



Inputs of the Islamic Republic of Iran on elements and messages to be included in a possible HLD of ICCM-5

* There is a broad global agreement that good governance structure of the countries can have an essential role in ESM of chemicals and waste. Post 2020 SAICM regime should take efficient and promoting means to assist countries including developing countries for the implementation of SAICM particularly for improvement of their good governance in the field of chemicals and wastes.

* Pursuant to outbreak of COVID-19 many countries are suffering from insufficient resources and sinking budgets for ESM of chemicals and wastes. They are even under hard pressure to implement their binding obligations under certain MEAs instruments. Post 2020 SAICM regime should take into account this challenges arisen from this pandemic and explore ways and means to help developing countries to address it.

* COVID-19 pandemic has caused increasing production and use of plastics as PPE (personal Protective Equipment) which in turn has led to creating a huge amount of plastic waste and medical wastes. In this regard and considering long term effects of outbreak of COVID-19, special attention should be paid to this issue in any post 2020 SAICM regime.

* The growth in chemicals consumption is mainly occurring in developing countries and these countries are the main target for export of hazardous wastes, which becomes heavy burden and challenges to them. Therefore, developing countries should unequivocally be supported through capacity building, funding and transfer of technology enabling them to tackle those serious challenges and strengthen ESM of chemicals and wastes in these countries.

* Acknowledging SAICM has provided strong policy guidance in areas that are beyond the scope of current MEAs (Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm and

Minamata conventions), it is obvious that since its formation in 2006, funding through SAICM for ESM of chemicals and wastes has been very limited and insufficient which is vital for the implementation of SAICM provisions.

* SAICM attaches a paramount importance of keeping its inclusive culture in terms of stakeholders in beyond 2020 era. To engage all relevant stakeholders, it is essential to maintain SAICM's voluntary nature as a multi- and cross- sectoral and participatory fora.

* Funding available under SAICM's Quick Start Program (QSP) is to help developing countries with implementing the Overarching Policy Strategy. The Programme has a limited mandate in that it provides funding only for enabling activities. However, the level of funding is low and the voluntary nature of the fund brings unpredictability to the scheme. The GEF funding has been criticized for being too little and in some cases has involves political consideration for allocations, and finally the available resources for Trust Fund of the Special Programme is limited.

* Taking into account the requirements for developing post 2020 SAICM regime and a decade ahead to reach the targets of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, it is necessary to increase high level political support for chemicals and waste and identify the gaps and strengths in the current international chemical management framework of SAICM.

-There is an agreement that the post 2020 SAICM regime should build on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the sustainable development goals. One important reason for this argument is because SAICM may benefit from the funding sources and expertise of the United Nations system that can be allocated for implementation of the 2030 Agenda. However, those funding resources and expertise needs to be clearly elaborated because it can encourage stakeholders in particular state parties to incorporate SDGs into their national policies in relation with SAICM and chemicals and wastes area.

* Safe technologies and alternatives for ESM of chemicals must be provided to the developing countries in an open way and affordable price. This would help to close the gap in sound chemicals and waste management between developed and developing countries. As chemical production shifts toward developing countries, policies need to be forged that encourage transferring

to developing countries non-confidential technological approaches that are used in developed countries to minimize release of pollutants.

Technology plays a critical role in meeting the obligations and requirements. Implementation of policies for the sound management of chemicals in many developing countries will require access to cleaner technologies. In this regard, developed States should pressures chemical companies to facilitate transfer of technology to developing countries particularly in the context of industry voluntary Responsible Care programme.

* Emerging issues related to the global production, use, and trade of chemicals are covered by SAICM. Some of these issues such as nano technology martial, electric and electronic and plastic wastes are also addressed in existing MEAs instruments including BRS convention. In those fields, there should be an efficient synergy between emerging issues in SAICM and MEAs instruments to take advantage of the strengths of each other and identify and address the gaps.

* While having a national level of implementation is essential for achieving goals of ESM beyond 2020, in order to facilitate collaboration and overcome the shortcomings of implementation at the national level, a strengthened, comprehensive and functioning international level of implementation is also highly needed to address gaps and engage all stakeholders in the value chain.

* In the light of rapidly worldwide spreading of chemical manufactures and use of chemicals, including the trend of transferring of sizeable chemical production facilities to developing countries, the challenges of sound chemicals management are evolving. Therefore, SAICM's arrangements and burdens should be consistent with the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities" of States.

* Removal of restrictions on access to international donor funds for some countries will both encourage political commitment and strengthen the effectiveness of the national focal points role in those countries.