

JUSSCANNZ+UK IP4.2 Closing Plenary Statement,
March 3, 2023

- I have the privilege to speak on behalf of Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.
- I would like to first extend our sincere gratitude to the Government of Kenya and the United Nations Environment Programme for hosting us here this week and to the SAICM Secretariat our Co-Chairs, and the co-facilitators for all of their hard work to advance the important work of Fourth Meeting of the Intersessional Process considering the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.
- Indeed, the work undertaken here this week will inform the success of ICCM5 in Bonn this September and a sustainable, effective instrument for beyond 2020.

- It is now over one year since Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine.
- We condemn the ongoing brutal attacks on civilians and critical infrastructure in the midst of winter and widespread destruction, including environmental damage and transboundary harm, caused by Russia's aggression against Ukraine.
- Keeping in mind the resolution that was adopted at the United Nations General Assembly on 23 February (document A/RES/ES-11/6), we would like to reaffirm the principles of the United Nations Charter and our unwavering commitment for a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in Ukraine.
- Our thoughts remain steadfastly with the people of Ukraine.
- This aggression is a violation of international law, including the UN Charter.

- Russia's actions violate the prohibition of the use of force, and the territorial integrity and political independence of Ukraine, as enshrined in international law.
- Russia's attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure must stop.
- We support efforts to hold those responsible to account.

- We call once again on Russia to abide by its international obligations, cease all hostilities in Ukraine, withdraw its troops, facilitate the rapid, safe, and unhindered access of humanitarian assistance to those in need in Ukraine.
- Before closing, I wish to turn to the tragic earthquake of 6 February that claimed countless lives of people in Türkiye and Syria.
- We send our deepest condolences and thoughts to the victims of this natural disaster and stand in solidarity with international recovery efforts so that the longevity of this catastrophic event is minimised.