

**Fourth meeting of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 (IP4)**

Bucharest, Romania, 29 August – 2 September 2022

Nairobi, Kenya, 27 February – 3 March 2023\*

**Proposal to include Implementation Programmes in the “Beyond 2020” framework to help achieve “Beyond 2020” strategic objectives and targets**

**Submission by the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals**

**Note by the secretariat**

Attached to the present note is a submission by the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC). It is reproduced as received by the secretariat, without formal editing.

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\* The fourth meeting of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 (IP4) was held from 29 August to 2 September 2022 in Bucharest, Romania. The meeting was adjourned on 2 September 2022 and will be resumed from 27 February to 3 March 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya.

## Proposal to include Implementation Programmes in the “Beyond 2020” framework to help achieve “Beyond 2020” strategic objectives and targets

### 1. Rationale

The IOMC proposes that a set of inclusive Implementation Programmes is established under the “Beyond 2020” Framework which engage, and are owned by all stakeholders. The main purpose of the Programmes would be to strengthen implementation of the Framework through inclusive stakeholder and sectoral engagement and action, knowledge-sharing, multi-stakeholder collaboration, and mobilization of additional resources. The proposed Implementation Programmes directly link to, and support implementation of the Strategic Objective and Targets featured in Section IV of the *IP Co-Chairs single consolidated document* ([SAICM/IP.4/10](#)).<sup>1</sup> They would also be consistent with the three dimensions of integrated chemical and waste management presented by the IOMC at IP4 in Bucharest ([SAICM/IP.4/INF/18](#)).

Three Implementation Programmes are proposed:

- a. Developing integrated national chemical management systems and capacities in all countries and regions
- b. Integrating sound chemical and waste management in chemical intensive economic sectors and value chains
- c. Integrating sound chemicals and waste management within sustainable development objectives and decision-processes

Strategic Objective B on knowledge generation and sharing is addressed as a cross-cutting aspect of all three Implementation Programmes, while Issues of Concerns are already addressed in the *Co-chairs Consolidated Compilation Document*.

### 2. Specific text proposal presented to IP 4.1 for consideration

The IOMC proposes to include a new sub-section A in Section VI “Mechanisms to support implementation” of the IP Co-Chairs single consolidated document with the following text:

#### A. Implementation Programmes

The Strategic Objectives and Targets of the Beyond 2020 Framework are implemented through Implementation Programmes:

- i. Strengthening national chemical management systems and capacities in all countries and regions

<sup>1</sup> Strategic objectives in the IP Co-Chairs single consolidated document (SAICM/IP.4/10 ) include the following: **A:** [Countries have] [Stakeholders have] the capacity, legal framework and institutional mechanisms in place to [support] [achieve] the [integrated] [sound] management of chemicals and [associated] waste [throughout the life cycle]. **B.** Comprehensive and sufficient knowledge, data and information are generated, available and accessible to all to enable informed decisions and actions. **C:** Issues of concern are identified, prioritized and addressed. **D.** Safer alternatives and innovative and sustainable solutions in [relevant] product value chains are in place so that benefits to human health and the environment are maximized and risks are prevented or, where not feasible, minimized. **E.** The sound management of chemicals and [associated] waste is [transparently and accountably] integrated in [all] relevant decision-processes [by stakeholders] [for] [sustainable development, financing and business]

- ii. Integrating sound chemical and waste management in chemical intensive economic sectors and value chains
- iii. Integrating sound chemicals and waste management in sustainable development objectives and decision-processes

While closely linked, each Implementation Programme has its own focus, engages relevant sectors and stakeholders, and implements activities using diverse resources and sources of financing. The Annex provides some initial suggestions for each Programme.

#### **i. Programme characteristics**

The Programmes have the following common characteristics. They shall:

- be inclusive of and engage governments, civil society, health and workers' organizations, industry and IGOs
- focus on the implementation of "Beyond 2020" strategic objectives and targets
- foster global and regional knowledge-sharing among and across stakeholders
- identify gaps and foster coordinated actions of actors along value chains and at all levels (global, regional, national, etc.)
- identify opportunities for and explore mobilization of further financial resources for implementation
- Take stock of Programme implementation and measure progress using "Beyond 2020" indicators

#### **ii. Programme governance and implementation**

Engagement and participation of a wide range of stakeholders in the Programmes is essential. Therefore, oversight of the Programmes should be performed by the ICCM. Furthermore, multi-stakeholder advisory groups could be established under each Programme to guide implementation and mobilize stakeholder commitment. Financing and technical support for the implementation of the Implementation Programmes need to come from a range of sources, including from governments, global funds, foundations, private sector and industry, financial investors, NGOs, IOMC POs, and other international and regional organizations.

