



SAICM/IP.2/INF.18

Distr.: General
12 March 2018



Strategic Approach
to International
Chemicals Management

English only

**Second meeting of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach
and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020**
Stockholm, Sweden, 13-15 March 2018

Summary of different perspectives on SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020

1. The secretariat has the honor to provide, in the annex to the present note, the '*Summary of different perspectives on SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020*' from the fifth SAICM Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting that was held in Bangkok, Thailand, 23-25 January 2018.
2. The document is presented as received by the secretariat, without formal editing.

Annex

Fifth SAICM Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting Bangkok, Thailand, 23-25 January 2018

Summary of different perspectives on SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020

Outcomes of Discussion Groups

Group 1 Dialogue Summary

Chair: Deeppa Ravindran, Pesticide Action Network Asia Pacific

Rapporteur: Joe DiGangi, IPEN

Incomplete List of Group members: China, Iran, Jordan, Malaysia, Solomon Islands, Representatives of the Chemical Industry, Ecowaste Coalition, Indonesian Center for Environmental Law, Land and Human to Advocate Progress, and others.

Brief description of process

The group examined the questions and decided to start with discussion of financial considerations. Very quickly, participants realized that it would be useful to first examine vision, principles, and objectives so that it would be clear what sorts of objectives could be financed and what vision and principles could inform the selected objectives. There was a quick superficial discussion of gaps noting the points raised by the SAICM evaluator and the uneven engagement and lack of coordination among IOMC organizations – including at the country level. Areas of agreement and outstanding issues are noted in the text below. Assigned questions are shown in Annex 1.

Vision

The group agreed that the vision should capture both health and environment and have some reference to sustainability to link to Agenda 2030. A vision text proposal that incorporates the agreed text from the SAICM goal, SDG12.4 and UNEA1/5 is as follows:

Achieve the sound and sustainable management of chemicals and wastes throughout their lifecycle in ways that prevent or minimize adverse impacts on human health and the environment.

Policy principles

The group noted that policy principles are included in SAICM and that several chemical safety principles could be useful in the Beyond 2020 framework. These include:

- Polluter-pays
- Precautionary approach
- Circular economy
- Sustainable consumption and production
- Extended producer responsibility
- Proximity (waste)
- Agroecology
- Right to know

Substitution

Full participation of women, vulnerable groups, and stakeholders

Intergenerational equity

Objectives

The discussion in this category included both general objectives and examples of measurable objectives in support of Agenda 2030

General objectives

Green and sustainable chemistry

Strengthening institutional capacity at national level

Enhance coordination and engagement among IOMC organizations and evaluate their performance

Public awareness

Fostering the role of civil society in chemical safety

Possibility of addressing extreme events and disasters including waste management

Measurable objectives in support of Agenda 2030

Examples of measurable objectives in support of Agenda 2030

Zero Waste: SDG11, 12, 13: By 2025, all major cities containing more than 1 million inhabitants conduct a waste audit to find out the amount and type of waste being produced, imported, and exported

Plastics: SDG11, 12, 14: By 2023, plastics audits in municipal and industrial wastes conducted and results publicly released in 50 countries.

Chemicals in products: SDG3, 8, 16: Public data is available on 50 chemicals of concern in consumer products in the Asia-Pacific region by 2025.

Highly hazardous pesticides: SDG2, 3, 8: Phase out the manufacture, import, sale and use of 20 highly hazardous pesticides in 50 countries by 2025.

Agroecology: SDG2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 13: Enabling agroecology-based policies to reduce hunger.

Implementation and Governance

Discussion under this topic included approach and institutions, industry stakeholders, national implementation plans, emerging policy issues and issues of concern, and capacity building and technical assistance.

Approach and institutions

The Beyond 2020 framework should continue the multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral approach.

SAICM institutions should be preserved Beyond 2020 including ICCM, Bureau, and the secretariat.

Industry stakeholders

Including other stakeholders besides single industry associations would be useful e.g. generic pesticide manufacturers; for work on information and education.

Including all industrial and other chemical manufacturers including industry associations.

National implementation plans

Beyond 2020 should utilize funded national implementation plans and reporting for developing and transition countries.

Emerging policy issues and issues of concern should be part of national plans.

