VIRTUAL WORKING GROUP ON TARGETS, INDICATORS AND MILESTONES

THIRD REQUEST FOR ELECTRONIC FEEDBACK

**Group Mandate:** make proposals that progress work on this topic in lead-up to IP4, building on the outcome of the Technical Working Group as presented in meeting documents SAICM/IP.4/3 and SAICM/IP.4/INF/15. Specific tasks include:

(i) Finalize the targets proposal currently set out in SAICM/IP.4/3, with a view to enable multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral commitment and action, where appropriate;

(ii) Develop a set of recommendations for a process to establish indicators and milestones for finalized targets.

**Instructions for providing electronic feedback:**

Please provide electronic feedback on:

**Part (i)** General comments and proposed text edits to existing text on targets under Strategic Objective C;

**Part (ii)** General comments on co-facilitators proposal for a process to establish indicators and milestones.

Please refer the following meeting documents for more detailed information on each target:

- **SAICM/IP.4/3** - Proposed targets prepared by the Technical Working Group on targets, indicators and milestones for SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020
- **SAICM/IP.4/INF/15** - Supplementary information on proposed targets prepared by the Technical Working Group on targets, indicators and milestones for SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020

Please submit your feedback, if possible in a [Microsoft Word file](mailto:saicm.chemicals@un.org) to the SAICM Secretariat at saicm.chemicals@un.org, with a copy to delfina.cuglievan@un.org by 21 December 2020.

**Commented [A1]:** We think it is fundamental to keep the brackets throughout the original documents (SAICM/IP.4/2, SAICM/IP.4/3 and SAICM/IP.4/INF/15), inasmuch as the current mandate of the VWGs does not encompass negotiations on the texts under analysis. Suggestions for excluding/including terms or excerpts do not imply removing brackets from the original texts or modifying them at this point, inasmuch as the current mandate of the VWGs does not encompass negotiations on the texts under analysis. For that reason, this type of suggestion only conveys national opinions and preferences about the vocabulary and ideas under discussion. This explanation refers to all similar proposals throughout this document.
PART (i) Provide a) general comments and b) proposed text edits on existing text for targets under Strategic Objective C

*please try to insert comments in revisions mode below*

**Strategic Objective C:** Issues of concern [that warrant [global][and][joint] action] are identified, prioritized and addressed.

**Considerations:** Intended to cover the need to effectively identify, select and address issues of concern that warrant global action. The intention is to cover topics similar in nature to those covered by the Strategic Approach, emerging policy issues and other issues of concern, as well as topics such as managing specific chemicals, the burden of disease and financing. There may be a need to develop and identify the criteria for issues of concern.

(extracted from SAICM/IP.4/3)

**Target C.1:** Programmes of work including timelines are established, adopted and implemented for identified and prioritized issues of concern. (original)

**Target ALT. C1:** As an ongoing process, stakeholders nominate, and the international conference adopts issues of concern with specific goals. (extracted from SAICM/IP.4/3)

From our perspective, Target C.1 is more accurate, although both proposals entail some obstacles in terms of monitoring. In this regard, we would like to suggest the inclusion of “and prioritized” before “issues of concern” to reduce the scope of the target and facilitate the monitoring of progress in implementation. Indeed, in our opinion, Target C.1 and Target ALT. C1 present different ideas. While the former is focused on the identification and implementation of issues of concern, the latter stresses the role of stakeholders and the adoption of issues of concern by ICCMs, ideas that are also important.

**Target C.2:** Information on the properties and risk management of chemicals across the supply chain and the chemical contents of products is available to all to enable informed decisions. (original)

**Target ALT. C2:** As an ongoing process, stakeholders implement workplans for adopted issues of concern and report on progress achieving their goals, such that the use of sustainable solutions is maximized and significant negative impacts on human health and the environment are prevented or minimized. (extracted from SAICM/IP.4/3)

Although the proposed Target ALT.C2 is broader, we prefer the wording of Target C.2 (original), inasmuch as it encompasses more relevant aspects and seems more feasible from our perspective.
PART (ii) General comments on co-facilitators proposal for a process to establish indicators and milestones

We think the proposal should be submitted to the Bureau of ICCMS so that regions and other stakeholders can hold further consultations on the matter, especially on the creation of a group of experts and related aspects (participation, mandate and methodology of work, for example). From our perspective, as a first step, it is fundamental to discuss the very nature of this group of expert (if it is an open-ended, ad hoc or subsidiary group) and which institution should be responsible for taking the decision to create it.