

IP Co-Chairs consultation process to further develop the IP Co-Chairs single consolidated document and discuss other key issues to be considered in advance of the resumed IP4 meeting

Explanatory note

Following the online consultation on 1 November 2022, this explanatory note outlines the consultation process on the IP Co-Chairs single consolidated document and other key issues to be considered in preparation for the resumed IP4 meeting to be held from 27 February to 3 March 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya.

The IP Co-Chairs reiterate and stress that the aim of the proposed consultation process is not to change the text of the single consolidated document that is still in the process of being considered at the resumed IP4 meeting.

Rather, the Co-Chairs intent for the proposed consultation process is to assist and stimulate stakeholders to consider some strategic high-level reflections and questions in their preparatory processes for finalizing the recommended “beyond 2020” instrument/framework. The Co-Chairs also provide information on the need to consider how additional issues/aspects of a comprehensive set of recommendations to ICCM5 should be addressed, such as, transitional and implementation arrangements for the recommended “beyond 2020” instrument/framework. The Co-Chairs also note that the input from the proposed consultations will greatly assist and guide their planning of the resumed IP4 session.

This explanatory note and the slides presented at the virtual meeting held on 1 November 2022 are available [here](#) on the SAICM website. The recording of the virtual meeting can be found [here](#).

The IP Co-Chairs high-level reflections may be found on slide 3. Whilst many of the elements of a new strategic framework are now in the consolidated text, the co-chairs challenged participants to consider whether the document fulfils the new timeless vision. They also highlighted aspects including the level of detail on processes, gaps requiring additional text, the cohesiveness and internal consistency of some activities within the document as well as provision for the ability of certain elements to be amended as implementation unfolds and in response to new scientific understanding.

Guiding questions have been included in Slide 4 of the PPT accompanying this explanatory note.

As discussed at the virtual meeting on 1 November, some of the issues were not fully considered or finalized in Bucharest, such as Issues of Concern. Taking this into account, the Co-Chairs kindly request stakeholders to not provide responses that introduce new ideas or text where the discussions in Bucharest resulted in agreed text or aspects that need to be further considered at the resumed IP4 meeting. National or regional positions are also not expected during this consultation process. However, any feedback identifying gaps to be addressed and on ways to best address how the issues should be considered should be submitted.

In terms of the second part of the consultation, whilst the focus of the intersessional process has been on the text for the new “beyond 2020” instrument/framework, views are being sought on the **additional recommendations** for discussion at the resumed IP4 meeting. We already have SAICM texts such as the Overarching Policy Strategy and the Global Plan of Action. If these texts will co-exist or not with the new “beyond 2020” instrument/framework is an important decision, just as their respective procedures and budgets.

As presented during the online meeting on 1 November 2022, there are a number of issues that are not part of the single consolidated document that the intersessional process may need to consider in order to provide a comprehensive set of recommendations to ICCM5. These include

- The preparation of an overarching ICCM5 policy resolution on the name and adoption of the new “beyond 2020” instrument/framework. The new “beyond 2020” instrument/framework could be attached to it as an annex to this resolution.
- In addition, there would be a need for ICCM5 to decide how some ongoing SAICM activities and initiatives should be addressed, as well as transitional arrangements from the existing SAICM and launching implementation of the new “beyond 2020” instrument/framework. The intersessional process may wish to consider how and when these recommendations should be developed. Each of these recommendations could either be treated individually or packaged through an omnibus resolution to be submitted to ICCM5 for its consideration.

Such transitional and implementation recommendations *may* include the following issues:

- Transitioning of the Overarching Policy Strategy, Global Plan of Action and the Overall Orientation and Guidance, Rules of Procedure
- Existing Emerging Policy Issues and Issues of Concern,
- Intersessional work on indicators after ICCM5
- Relationship with the Science Policy Panel,
- Finalizing the operational modalities for and timelines for launching implementation of arrangements and initiatives of the “beyond 2020” instrument/framework.

It was acknowledged that the priority for the resumed IP4 meeting should be to finalize the text of the “beyond 2020” instrument/framework, and not much time will be available to consider other issues. However, views on the additional issues not part of the text of the “beyond 2020” instrument/framework that must be included in the comprehensive set of IP recommendations, as well as views on how these recommendations should be developed, when the work should be done and in what form should they take would be useful to have in advance of the resumed IP4 meeting. For instance, views on whether the draft resolution text should be ready for discussion at the resumed IP4, discussed between the resumed IP4 and ICCM5 or discussed at ICCM 5 only would be welcome.

In terms of the timeline for this consultation process:

1. Electronic feedback on the questions and additional recommendations for discussion listed on Slides 3, 4 and 5 provided by 2 December 2022. The Bureau members and regional focal points are requested to compile the inputs or written submissions from the respective constituents and submit to the SAICM secretariat.

2. An update on the consultation process inputs and an initial assessment of implications for the organization of the resumed IP4 will be provided by the IP Co-Chairs at the 24th ICCM5 Bureau meeting scheduled for 15 December 2022.
3. The resumed IP4 meeting documents will be posted by mid-January 2023, and virtual regional briefings will be organized by the SAICM Secretariat in January/February 2023 in consultation with the Bureau members, to present the resumed IP4 meeting documents.