ICCM should review progress of implementation of national plans, funding needs, measures to scale up actions, and new issues of concern.

Effectiveness evaluation and periodic review should be part of the Beyond 2020 framework.

A SAICM Initial Assessment process analogous to the Mercury Initial Assessment may be useful if a specific set of priorities can be established for assessment.

Emerging policy issues and issues of concern

Existing emerging policy issues and issues of concern should be carried forward Beyond 2020.

Capacity building and technical assistance

Technical assistance should incorporate learning by doing activities from experts to address specific country needs; for example, by using a vocational school-type learning model. This assistance should be administered by SAICM.

Financing

The discussion on financing included suggestions on its essential role in the Beyond 2020 framework, examples of funding needs, various characteristics of effective financing, the role of development assistance agencies, technical assistance and technology transfer, and the GEF-7 replenishment.

Financing is essential for the Beyond 2020 framework

A long-term sustainable, predictable, easily accessible financing solution, with sufficient resources plays a fundamental role in the sound management of chemicals and wastes beyond 2020, and is necessary and urgent to meet the needs of developing countries, countries with economies in transition and Small Island Developing States.

Examples of financing needs

Financing needs include national implementation plans, monitoring of the environment, effectiveness evaluation, institutional strengthening including inter-ministerial coordination, reporting, emerging policy issues and issues of concern, among others.

Various characteristics of effective financing

Financing of prioritized issues should go beyond bilateral mechanisms.

National plans should be financed to address existing and new emerging policy issues and issues of concern.

Financing should be a required part of action plans to address new emerging policy issues and issues of concern.

Financing should include the flexibility of doing joint country – country implementation and projects.

Financing should be focused on agreed objectives and not be obstructed by political considerations.

Private sector cost internalization and government cost recovery instruments should be part of the financial mechanism to implement the polluter pays principle.

National assessment of which parts of implementation need funding should be conducted to determine which parts of a process can proceed without funding and which parts should be prioritized.

The role of development assistance agencies,

Government development assistance agencies should substantially increase visibility and financial support for chemical safety, noting measurable objectives in support of Agenda 2030.

The SAICM secretariat should develop a clearing house mechanism that publicly tracks development aid for sound chemicals management including information about projects implemented and organizations involved.

Technical assistance and technology transfer

Technical assistance and clean technology transfer should be mobilized to minimize the formation and release of pollutants.

GEF-7 replenishment

The GEF should allocate sufficient resources to SAICM from its seventh replenishment including funding of emerging policy issues and issues of concern.

A communication process should be established for donor development agencies to signal to developing and transition countries that chemical safety should be a priority in development planning.

Outstanding issues

Group participants had different views about the possibility of binding elements in the Beyond 2020 framework. An effort was made to incorporate both view points in the text below. The group decided that further discussion on 25 January would be useful.

Text from 24 January on binding elements

The possibility of changing SAICM's non-legally binding implementation elements would depend on political will and financial commitments, among other concerns. Some participants expressed concerns about legally binding elements noting the usefulness of flexible implementation and continuing the multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral approach. Participants noted that SAICM should be taken as a serious commitment.

Brief description of topics on 25 January

Group 1 met again to discuss two topics: Finalize the discussion about the possibility of binding measures and a discussion about increasing high-level political commitment.

Possibility of binding measures

Group participants had different views about the possibility of binding elements in the Beyond 2020 framework. An effort was made to incorporate all points of view in the text below.

Some participants highlighted the value and importance of voluntary, flexible, multi-stakeholder implementation of SAICM and the importance of continuing the voluntary, multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral approach. Some participants noted the possibility of changing some of SAICM's non-legally binding implementation elements would depend on political consensus, financial commitment, technical assistance and capacity building among other concerns. Some participants highlighted the need for legally binding elements, such as a global treaty on highly hazardous pesticides. All participants noted that commitment to SAICM should be strengthened.

High-level political commitment

Several options for increasing political commitment were suggested:

Using collaborative initiatives to highlight specific issues to high-level government officials. Examples of public interest NGO, industry, and government initiatives involving parliament were presented.

Developing a comprehensive communication plan including the emerging policy issues.

Increasing media attention and use of cross-cutting issues such as climate change and biodiversity issues to highlight chemical safety issues.

