



## **ICCA intervention SAICM IP4 Romania, August 29 – September 2, 2022**

We are here to represent the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA), and we speak on behalf of the chemical industry. We've been contributing to all the SAICM meetings since its inception, and look forward to continuing our contributions in the new Beyond 2020 Instrument.

The private sector is a critical partner in SAICM. A broad representation and engagement at SAICM from the private sector stakeholders is key to help facilitate its success. We at ICCA remain committed to continuing and strengthening our collaboration with other private sector stakeholders towards achieving SAICM's goal, the sound management of chemicals and waste (SMCW) in each country, and welcome the development of a new Beyond 2020 framework to elevate commitments and actions from all stakeholders.

We join the broad consensus among stakeholders that the Beyond 2020 framework should continue SAICM's unique voluntary, multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral approach. The new framework should strive for **meaningful partnerships aimed at delivering tangible progress on the ground**. Capacity building and support for the development and implementation of legal chemical management frameworks must be a primary focus of the new framework.

We highlight two regional examples of industry-regulator partnerships led by ICCA: The Latin American Regulatory Cooperation Forum, which is an initiative to promote regulatory cooperation and best practices in chemical management throughout Latin America. Additionally, we have a similar initiative in SE Asia, known as the ASEAN Regulatory Cooperation Project. Both initiatives have worked to promote GHS alignment, chemical inventory requirements and other issues related to chemicals management via workshops, webinars and guidance documents.

ICCA remains committed to supporting SAICM and the Beyond 2020 Framework through our monetary and in-kind resources. We are pleased to announce that ICCA recently doubled its annual contributions to the SAICM Secretariat with the desire to advance tangible projects that are key in building capacity for chemicals management. As part of that commitment, we are partnering with UNEP and many other SAICM stakeholders to advance a pilot program to implement GHS in four African countries. This long-term, multi-stakeholder project brings together local governments and industry with broader global resources. We hope this project will serve as a model to expand in other countries and regions.

We are also committed to developing tools to support information sharing and implementation of chemical management systems. Together with UNEP and with the input from many SAICM stakeholders, we developed an eLearning course on chemical information databases. ICCA also developed a Regulatory Toolbox highlighting best practice approaches to chemical regulations.

ICCA also continues to enhance and expand our voluntary commitments, such as Responsible Care®, industry's voluntary commitment to environmental, health, safety and security. While not a substitute



for legal frameworks, Responsible Care is an important tool to elevate the operations and standards for EHSS among Responsible Care implementing companies.

We welcome more opportunities to partner on more specific projects aimed at closing the gap between developed and developing countries to soundly manage chemicals. As many have noted in the negotiations of the new Beyond 2020 framework, the status quo is not an option. Together, we must consider new ideas and opportunities to facilitate such partnerships, while avoiding duplication and reducing inefficiencies. This requires a sustainable financing mechanism where financial means from a diverse set of stakeholders flow to clearly identified projects with concrete deliverables, including an adequate commitment mechanism. Yet, focusing solely on increasing the pot of money will not solve our persistent challenges of establishing and enforcing fit-for-purpose and fee-based legally binding chemical management systems. In this vein, industry welcomes the creation of a Capacity Building Platform **to match the identified need by countries for concrete projects in support of the SAICM objectives, with financial means and expertise provided by donors.** We are happy to see that the SAICM secretariat will include the Capacity Building Platform in its Capacity Building Strategy. We are convinced that partnering with like-minded stakeholders and defining win-win-win opportunities and concrete projects that serve the SAICM objectives is key. We call upon all SAICM stakeholders to support working intersessionally on the arrangements needed for establishing such a mechanism at ICCM5.

To conclude, the Beyond 2020 Framework needs the work and support from all stakeholders and we applaud the many contributions highlighted today. We encourage all IP4 participants to recall the sometimes forgotten, but highly pertinent 11 elements of the Overall Orientation Guidance, or OOGs. It is critical to address these at the national and regional levels to achieve sound chemicals management. With our small but highly dedicated team, we are all eager to engage with you all and to make progress during the week ahead.

Thank you.