2\textsuperscript{nd} Meeting of the Virtual Group on Issues of Concern (VWG3)

14 December 2020
14:00 – 16:00 CET

Co-facilitators: Sam Adu-Kumi (Ghana) and Sverre Thomas Jahre (Norway)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic of discussion</th>
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</table>
| 1          | 14:00 – 14:10 | • Welcome Remarks  
• Review of meeting agenda and meeting objectives |
| 2          | 14:10 – 14:20 | Overview presentation of the co-facilitators proposal on the current emerging policy issues and other issues of concern (released on 30 November 2020) |
| 3          | 14:20 – 15:45 | Discussion on the proposal  
A. Key general considerations in moving forward  
B. Proposed Approach  
   i. At ICCM5  
   ii. Options for the process |
| 4          | 15:45-16:00 | Next steps |

**Presenter**

- Sverre Thomas Jahre
- Sam Adu-Kumi
- Co-facilitators
  - Introduction and Para A - Sverre Thomas Jahre
  - Para B - Sam Adu-Kumi
- Sverre Thomas Jahre
Agenda Item 2- Overview of the Co-facilitators’ proposal on the current emerging policy issues and other issues of concern

• Proposed way forward with options to address the current existing emerging policy issues and other issues of concern
• Released on 30 November 2020
• Prepared by the Virtual Working Group (VWG) co-facilitators
• Based on feedback received through the call for electronic feedback.
• Proposal is set out in Section IV of the document
A reminder of our mandate

Make proposals that progress the work on this topic in lead up to IP4, building on Annex B of SAICM/IP.4/2 Compilation of recommendations. Specific tasks include:

(i) Review Annex B of SAICM/IP.4/2 and identify possibilities for compromise; or alternative text in areas of divergence; or identify gaps;

(ii) Develop proposals for draft procedures for the identification, nomination, selection, review and prioritization of the issues of concern; determining the need for further work on an issue of concern; and duration for considering issues of concern, drawing on experience from existing for a;

(iii) Develop proposals on how to deal with existing Emerging Policy Issues and other Issues of Concern.

Note: This has possible links to the science-policy interface and subsidiary and ad hoc bodies.
A total of 12 submissions were received:

- Brazil
- Canada
- Colombia
- EU and Member States
- Japan
- Norway
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom
- United States
- IPEN
- ICCA/Croplife
- A Group of NGOs

All submissions available online
Summarized in Annex II of the proposal
## Reminder - categorization of the current EPIs and other issues of concern

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Current EPI</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>Current types of joint cooperative actions identified in ICCM resolutions and the GPA</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Promotion of related regulatory and policy measures | Lead in Paint HHP        | WHO / UNEP FAO / WHO / UNEP | Awareness raising  
Baseline data gathering  
Capacity building to promote legislation at national level |
| Information sharing on chemicals across the lifecycle | CiP HSLEEP                | UNEP UNIDO                  | Raise attention of chemicals of concern in various products, including: textiles, electronics, toys and building materials. |
| Issues with emerging scientific evidence      | Nanotechnology EDC        | UNITAR / OECD UNEP / WHO / OECD WHO / FAO / UNEP OECD / UNEP | Increase awareness and understanding and promote actions  
Facilitate science-based information exchange  
Generate and share information to fill the knowledge gaps |
Structure of the co-facilitators’ proposal

I. Introduction
II. Current context
III. Overview of considerations brought forward by stakeholders in the submissions
IV. Co-facilitators’ proposal on the way forward for consideration by the VWG

Annex 1 Overview of the current emerging policy issues and other issues of concern
Annex 2 Summary of the inputs received
Co-facilitators’ proposal

A. Key general considerations in moving forward

B. Proposed approach
   i. At ICCM5

   ii. Options for the process to determine next steps

      OPTION 1
      • Proposals to be submitted on each emerging policy issue or other issue of concern six months before the following session of the International Conference [ICCM6] for consideration at that meeting.
      • The proposals will include: (i) workplans; (ii) proposal for issue-specific goals and indicator(s) in the new instrument; and / or (iii) review according to the modalities established for the new beyond 2020 instrument.
      • Should no proposal be submitted, the next International Conference [ICCM6] may decide to discontinue the Emerging Policy Issue or other issues of concern.