Increasing greater utilization of scientific studies and dissemination of scientific issues connected to SAICM objectives.

Greater utilization of indigenous knowledge, for example farmer knowledge of food production.

Upgrading the profile of chemicals and wastes in UN Environment by engagement of the Secretary General and heads of other UN agencies.

Engagement of high-level UN personnel in the Beyond 2020 process.

Getting positive support for SAICM objectives from private sector representatives.

Institutionalize commitment within government ministries that continues despite changes in leadership.

Strengthening the multi-stakeholder, inter-ministerial committee recommended in the SAICM agreement would increase the political priority of SAICM.

Increasing involvement of all relevant government ministries.

Women Ministers of Environment, Health, and Agriculture and other relevant ministries, develop and deliver a declaration focused on the relationship between women and chemical safety and the Beyond 2020 Framework.

Strengthening institutional capacity at the national level including implementation of relevant elements of Agenda 2030 may be possible by broadening the mission of national ozone units to serve as chemical safety units. If funded, these units could serve a role in coordination, regulation, financing /mainstreaming, compliance, needs assessment, reporting and others.

Develop a strategy for increasing the implementation and integration of mainstreaming plans related to chemical safety and Agenda 2030 within governments to maintain and increase government commitment to chemical safety objectives.

Connections to Agenda 2030

Use Agenda 2030 including SDGs and accompanying targets to engage high-level political officials.

Utilize national attention given to SDGs to help increase SAICM's visibility.

Increase the profile of chemical safety and Agenda 2030 in regional institutions including in their guidelines. Examples of regional institutions include D8, Waste Asia, ASEAN, APEC, and others.

Highlight Beyond 2020 and Agenda 2030 objectives at ministerial meetings such as the Asian Ministerial Meeting on the Environment, Arab Environmental Ministers Council, and Arab Health Ministers Council, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, among others.

Work to eliminate the inhibiting effects of political sanctions on implementing Beyond 2020 and Agenda 2030 objectives.

Raise the political profile of crosscutting issues with the UN Special Rapporteur on Toxics and Food with Beyond 2020 objectives and Agenda 2030.

Extend and expand political, financial, and technical support for legally binding and non-legally binding agreements on chemicals to increase their sustainability and impact.

The Beyond 2020 framework should be adopted with a ministerial declaration at ICCM5.

Increased international incentives and gains under the three-part pillars of technical transfer, secured financial assistance, and capacity building can help increase the political priority of the Beyond 2020 framework.

Annex 1. Assigned questions

1. Please share your experience and recommendations to help shape the overall direction beyond 2020:

What has worked in SAICM? Why? What needs to be improved?

What has facilitated implementation of the SAICM to date?

2. What should be the future vision beyond 2020?

What are the priorities to be addressed beyond 2020?

What would be the related policy principles; objectives and milestones?

3. What are your ideas for financing to support implementation of the beyond 2020 framework?

How can sustainability be ensured in financing projects?

Based on your group's identified priorities beyond 2020, who are the key stakeholders and sectors to involve in beyond 2020 processes and governance?

How would they be engaged?

Group 2 Dialogue Summary

What worked and why: multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral, periodic stakeholder exchange within countries, national implementation plans, engagement of the industries, including in national policy, lead in paint, dedicated budget from government.

What did not work and why: HHPs (no programme), not having political support because not legally binding, not a priority in governments like climate change, lack of capacity, ineffective/lack of focal points, lack of finance (including lack of dedicated finance)

What needs to be improved: need some legally binding instruments (HHPs; and overall to gain political support), overarching legal framework for all chemical conventions and SAICM, review process, engaging user industries and consumers, capacity building, financing (increased funding and clear-cut mechanism), institutional arrangements within the country, clearing house mechanism for information. No consensus on voluntary vs binding instruments.

Vision: "Achieve sound management of chemicals and waste throughout their lifecycle in ways that prevent or minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment."

Generally agreed but some disagreement on the following: including waste, need to identify what waste, use fewer words.

