



**Strategic Approach
to International
Chemicals Management**

**Open-ended Working Group of the International Conference
on Chemicals Management
Third meeting
Montevideo, 2–4 April 2019**

Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1

Opening of the meeting

1. The third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the International Conference on Chemicals Management will be opened at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 2 April 2019, at the Antel Arena, Montevideo.
2. Opening and welcoming statements will be delivered.

Item 2

Organizational matters

(a) Adoption of the agenda

3. The Conference may wish to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda (SAICM/OEWG.3/1).

(b) Organization of work

4. The rules of procedure of the International Conference on Chemicals Management will apply mutatis mutandis to the proceedings of the Working Group. Accordingly, the presiding officer of the Working Group will be Ms. Gertrud Sahler (Germany), President of the fifth session of the Conference. One of the Vice-Presidents of the Bureau of the Conference, Mr. Szymon Domagalski (Poland), will act as Rapporteur.
5. The Working Group may wish to meet in plenary from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. each day, subject to adjustments as necessary, and to establish smaller groups to discuss some agenda items in more detail.

Item 3

The Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020

(a) Independent evaluation of the Strategic Approach for the period 2006–2015

6. An independent evaluation of the Strategic Approach for the period 2006–2015 has been undertaken in accordance with the terms of reference set out in the annex to Conference resolution IV/4. In the same resolution, the Conference directed the Open-ended Working Group to consider the conclusions of the independent evaluation and any recommendations identified by the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 for consideration by the Conference at its fifth session.
7. In line with paragraph 7 of the terms of reference, the report considers the following:
 - (a) Impact of the Strategic Approach;

- (b) Strengths, weaknesses and gaps in implementing the Strategic Approach, taking into account the eleven basic elements identified in the overall orientation and guidance;
- (c) Progress towards targets;
- (d) Institutional arrangements within the voluntary multisectoral and multi-stakeholder approach of the Strategic Approach.

8. The executive summary of the independent evaluation is set out in document SAICM/OEWG.3/3, and the full evaluation report is set out in document SAICM/OEWG.3/INF/1.

9. The independent evaluator will present the results of the independent evaluation report. Participants may wish to review the independent evaluation report and to consider further the evaluation results in the related discussions under agenda item 3 (b) (i).

(b) Considerations for the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020

(i) Preparation of recommendations for the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management

10. At the end of the second meeting of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020, drawing attention to the need to make further progress, all the regions and sectors requested the co-chairs of the intersessional process to develop a paper for submission to the Open-ended Working Group at its third meeting to be used as a basis for discussion. The paper is set out in document SAICM/OEWG.3/4. Annotations to the paper prepared by the co-chairs, providing further background information, are set out in document SAICM/OEWG.3/INF/2.

11. The co-chairs developed the paper in consultation with the Bureau and with the support of the secretariat. The paper is based on the outcomes of the first and second meetings of the intersessional process and takes into account stakeholder submissions as well as the outcomes of the regional meetings.

12. The Working Group may wish to review the paper and consider the desired outcomes of the fifth session of the Conference in relation to the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020. Furthermore, the Working Group may wish to assign any related tasks to the co-chairs of the intersessional process in the lead-up to the fifth session of the Conference.

(ii) Timetable for the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020

13. In preparing for the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, participants may wish to consider the timing of the third meeting of the intersessional process and the remaining regional meetings.

14. In line with resolution IV/4, participants may also wish to consider the need to call an additional, fourth, meeting of the intersessional process to be held prior to the fifth session of the Conference, subject to the availability of resources.

Item 4

Progress towards the achievement of the 2020 overall objective of the sound management of chemicals

15. Agenda item 4 includes five sub-items relating to the progress and gaps in the implementation of the Strategic Approach: progress report for the period 2014–2016; overall orientation and guidance towards the 2020 goal; emerging policy issues and other issues of concern; implementation of the health sector strategy; and financing of the Strategic Approach.

16. In line with paragraph 24 of the Overarching Policy Strategy regarding the functions of the Conference, the Working Group may wish to consider the overall progress achieved in the implementation of the Strategic Approach, and make recommendations to the Conference at its fifth session.

17. In discussing the agenda sub-items, the Working Group may also wish to reflect on the experiences and lessons learned to date with the aim of supporting the decision-making process for the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.

(a) Progress report for the period 2014–2016

18. At its second session, the Conference adopted modalities for reporting on progress in the implementation of the Strategic Approach (SAICM/ICCM.2/15, annex III). Those modalities include 20 indicators for reporting by stakeholders on progress that reflect the subject areas of the Overarching Policy Strategy: risk reduction; knowledge and information; governance; capacity-building and technical cooperation; and illegal international traffic. Subsequently, the secretariat prepared a baseline estimate report for the period 2006–2008 on the basis of the 20 indicators, a first progress report for the period 2009–2011 and a second progress report for the period 2011–2013.

19. At its fourth session, in its resolution IV/1, on implementation towards the achievement of the 2020 goal, the Conference requested the secretariat to develop a third progress report for the period 2014–2016 and an analysis of the 20 indicators of progress for consideration by the Open-ended Working Group at its third meeting. Accordingly, the Working Group will have before it a summary report on progress in the implementation of the Strategic Approach for the period 2014–2016 and an analysis of the 20 indicators of progress (SAICM/OEWG.3/5).

20. Furthermore, the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) has provided an update report on activities undertaken in support of the Strategic Approach (SAICM/OEWG.3/INF/6). Under this agenda item, the IOMC participating organizations will be invited to provide updates to the Working Group on progress within their organizations towards the sound management of chemicals.

