

Dear SAICM Secretariat,

We are writing in relation to the Call for stakeholder submissions on essential elements for a possible ICCM5 High-level Declaration (HLD) on the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020. In this regard, we send some general comments to the questions indicated in the aforementioned document:

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?

In this regard, we consider that a key point that should continue to be promoted in the approach beyond 2020 is the application of the GHS, since it is configured as the starting point for a correct rational management of chemical products.

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

As we mentioned previously, those activities and actions that promote the beginning towards a sound management of chemical products and waste such as the GHS, the carrying out of inventories, among others, should be promoted to a greater extent, also taking into account the current situation, it is necessary to make precision in these aspects, in order to address priority issues such as the increase in the use of disinfectant products that generate a greater exposure and therefore a greater risk associated with said products, as well as a greater generation of waste related to activities prevention and treatment of COVID 19.

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

We consider that the HLD should be structured in the following general way: in the first instance we suggest reaffirming our commitment to the rational management of chemicals and wastes at all possible levels, then indicating the points that we consider are still pending and those previous that should continue to be promoted (including the GHS and inventories in the matter of chemical products, as mentioned in the first question), finally identify the institutions through which the fulfillment of said pending or prioritized issues could be promoted (For example, the Intergovernmental Network of Chemicals and Waste of Latin America and the Caribbean, of which we are part, as well as most of the countries in the region).

Finally, regarding a possible nomination for our participation in the informal group, unfortunately we inform you that we will not be able to participate directly from the mentioned group.

Best regards



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