Priorities: HHPs; Gender/women and chemicals in all SAICM issues; Marine litter and microplastics, National capacity building, All EPIs and issues of concern, Vulnerable populations - exposure to toxic chemicals, Capacity building, establishing better financial mechanisms, Compliance mechanisms, Measurable indicators; Research and development, improved data; Establish binding mechanism of SAICM commitments vs keeping it voluntary – no consensus.

New Principles: Zero waste; Polluters pay; Extended producer responsibility; Agroecology.

Objectives:

Phase out HHPs in all countries (# of countries)

Participation of downstream stakeholders (# of industries involved) - secretariat to improve outreach in conjunction with governments

Private sector to endorse Chemicals in Products Programme (# included in dialogue/SAICM)

Ideas for financing beyond 2020:

- Financing smaller projects with quick short success outcomes that would generate financial assistance for more projects
- In-kind contribution (e.g. capacity building workshop/knowledge, technology)
- Tap in to ODA by relating objectives to SDGs
- Link SMCW with 2015 action agenda of Addis Ababa
- Joint capacity building workshops with non-chemical topics ('piggy-back' on other issues)
- Polluters pay
- Developed donor governments should increase financial support to chemical projects

- Common funding window for all chemical projects
- Special funding for LDCs
- Simple financing mechanism, especially for small projects
- Increased funding and clear-cut mechanism
- Mainstream SMWC in national development plans

Additional stakeholders:

- Retail
- Plastic industry
- Waste management industry / treatment / disposal/ storage

Facilitate Awareness:

- Strengthen communication between UN agencies
- Formalising and funding multi-sectoral ministers
- National coordination mechanism
- Women ministers of environment, health, agriculture and stakeholders report on women and chemical safety at ICCM5
- Stronger and funded R&D to give better data for High Level people
- Bring SMCW to the World Economic Forum for funding and to increase status

Sustaining Commitment:

- Making SAICM legally binding – not consensus
- SAICM engage with the Global Pact on the Environment by sending reps to ensure chemical safety principles are included; and reporting back to stakeholders
- Linking SMCW to other issues e.g. biodiversity
- Countries to propose their own targets
- High level messages from UN to motivate political leaders

Linkage to the SDGs

- 'Piggy-back' on other issues e.g. climate change
- Have specific voluntary targets for countries
- Clear objectives, measurable indicators

Group 3 Dialogue Summary

1. Please share your experience and recommendations to help shape the overall direction beyond 2020:

- **What has worked in SAICM? Why? What needs to be improved?**
- **What has facilitated implementation of the SAICM to date?**

What has worked in SAICM:

- SAICM has a Multi-stakeholder and Multi-sectoral approach which is unique and has turned out to be very effective as it has led to the involvement of various stakeholders.
- Voluntary approach has also been helpful because of which partnerships have been formed.
- Chemical profile has been developed which helped to create baseline and understand the gaps and challenges in managing in chemicals.
- The resolutions on EPIs and issues of concern have been very useful at national and international levels.

What has facilitated implementation of SAICM to date:

- Lot of information creation has been done because of SAICM. We were able to link the issue with policy makers and research institutes. For example, Toxics Link in India worked on BPA, and raised it in Parliament and were able to get standards in BPA bottles. Funding from SAICM played a key role in getting these standards.
- SAICM help to build a good structure on chemicals and waste management in the countries.
- Funding was given to some countries which was quite helpful in the implementation process.

What needs to be improved:

- Waste management needs to be taken up by SAICM.
- More focus is needed on the implementation of the resolutions of emerging issues and issues of concern.
- There is a need to develop capacity of nations which can be done by sharing of information and knowledge, it also helps in developing institutional structures.
- SAICM should organize and conduct technical assistant programmes for countries sharing best practices.
- Better use of studies that highlight the problems on the ground, for example, the Lancet Commission on Health and Pollution study. And more such studies need to be conducted which provides solid numbers and evidence of how chemicals adversely affect people that could highlight the problem on the ground and encourage Political Will.
- SAICM needs to develop a 360 degrees approach or “not one solution fits all” approach as every country is different, it needs its own solutions which should cover risk management and mitigation.
- There is a need to improve coordination between different ministries at national and international levels.
- All the stakeholders including relevant industries, NGOs, sectors like labours should be involved in the SAICM process.
- Catchier name can be adopted instead of SAICM. It was suggested a simple, catchier, short slogan for the future that could support the vision would help increase SAICM’s profile. Some participants suggested, Toxic-free future.

