

**1st Meeting of the Intersessional Process on the Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste
Beyond 2020.**

Brasilia 7-9 February 2017

General Statement on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)

Plenary Session

Thank you much Madam co-chair

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the countries included in the Latin American and Caribbean Group.

The GRULAC congratulates Brazil for the outstanding organization of this first intersessional meeting, especially the guiding role undertaken by the Co-chairs, and the members of the SAICM secretariat who made possible this rich and successful exchange between all the stakeholders and sectors in anticipation to reach the goals proposed in relation the Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste Beyond 2020.

Being more specific GRULAC welcomes the adoption of the Resolution “The role of the health sector in the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management towards the 2020 goal and beyond” by the Executive Board of the World Health Organization.

In this regard, GRULAC recognizes the need for WHO to engage deeply into the work of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.

The WHO roadmap is received by the countries in our region as a concrete instrument to guide and optimize the work of the health sector on the chemicals management agenda and GRULAC hopes this decision will be approved by the 70th World Health Assembly, next May.

GRULAC sees the need to have language interpretation in the Intersessional Process Meetings in the future. The service of simultaneous interpretation represents an invaluable contribution for the adequate follow-up and comprehension of the issues discussions in plenary.

Also, we call for the appropriate allocation of financial resources in order to ensure the participation of as many Latin American and Caribbean members as possible. Stressing the importance in terms of the proposed follow up meetings and calendar towards ICCM5.

Finally, GRULAC would like recall on the universal, inclusive and integrated approach nature of the 2030 Agenda. It is important that in the work ahead, any linkages made to the agenda recognizes the indivisibility and profound interdependency among all SDG and targets.

Thank you very much. And muito obrigada Brasil pela hospitalidade.