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Proposal from IOMC on objectives and targets to support integrated chemicals and waste management

Submission by the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals

Note by the secretariat

The annex to the present note contains a submission by the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC). It is reproduced as received by the secretariat, without formal editing.

Annex: Proposal from IOMC on objectives and targets to support integrated chemicals and waste management

The proposed strategic objectives and targets are taken from the IP4 INF/18 which features three dimensions of integrated chemicals and waste management. They include:

1. Development of basic national chemical management system and capacities in all countries;
2. Integrating chemicals and waste management in industry sectors and product value chains; and
3. Integrating chemicals and waste management within sustainable development initiatives.

The intention of the proposal is to sharpen strategic objectives to convey outcome/results and to propose a focused number of targets related to the three dimensions of the integrated chemicals and waste management. These targets also contribute to some of the proposed strategic objectives.

A. “National capacities and systems”

Countries have the basic capacity, legal framework and institutional mechanisms in place to support the integrated management of chemicals and waste throughout the life cycle.

The five proposed targets below relate to first dimension of integrated chemicals and waste management.

- By 20xx, yy countries have developed a National Chemicals and Waste Management Action Plan and identified priority measures to strengthen their national legal, institutional, financial and human resource capacities to implement “Beyond 2020” targets.
- By 20xx, yy countries have fully implemented the GHS (i.e., for industrial chemicals, agricultural chemicals, consumer product chemicals and chemicals in transport/storage).
- By 20xx,yy countries have in place a national information system for the sound management of chemicals and waste (i.e. chemical inventories, notification and registration schemes, right-to-know schemes).
- By 20xx,yy countries have legislation, institutions and enforcement mechanisms in place that address the life cycle of chemicals, products and waste and advance integrated assessment and management of chemical risks.
- By 20 xx, yy countries have developed a hazard-based approach to the prevention, preparedness, response and recovery to chemical accidents

B. “Data, knowledge and information”

Comprehensive and sufficient knowledge, data and information are generated, available and accessible to all to enable informed decisions and actions

C. “Issues of concern”

Issues of concern are identified, prioritized and addressed

D. “Innovative and safer solutions in product value chains”

Safer alternatives and innovative solutions are introduced in key product value chains that maximize the benefits of chemicals to protect human health and the environment, minimize risks, and advance circularity

The three proposed targets below relate to the second dimension of integrated chemicals and waste management:

- By 20xx, yy key chemical intensive industry sector actors have developed a sustainable chemical strategy in the x,y,z sectors (e.g. textile, electronic, building, agriculture, etc.).
- By 20xx, yy leading actors in the retail sector have developed a sustainable chemicals strategy.
- By 20xx, international guidance has been prepared through multi-stakeholder collaboration to feature good practices to support the development of sustainable chemicals strategies in key sectors.

E. “Integrating chemicals and waste management in strategic decision-processes”

The sound management of chemicals and waste is integrated in all relevant sustainable development, financing and corporate decision-processes.

The three proposed targets below relate to the third dimension of integrated chemicals and waste management:

- By 20xx, yy countries have mainstreamed integrated and waste management in their national sustainable development strategies.
- By 20xx, yy countries have integrated chemicals and waste management considerations in key policies and initiatives to advance sustainable development.
- By 2020, yy countries have developed green and sustainable chemistry strategies to advance the substitution of chemicals of concern.

The Inf Paper 18 was discussed at a multi-stakeholder IOMC workshop on 26 August and a Technical Briefing on 27 August with a total of some 200 participants from different sectors.

IOMC appreciates the valuable discussions and feedback. During the two meetings the IOMC received valuable input from stakeholders. This includes the need to make some proposed targets more ambitious, recognize the importance of regional differences, and address stakeholder responsibilities directly, i.e. governments and industry.