiar technical projects precisely because of familiarity and relative ease of project mobilization. Unfortunately, however, these projects have proven to limit affects on governance reforms applicable to sound chemicals management. Results tend to remain sector confined and a wider range of important but non-traditional stakeholders remains largely unaware of the sound chemicals management issues and obligations within the country.

5.2 Upholding the Promise of SAICM = Strengthening of the Governance for Sound Chemicals Management

SAICM is the only international framework available to the international community to advance overall governance capacities for sound chemicals management (i.e. as opposed to addressing discrete lists of toxic or hazardous chemicals). ICCM 3 might, therefore, wish to emphasize this unique feature of SAICM as a priority contribution to global cooperative efforts for sound chemicals management.

Specifically, proposals for ICCM 3 decisions could best be assessed according to whether they advance this unique feature of SAICM, namely whether they are intended from the outset to:

- Build or reform government-wide legal and institutional infrastructures towards modern framework or enabling legislation.
- Reform development planning processes to better incorporate chemical management concerns, and to ensure improved integration of environmental and public health concerns for future development planning initiatives.
- Improve analytical capabilities in economic analysis and business case development for appropriate investments in legal, institutional or physical infrastructure for sound chemicals management.

Each of these areas is concerned with government-wide capacities for sound chemicals management (i.e. governance), which relates closely to the unique contribution of SAICM to global cooperative efforts for sound chemicals management.

Table 3 provides some criteria for assessing different types of “enabling” or capacity building projects, using the current strategic priorities of the QSP as examples. Projects that require government-wide engagement are those that can encourage governance reforms, albeit gradual, consistent with the unique feature of SAICM.

Table 3: The Characteristics of Mainstreaming Projects

Strategic Priorities	Technical Versus Policy Intensity	Cross-sectoral Engagement	Cross-sectoral Active Participation	Direct Influence on Government Policy	Requiring Approval at the Centre of Government
a) Development or updating of national chemical profiles and the identification of capacity needs for sound chemicals management;	- Established technical methodology over a few decades primarily within environment sector	- Engages other sectors mainly for chemical identification and related socio-economic baseline information	- Technical project within environment sector has few obligations for change in other sectors. - If at the needs assessment level only, active participation from other sectors is typically low	- Can be there but typically is not a immediate expectation for these types of projects	- Technical project funded from outside and with junior ministry in-kind, usually does not influence Cabinet
b) Development and strengthening of national chemicals management institutions, plans, programmes and activities to implement the Strategic Approach, building upon work conducted to implement international chemicals-related agreements and initiatives <i>(The reality is that this project type falls into two quite distinct categories: a) technical research such a needs assessments for “possible” legislative or institutional reform” and b) actual policy and</i>	- Often stays in the technical realm when basic needs assessments for legislation and institutions are conducted - When engaging actual legislative drafting, GHS adoption, PRTRs (i.e. adopting new policy, law, institution building or reform), the projects will be more complex methodologically and highly cross-sectoral and policy intensive with other ministries	- Technical oriented projects typically engage other sectors for information exchange on gaps in current legislation and institutions and associated needs - Lack of clear ministerial mandate for actual policy, legislative or institution building or reform at the start of the project raises few interministerial concerns	- An actual policy, legislative or institutional building or reform mandate at project start-up significantly engages the mandates of other ministries in terms of initial project approval and in implementation and results adoption	- Without the full mandate for policy, legislative or institutional building or reform at startup, direct influence on government policy is rarely evident although indirect effects are possible - Initiatives with a clear policy, legislative or institutional building or reform mandate must by definition engage policy makers across government at initial project approval and throughout	- Technical projects in this area will not attract much attention as real legislative or institutional change is not on the Cabinet docket - A prime project objective of policy, legislative or institution building or reform will require ministerial buy-in at initial project approval and in implementation and results adoption

Strategic Priorities	Technical Versus Policy Intensity	Cross-sectoral Engagement	Cross-sectoral Active Participation	Direct Influence on Government Policy	Requiring Approval at the Centre of Government
<i>institutional reform initiatives)</i>					
c) Undertaking analysis, interagency coordination, and public participation activities directed at enabling the implementation of the Strategic Approach by integrating – i.e., mainstreaming – the sound management of chemicals in national strategies, and thereby informing development assistance cooperation priorities	- Identifying high priorities for chemical management for inclusion in the national development plan is relatively methodologically complex and policy intensive across ministry mandates	- National development planning is government wide and competitive in terms of which issues get profiled in the national development plan	- Requires approval of other ministries regarding what priorities will be recommended to Cabinet for inclusion in the national development plan regarding chemicals management within their sectors	- The project intends to affect national development planning at the outset and cross-ministerial buy-in is essential at project approval and in implementation and results adoption	- Approval for mainstreaming projects must occur at the national planning authority, usually within the President or Prime Minister's Office - This signals buy-in on the project intent, but results are of course subject to the development planning trade-offs at cabinet level

6.0 Path Forward

6.1 Guidance

The current UNDP Guide for Integrating the Sound Management of Chemicals in MDG-Based Policies and Plans will be updated based on lessons learned from mainstreaming countries to-date and the independent evaluation. Specifically, UNDP's revised guidance will include:

- a) Enhanced information on conducting economic analysis, including with better linkages drawn to the UNEP *Supplemental Cost-Benefit Economic Analysis Guide* and results to-date in the *Costs of Inaction*.
- b) Improved scheduling to reflect the need for more than 18 months to properly complete mainstreaming projects.
- c) Practical examples of sound chemicals management language (i.e. "typical language") that can be incorporated into economic sector chapters of national development plans to signal work that will be done to improve sectoral sound chemicals management.

With respect to Item c, typical language will of course be tailored in practice by countries for their national circumstances (i.e. resulting from the work done following the mainstreaming approach), but internationally accepted examples of language will make incorporation into national development plans more justified and defensible. This will substantially assist developing country environment officials who have finally made their way around the national development planning table with their mainstreaming research results, but without the applied examples of exactly how the results can be phrased and placed in economic sector chapters of the national development plan.

The "prototype language" additions to the revised mainstreaming guidance will, as a start, emphasize economic sectors that remain important to the development of most developing countries and are also highly chemically intensive, specifically agriculture, mining, leather and textiles, and waste management.

6.2 Analysis on Costs of Inaction and Costs and Benefits of Action

As noted previously, international work on enhancing the economic analysis content of sound chemicals management policies is essential to provide national practitioners with broadly accepted ways to identify and account for important human health, environmental, and economic sustainability costs associated with unsound chemicals management practices, techniques and technologies. This, in turn, can build greater international consensus on the importance of linking sound chemicals management priorities to national development and poverty alleviation policies and plans.

To advance this effort, the UNDP-UNEP PI will continue work on the Costs of Inaction project. ICCM 3 will receive briefings on its proposed work in other documents to be presented at the meeting.

7.0 Recommendations on Mainstreaming Sound Chemicals Management into Development Policies and Plans

1. Strong evidence indicates that countries benefit significantly from undertaking the mainstreaming approach.
2. SAICM should continue to financially support this area of work.
3. SMC mainstreaming projects should seek to be closely integrated with other initiatives supporting mainstreaming of environment and health concerns in development planning in order to ensure maximum impact at the country level.
4. A wider understanding of costs of inaction as well as economic benefits of sound chemicals management should be further researched particularly in areas with intensive chemicals use.
5. The SMC Mainstreaming projects need to expand their outreach towards political decision makers for creating demand for thorough economic analysis of costs and benefits of proposed plans, and for building strong business cases for needed investments for improved sound chemicals management.