21. The Working Group may wish to welcome the progress report for the period 2014–2016 developed by the secretariat and to request the secretariat to develop a fourth report for the period 2017–2019 for submission to the Conference at its fifth session.

22. The Working Group may also wish to consider arrangements for the development of a progress report for the period 2017–2019 and approaches for increasing timely reporting with the intention of increasing overall reporting in the future.

(b) Overall orientation and guidance towards the 2020 goal

23. The Working Group will have before it a report by the secretariat on progress in implementing the overall orientation and guidance for achieving the 2020 goal of sound management of chemicals (SAICM/OEWG.3/INF/5).

24. The Working Group may wish to take note of the progress achieved under the overall orientation and guidance and provide guidance to stakeholders in reaching the 2020 goal.

(c) Emerging policy issues and other issues of concern

25. One of the functions of the Conference, as set out in paragraph 24 (j) of the Overarching Policy Strategy, is to focus attention and call for appropriate action on emerging policy issues as they arise and to forge consensus on priorities for cooperative action. In that regard, the Conference has called for appropriate action on six emerging policy issues: lead in paint, chemicals in products, hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products, nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials, endocrine-disrupting chemicals, and environmentally persistent pharmaceutical pollutants. The emerging policy issues process demonstrates the capacity available and broad scope of activities that can be undertaken under the Strategic Approach, which, given its non-binding nature, provides a forum to address the risks of and response measures to address such issues and leads to increased awareness and responses at the national, regional and global levels. Stakeholders have also requested that action be taken on perfluorinated sulfonate and highly hazardous pesticides.

26. The Working Group will have before it a compilation of information prepared by the secretariat on progress on emerging policy issues and other issues of concern (SAICM/OEWG.3/6). The Working Group will also have before it an information document providing additional detailed information on the emerging policy issues, prepared by the relevant participating organizations of IOMC (SAICM/OEWG.3/INF/9).

27. The Working Group may wish to invite the respective IOMC participating organizations playing a leading role to present oral reports on each of the emerging policy issues; to review progress made on each issue; to propose strategies to foster enhanced coordination, collaboration and cooperation among relevant stakeholders; and to consider recommendations on the issues, as necessary, in the lead-up to 2020.

28. In addition, the Working Group may wish to reflect on the experiences and lessons learned to date on the emerging policy issues and other issues of concern with the aim of supporting the

decision-making process of the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020, in particular with respect to effectively identifying, prioritizing and addressing issues of global concern beyond 2020.

(d) Implementation of the health sector strategy

29. The World Health Organization (WHO) has provided information to the Working Group on the WHO Chemicals Road Map and the WHO Global Chemicals and Health Network (SAICM/OEWG.3/INF/10). The Working Group may wish to take note of the progress achieved in the implementation of the health sector strategy, including the reports of WHO on the matter.

(e) Financing of the Strategic Approach

30. The Quick Start Programme has contributed substantially to building and strengthening capacity in developing countries and countries with economies in transition by providing seed money for specific activities that were essential to supporting the identification of capacity needs and establishing basic capacity for further implementation towards attaining the objectives of the Strategic Approach. The results of Quick Start Programme projects provide an opportunity to identify good practices and lessons learned and subsequently to share them and avoid duplication of effort, maximize the use of existing resources and share the knowledge that has been produced by the different projects.

31. The Working Group will have before it a report by the secretariat on the Quick Start Programme and its Trust Fund (SAICM/OEWG.3/7). The Working Group may wish to welcome the project results of the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund.

32. The Working Group will also have before it several information documents related to the financing of the Strategic Approach, including a report of the Executive Director on evaluation of the integrated approach on financing for the sound management of chemicals and waste (SAICM/OEWG.3/INF/11); a report on the Special Programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM/OEWG.3/INF/12); and a report of the Global Environment Facility (SAICM/OEWG.3/INF/13).

Item 5

Planned activities and draft budget of the secretariat for the period 2019–2020

33. In its resolution IV/5, the Conference requested the secretariat to provide interim information to the Working Group at its third meeting on its activities, staffing and budget. Accordingly, the Working Group will have before it a report by the secretariat on its activities, staffing and budget (SAICM/OEWG.3/8).

34. In the same resolution, the Conference directed the Working Group to consider changes in budget priorities and delegated authority to the Working Group to take a decision, if absolutely necessary, on increasing the overall size of the budget until 2020.

35. The Working Group may wish to consider the proposal for the period 2019–2020, while recognizing that the activities of the secretariat have increased in line with the demands associated with servicing the intersessional process.

Item 6

Preparations for the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management

36. Paragraph 25 of the Overarching Policy Strategy provides for the fifth session of the Conference to be held in 2020 unless otherwise decided by the Conference. The Overarching Policy Strategy and resolution I/1 called for sessions of the Conference, where appropriate, to be held back-to-back with meetings of the governing bodies of relevant intergovernmental organizations in order to enhance synergies and cost-effectiveness and to promote the multisectoral nature of the Strategic Approach.

37. The Government of Germany has kindly offered to host the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management in Bonn, Germany, from 5 to 9 October 2020. The Government of Germany will be invited to provide information related to planning for the fifth session of the Conference.

38. The Working Group will have before it a note by the secretariat on preparations for the fifth session of the Conference (SAICM/OEWG.3/INF/14).

Item 7

Other matters

39. The Open-ended Working Group may wish to consider other matters raised during the meeting.

Item 8

Adoption of the report of the meeting

40. The Open-ended Working Group may wish to consider and adopt the report on the work of its third meeting.

Item 9

Closure of the meeting

41. It is expected that the meeting will be closed by 6 p.m. on Thursday, 4 April 2019.
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