

Submission of the EU/MS to the call of ICCM5-President Gertrud Sahler to stakeholders for written submissions, containing inputs and views on key elements of a possible ICCM5 High-Level Declaration

The EU/MS support a high-level outcome at ICCM5 in the form of a high-level declaration (HLD) that highlights the resolution of ICCM5 on the framework for Chemicals and Waste Management beyond 2020.

A HLD is an opportunity to raise political awareness for SMCW, for a broadened ownership and to strengthen commitment and participation.

With regard to the questions in the call, the EU/MS would like to share their view and propose concrete elements for consideration of the informal drafting groups as follows:

The framework for SMCW beyond 2020 is an opportunity to raise political awareness for SMCW, for a broadened ownership and to strengthen commitment and participation

1. What would you consider the most important aspects and key messages for strengthening the sound management of chemicals and waste and political commitment for a just and resilient world that require anchoring in an HLD?

The HLD should

- **Adopt the ambitious vision, strategic goals and targets** covering chemicals throughout their life cycle and waste **to implement the improved enabling framework and contribute to a more resilient world.**
- **Highlight** that SMCW supports:
 - the implementation of many of the SDGs of the **UN 2030 Agenda** for Sustainable Development, including for poverty eradication, sustainable economic prosperity in all countries. Delivery in SMCW is essential for achievement of the agenda 2030.
 - the **sustainable consumption and production**, the transition to **circular economy** and **phase out of hazardous chemicals**
 - the development of green jobs and **economic and green recovery in the current context of COVID-19**

Recall

- that the Dubai **Declaration** on International Chemicals Management **was agreed in 2006 by Ministers from more than 100 countries**
- that the 2020 goal set in **target 12.4 of the Agenda 2030 is not fully meet, and learn from past experience we are committed to increase our effort to achieve this target in an accelerated time.**
- **that progress has been** made in sound management of chemicals and waste (SMCW) since 2006, but that it is uneven and not sufficient
- that there is a **large and increasing production** and trade to many hazardous chemicals of national and international concern

- **that unsound chemicals and waste management** affect human health and the environment such as biodiversity, ecosystems services such as pollination, climate regulation, soil fertility and food production as well as our resilience to pandemics
- that success of the strategic objectives will depend on the implementation of multi-sectoral policies, plans and programs from individual countries related to the sustainable management of chemicals and waste

Recognize

- **remaining challenges** such as: the lack of **national legislation and institutional capacity** for SMCW in many countries, and lack of **GHS implementation** in national legislations that no chemicals should go to the market without knowledge based on adequate data, the importance of **access to chemical information**, and the possibility to **act on hazardous substances or issues** which cause harm to human health and/or the environment and warrants global action through appropriate commitments;
- that for some challenges/issues **only coordinated international action** can address it effectively

Acknowledge

- the efficient sharing of approaches, resources, possible solutions at **ICCM5** and outcome of its work
- the relevance of the **precautionary principle** in SMCW
- that it is especially important to **protect vulnerable groups including children and the unborn child** from unsound CWM
- that **ecosystems need protection from failure** in chemicals and waste management
- **the human right to know, to get information**
- **the responsibility of industry in chemicals safety**, especially in providing data and information.

- **Urges** for implementation of the MEAs at all levels
- **Reaffirm** the integrated approach to financing
- **Underline** the role of existing financial instruments –GEF and other multilateral, regional and bilateral sources of financing, as well as the Special Programme.

The HLD should furthermore

- **Approve the new instrument** for the sound management of chemicals and waste that builds on SAICM and to commit to implement it
- **Invite IGOs/IOMC** to actively engage in the implementation of the new beyond 2020 improved enabling framework to achieve common targets and invite **them to take related decisions for enhanced implementation**
- **Call for fair and safe international trade of chemicals and waste**
- support **equal participation of men and women** in making decisions in chemicals and waste management
- **Support an open, participatory manner in the implementation** of the framework for SMCW continued and enhanced working together for the safe management of chemicals and waste

2. What should the scope, key elements and messages of the ICCM5 HLD cover?

Considering, inter alia:

- The current context (COVID-19, economic and green recovery interventions, and the need to make significant progress on SMCW).
- The enhanced contribution of the SMCW to implement the 2030 Agenda and address present and future needs.
- Progress in efforts undertaken to date, and critical gaps to be addressed.

The High Level Declaration should

- **be short, powerful**, and recall **the Dubai Declaration** adopted in 2006 **with a broader scope that includes waste and a timeless vision**
- **acknowledge**
 - that safe management and sustainable use of chemicals and waste benefits everyone and the responsibility to achieve sound management of chemicals and waste thus is a **joint responsibility** of all stakeholders
 - that the beyond 2020 framework should capture and address the current and future challenges, and support both **national capacity building** and further international actions.
 - that the beyond 2020 instrument **complements the work of MEAs** by filling their gaps to fully protect human health, biodiversity, ecosystems services and the environment from the adverse effects of chemicals throughout their life cycle and waste and **supports the green transition**
 - the **value of a multi stakeholders and multi sectoral and participatory approach**
 - the **leading role of UN organizations** in the field of the sound management of chemicals and waste
 - an **enhanced cooperation**, within their mandates, between relevant governing bodies within the UN system and others, including chemicals and waste related conventions, organizations and stakeholders is needed to avoid any duplication of work and saving costs
 - **Note the discussion under UNEA on SPI and call for establishment of an independent SPI that would serve the whole C&W cluster including the Beyond-2020 instrument and having its own governing body**, bringing together all countries with a common interest in improving scientific knowledge on chemicals and waste and undertake assessments based on best practices, tackling cross-cutting issues that none of the current instruments/bodies are able to address to reach the vision, objectives and targets of the improved enabling framework and cooperation with other scientific committees to international agreements
- **Commit firmly to**
 - **implement chemicals and waste related MEAs and recognize their role in contributing to the vision and objectives**
 - **respect human rights and guiding principles** (precaution, prevention, polluter-pays, and restoration)
 - **strive for achieving the vision**
 - **implement the strategic objectives and targets and to monitor progress made on their achievement**

- **implement the integrated approach** to financing and what has been agreed under the beyond 2020 framework regarding financing
- **mainstream** the sound management of chemicals and waste into national and/or regional policies and programmes related , i.e. to human health, environment, agriculture, biodiversity, ecosystems services, workers, human rights, circular economy, resource efficiency
- **mobilise** financing including from public and private sectors
- **take full advantage of synergies** with Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm and the Minamata Convention and other relevant instruments
- **invite endorsement** by UNGA would ensure that the beyond 2020 improved enabling framework is getting the same political legitimacy as the 2020-goal of SAICM. A UNGA resolution would also ensure **broader ownership among IGOs**

3. How should the ICCM5 HLD be structured, including participation, responsibilities, and processes to address current challenges?

Given the multilateral nature of both SAICM and its successor, the **participation of ministers, high level representatives of UN organizations, civil society and the private sector from health, labour, environment, agriculture, biodiversity** and other sectors is encouraged in a High level segment where the HLD is expected to be proposed.

The HLD should

- call relevant sectors such as biodiversity, health, and climate to work in close cooperation and foster synergies to achieve mutual benefits
- reaffirm their governments' commitments to **strengthen coordination between sectors and stakeholders** on sound management of chemicals and waste, and ensure an open, transparent, and sustainable process of meeting the post-2020 strategic goals.