- There is a need for visibility and recognition. Media should be involved for this purpose. A social media campaign can also be conducted.
- SAICM secretariat should pressurize national focal points to provide information about their work.
- There is a need for scientific support on emerging issues globally.
- Sustainable and predictable funding is crucial actions to address the gaps identified in the chemical profile.
- SAICM needs to work on new mechanisms to communicate with people about best practices on chemicals and waste. Focus on waste not only on chemicals.
- SAICM needs to align itself with International regulatory body, to get attention from national governments.
- Move towards development of global standards.
- Suggestion was made to invite the Generics Industry to attend SAICM.

2. What should be the future vision beyond 2020? What are the priorities to be addressed beyond 2020? What would be the related policy principles; objectives and milestones?

Vision:

- Some participants suggested that we continue voluntary and multi stakeholder approach. We should take Bottoms up approach. Targets should be based on the goals we have achieved, very smart and achievable. Goals should be complementary to Global Outlook.
- Others felt that SAICM should have legally binding elements incorporated.
- Waste and chemicals throughout their life cycle should be incorporated.
- Risk reduction and safer alternatives can be on vision statement.
- Overall agreement of participants: “Achieve the sound management of chemicals and wastes throughout their lifecycle in ways that prevent or minimize adverse impacts on human health and the environment.”

Or

Some participants felt that “A toxics free future for all” would be help and it could indicate the elimination of chemicals, not only about management. It also gives a window to ban a few chemicals. This is small and catchy and draws attention. It has a larger scope and covers many chemicals as it points out towards the toxics present in all the environmental matrices. (Note: It is not apt as by definition many chemicals can be banned. It shouldn’t be taken.)

We can combine both- A toxics free future for all: “Achieve the sound management of chemicals and wastes throughout their lifecycle in ways that prevent or minimize adverse impacts on human health and the environment.”

We can put this short one may be catchy. We need a slogan for a vision.

Principles:

- We should reaffirm some of the principles from Rio and other documents and maybe add issues like intergenerational equity, substitution, full participation of women, liability and compensation, right to know, good governance, issues with children, polluters pay and right to know.

Priority issues for the region:

- Plastics waste is a very serious issue across its life cycle. We need to have political space to create a buzz around this issue.

- Lead pollution and poisoning from other sources and pollution from other heavy metals should also be incorporated.
- Air pollution should also be taken up.
- Disposal of obsolete pesticides (Hazardous) should also be incorporated.
- Labelling should also be considered. It is very important, and it should be written very clearly by the manufacturers.
- GHS should be enhanced.
- Workers right to know is a very critical issue specially in countries like Iraq and it needs to be taken up by SAICM.
- Pesticides is another big issue for our region as the region is predominately agricultural based and 2 billion people are dependent on agriculture for their livelihoods and most of them are exposed to pesticides.
- Food contamination particularly pesticide residues in food is another big issue specially in Thailand.
- Surveillance and risk reduction are important and are also included in NIP of Thailand.
- Health surveillance important for prevention and control of disease causes by chemical exposure
- More work is needed in illegal trafficking of chemicals and products across countries.
- Moving towards alternatives including non-chemical alternatives and agroecology is also very important.
- There needs to be information on supply chain process.
- It was suggested that some level of Legally binding element should be there to increase the accountability and responsibility for all stakeholders including government, IOMC, industry and CSOs. Some participants felt that this is one of the gaps in SAICM.
- Others suggested that NIP could be an element that can be legally binding. If NIP and reporting is binding with funding, it would be like a legally binding element.
- There is a need to establish some sort of accountability mechanism to identify responsibility.
- Best practices and safer alternatives including non-chemical solutions either local or national, some innovations can be showcased to improve chemicals and waste management. We can involve youth champions.
- We should start with improved issues like LIP. Every year Thailand gives awards to a champion. This can be adopted.

Objectives:

- Some suggested that objectives should be very specific/smart that we are able to achieve. Others suggested that SDGs, previous SAICM objectives, resolutions of EPIs and issues of concern could be reviewed to develop the objectives. In addition, specific indicators should be developed to track our progress to achieve these objectives.