### **3. Explanatory Text**

The IOMC proposal was inspired by the discussions in a multi-stakeholder IOMC "Global workshop on advancing chemical and waste management in economic sectors", 18-19 January 2023 in Paris. At the workshop, some 170 participants from governments, civil society, international organizations, academia and industry agreed that a global multi-stakeholder Implementation Programme featuring activities to foster global knowledge sharing, industry sector reviews, industry strategies and action under the "Beyond 2020" framework would be valuable. Taking into account these discussions, the IOMC deliberated on opportunities for effective implementation of the five Strategic Objectives and targets of the "Beyond 2020" framework. The IOMC came to the conclusion that it could be valuable to put in place multi-stakeholder Implementation Programmes to support implementation of the "Beyond 2020" framework.

## **Annex: Proposed Implementation Programmes: Initial Suggestions and Considerations**

### **a. Developing integrated national chemical management systems and capacities in all countries and regions**

This Programme mainly addresses the implementation of Strategic Objective A and the development of basic national and regional chemical and waste management schemes and capacities that involve key ministries and sectoral stakeholders. Its main aim is to scale-up action and enhance the coherence and complementarity of activities and outcomes, such as legal and institutional strengthening, enhanced compliance and enforcement, effective chemicals information-sharing, and awareness raising to protect human health and the environment.

Programme activities may include, but are not limited to: supporting basic chemicals legislation and cost recovery schemes to assess and manage chemicals throughout their life cycles; classification and labeling schemes based on the GHS; Pollutant Releases and Transfer Registers; environmental and health surveillance systems; preventing and managing poisonings, and advancing the use of risk assessment, risk management and reduction tools.

The Programme needs strong and coordinated participation of national governments including but not limited to Ministries of Environment, Agriculture Health, Labor, Finance etc. It also requires active engagement of other stakeholders, including workers' organizations, industry and academia. To support activities by these diverse actors predictable and reliable financing from public and private sector sources is required. The participation of multi- and bi-lateral development cooperation agencies in this Programme is essential to create synergies and foster coordination.

### **b. Integrating sound chemical and waste management in chemical intensive economic industry sectors and value chains**

This Implementation Programme mainly addresses the implementation of Strategic Objective D. The Programme aims to promote transformative changes in economic sectors value chains to help achieve sustainability and circular economy objectives. It promotes global knowledge-sharing within and across economic sectors (e.g. on good practices to share chemical information) and encourages sector strategy development and action that advance standards and guidelines and promote sound management and substitution through green and sustainable chemistry innovation. All stakeholders are invited to engage, but the Programme requires the particular engagement of economic industry sectors. It requires innovative and blended financing approaches, including from private sector investors.

Programme activities could include the preparation of baseline reviews of chemical intensive economic sectors, as well as global multi-stakeholder sector dialogues/summits that take stock of sector strategies and foster coordinated priority actions with the aim to promote system change and green and sustainable chemistry innovations, including through standards and guidelines. The Programme will consider nuances across regions and countries and take into account the specific needs of SMEs and the informal sector.

### **c. Integrating sound chemicals and waste management in sustainable development decision-objectives and processes**

This Programme mainly addresses the implementation of Strategic Objective E. It aims to ensure that sound chemical and waste management is adequately addressed in sustainable development decision processes and fora not directly engaged in chemical and waste management. These include, but are not limited to fora dealing with climate change, biodiversity, circularity and resource efficiency, education, and the world of work, health, industrial development, research and innovation, and corporate decision-making.

The Implementation Programme aims to engage with new stakeholders to mainstream chemicals and waste as a driver and core element in these agendas. This may lead to the mobilization of additional financial resources and address potential negative chemical related trade-offs across sustainable development objectives.

Activities under this Implementation Programme include nexus studies, knowledge-sharing and multi-stakeholder dialogues at the interface between chemical and waste management and important sustainable development issues; development of guidance on nexus issues, as well as capacity development of national and regional chemicals and waste stakeholders to effectively engage in relevant decision processes. Topics covered in the guidance include, amongst other, the benefits and consequences of chemicals and waste actions, and the cost of inaction for the relevant agendas. While the costs for these activities are limited, their leverage potential is significant.