

**AFRICAN GROUP STATEMENT AT THE THIRD MEETING OF THE  
INTERSESSIONAL PROCESS CONSIDERING THE STRATEGIC  
APPROACH AND THE SOUND MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS  
AND WASTE BEYOND 2020,  
30 SEPTEMBER TO 4 OCTOBER 2019, BANGKOK, THAILAND**

**01 OCTOBER 2019**

**Thank you Co-chair**

On behalf of the African region, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the President of ICCM5, the Bureau and Co-Chairs of the Intersessional Process, for your leadership, commitment and excellent guidance in the Intersessional process. I would also, like to thank the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand for hosting this important event in this beautiful city of Bangkok and the warm hospitality accorded to us since our arrival, and the Secretariat for the logistical arrangements.

**Co-chair**

The African Region raises its voice to appreciate what SAICM has done and the achievements attained since Dubai 2006. During the said period, the region implemented various enabling projects which led to establishment of legal frame works, institutional arrangements, capacity assessments and capacity building and other activities in our countries. All these projects were aimed at establishing and strengthening capacities for sound management of chemicals towards the 2020 SAICM goal.

## **Co-chair**

The Region has noted that there are inadequate structures to enable SAICM decisions to be taken to the highest level of the United Nations General Assembly, leading to inadequate political will in some of our countries towards implementation of the same. This has further resulted in allocation of insufficient financial resources towards the sound management of chemicals and waste in our countries.

## **Co-chair**

The African region appreciates and recognizes the good work that has been done in the preparation of the meeting documents for the third intercessional process for the strategic approach and the sound management of chemicals and wastes beyond 2020. However, it is important for us that targets, indicators and milestones are not just about process but actually address actions to reduce harm in our countries. Specifically, the African region will appreciate if the following issues are deliberated further:

- a) To have robust private sector engagement in the chemicals and waste management process, particularly for the financial mechanism at global level as a means for sustainable sound management of chemicals and waste. The African region proposes that the private sector sets aside funds from their turnover towards establishing a fund for the sound management of chemicals and waste.
- b) Continued technology transfer and financial support, expertise and capacity building including concrete and timed actions on issues of concerns and emerging issues.

- c) To raise the political priority of the chemicals agenda, it is important to adopt a road map for an enabling framework at this meeting and continue working on it intersessionally.

### **Co-chair**

The African group is looking forward to an effective Science-Policy Interface framework for sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020, through developing efficient multi-sectoral, and transparent actions. The African Region awaits with anticipation the UNEP report on strengthening the Science-Policy Interface in line with the UNEA Resolution. Furthermore, the region considers that continued cooperation among the IOMC agencies is central to sound management of chemicals and wastes.

In conclusion, as we approach the ICCM5 time line we pledge our continued participation to the process and assure you of our commitment and cooperation.

We wish all delegates fruitful deliberations for the entire four days in this beautiful city of Bangkok.

**Thank you Co-chair!**