Milestone:

- 2030 (For now)

Conclusive point:

- To get political attention is also a communication problem. The current vision is for 2020 goal. We should have a short vision- overall objective of SAICM. We need another name.

3. What are your ideas for financing to support implementation of the beyond 2020 framework? How can sustainability be ensured in financing projects? Based on your group's identified priorities

beyond 2020, who are the key stakeholders and sectors to involve in beyond 2020 processes and governance? How would they be engaged?

- There should be more thought process/brain storming in developing better financing regime.
- Taxation on chemicals and introduction of polluter pays principle would be good for financial mechanism. But there should be clear definition, mechanism and way to identify the cost. Such as, Green Tax, which could generate financing for sound chemicals management.
- ODA- Official Development Aid (Putting specific percentages for chemical management).
- Internalization of cost like hidden cost in some products to this issue. This money can be used for capacity building and technological advances at the national level.
- GEF funding can be also be utilized for this.
- Social responsibilities of companies can also be a good source of funding.
- Companies pay before polluting before their impact on the environment in some countries. This funding can also be used.

4. High level political commitment and visibility

a. What is needed to facilitate awareness and enable commitment for beyond 2020?

- **In seeking agreement amongst all stakeholders in 2020.**
- **Sustaining commitment for implementation beyond 2020.**

b. How can the approach for chemicals and waste management beyond 2020 leverage linkages to the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development?

- Since our region is very complex, it needs to be country specific and there is a need to identify some priorities.
- There is a need to create awareness at the senior ministry/government level. We can partner with senior bureaucracy. After awareness jointly, an action plan with a clear roadmap can be decided.
- We need to continue the momentum to go beyond 2020. All stakeholders should come up with more research and information and like chemical issues with other issues like poverty, health etc. We also need to monetize the issue to create political space.
- There should be reasonable timelines for the commitments.
- SAICM has fairly identified some critical issues to get success. We should have a sustained effort. This can be achieved by inviting more political people in such meeting.
- In UNEA, a women's meeting was held which identified key points. One way to tap SAICM issues, we can contact such ministers and come out with a declaration. We can use this set up and get something done on chemicals and waste.
- Apart from having high level commitment, we need commitments from our end. NGOs need to organize themselves in groups and reach for advocacy. NGOs has played a key role in SAICM's implementation for issues like mercury, BPA, LIP etc but we need a concerted effort from institutions like IOMC (very important role) to create a political space. Industries also need to come out as it has a key role in chemicals management.
- Support of national focal point in sharing information is very much needed.
- Note by chemical company- visions are already pushed in this direction and we are developing indicators to move to sustainable development. We are already doing it.
- There is a need for data generation to create a baseline and sharing the information to relevant stakeholders. Although, many countries have right to information act to share information yet NGOs struggle to get access to many reports, specially monitoring reports from government

- Industry should also make their reports available when they come up with a new product specially if it relates with the human health and environment. Information disclosure is needed.
- Food contamination can be a way to raise political awareness on this issue. Many countries in Asia are exporting their products to developed countries. So, this can be helpful in getting political attention.
- Making optimum use of existing reports like Lancet.

Priorities/How to prioritize:

- Common goal is to protect human health and the environment.
- Prioritization should be at the national level. At the regional level, we can bring together priorities of different countries and their stakeholders. More brainstorming at the political level. Broaden it to get varied ministries involved (Human rights, labour etc). We can link human rights with the chemical management.
- How to ensure that all the stakeholders participate in SAICM. There is committee between many ministries and many times we make one team to study one issue and forward to high level to take an action.
- Mobilizing women in the community can lead to action.
- For chemicals and waste, it is important to get all the sectors. It must be at the government level. Forming synergy committees and other types of committees (that are multi-sectoral) at the government level.
- It is important to put pressure on the government
- There should be more regional participation in a region. May be a regional secretariat can discuss this at this level. National focal points can be more effective to the nation. They can involve the key stakeholders from all the ministries.
- Regional focal point can call for meetings with the national focal points who can present their challenges and achievements.
- Synergy committee between stakeholders to make decisions on chemical related matters
- Create new mechanism between national focal point to address problems and issues and to get better solution to solve disputes.
- Expert committee in the SAICM secretariat (for information sharing and get technical support).