      OPTION 2
      • Establish a time-bound group for each issue and agree on and submit work plans at least 6 months prior to the following session of the International Conference [ICCM6].
      • The main functions would be: (i) developing and coordinating the implementation of a workplan, including propose indicators for relevant targets under different Strategic Objectives of the Beyond 2020 instrument; (ii) coordinating with other subsidiary bodies, IOMC organizations and beyond (e.g. the convention secretariats); (iii) monitoring and evaluating the progress against the indicators; and (iv) making recommendations to the ICCM.
Agenda Item 3- Discussion on the Proposal

Review the following:

A. Key general considerations in moving forward

B. Proposed approach
   i. At ICCM5
   ii. Options for the process to determine next steps
Agenda Item 3

A. Key general considerations in moving forward

i. The emerging policy issues process has been useful in raising profile of issues on the international stage.

ii. There is a need to continue many of the efforts on emerging policy issues and other issues of concern in moving forward and assess current status.

iii. Progress to date has been variable across the issues. There is a need to be flexible so that a decision may be taken on an issue by issue basis (i.e. no blanket decision).

iv. The path forward must stimulate ownership for implementation and action in moving forward for the particular emerging policy issue and / or other issue of concern.

v. The decision-making on the future of the emerging policy issues and other issues of concern will be transparent.

vi. The International Conference is the appropriate body to take decisions on the future of the current emerging policy issues and other issues of concern.
Agenda Item 3

B. Proposed approach

i. At ICCM5: The ICCM5 should agree to an omnibus resolution on the emerging policy issues and other issues of concern that:
   
i. Recognizes the progress on the emerging policy issues and other issues of concern under SAICM to date;
   
ii. Highlights any immediate and specific priority actions, as appropriate, to ensure that efforts and momentum continue where necessary and appropriate;
   
iii. Sets out a process to determine next steps on the existing emerging policy issues and issues of concern under the beyond 2020 instrument (see possible options set out in (ii) below).
   
iv. Requests the next session of the International Conference [ICCM6] to deliberate on and determine the path forward on the emerging policy issues and other issues of concern in the beyond 2020 instrument.
Agenda Item 3

B. Proposed approach

ii. Options for the process to determine next steps

**OPTION 1**

a) Proposals to be submitted on each emerging policy issue or other issue of concern six months before the following session of the International Conference [ICCM6] for consideration at that meeting.

b) The proposals will include: (i) workplans; (ii) proposal for issue-specific goals and indicator(s) in the new instrument; and / or (iii) review according to the modalities established for the new beyond 2020 instrument.

c) Should no proposal be submitted, the next International Conference [ICCM6] may decide to discontinue the Emerging Policy Issue or other issues of concern.

**OPTION 2**

a) Establish a time-bound group for each issue and agree on and submit work plans at least 6 months prior to the following session of the International Conference [ICCM6].

b) The main functions would be: (i) developing and coordinating the implementation of a workplan, including propose indicators for relevant targets under different Strategic Objectives of the Beyond 2020 instrument; (ii) coordinating with other subsidiary bodies, IOMC organizations and beyond (e.g. the convention secretariats); (iii) monitoring and evaluating the progress against the indicators; and (iv) making recommendations to the ICCM.
Agenda item 4 - Next steps

- Electronic input until 21 December 2020: Co-facilitators proposal (Section IV)
  - Please use the template provided for input. If you prefer to submit PDF, in parallel please send a WORD file to Secretariat.
  - If possible, we encourage the participants of this group to have discussions with colleagues in your region/sector to combine ideas and interests in joint submissions that will make it easier for both the secretariat and cofacilitators to prepare for the next meeting.

- 8 January 2021: Co-facilitators to release a draft VWG3 outcome document on (i) Annex B and the process for future issues; and (ii) addressing current emerging policy issues.

- Next meeting Monday 18 January 2021 14:00 - 16:00 (CET)
  - Final discussion on Outcome Document for VWG3: Annex B and proposal for current emerging policy issues.