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International Conference on Chemicals Management**Second session**

Geneva, 11–15 May 2009

Agenda item 4 (g)

Implementation of the Strategic Approach to International**Chemicals Management: information exchange and scientific and technical cooperation**

Performance of information clearing house functions by the secretariat for the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management

Note by the secretariat

1. The functions of the secretariat for the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management set out in paragraph 28 of the Overarching Policy Strategy of the Strategic Approach include the provision of information clearing house services. It was envisaged that such services would include the provision of advice to countries on implementation of the Strategic Approach, referral of requests for information to relevant sources and facilitation of access to information and expertise in support of specific national actions.
2. In addition, the Committee of the Whole, which met during the first session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 4 to 6 February 2006, recommended that the Strategic Approach secretariat should initiate discussions on the possible transfer of the Information Exchange Network on Capacity-building for the Sound Management of Chemicals (INFOCAP) to the secretariat for it to administer.
3. During the period since the first session of the Conference the secretariat has redeveloped its website, designed a supplementary information technology platform to support clearing house functions and undertaken consultations on the integration of INFOCAP into that platform. Much of this work has been made possible through financial support provided by the Government of Germany. The underlying philosophy in developing the clearing house is that it should be as comprehensive as the Strategic Approach itself in its scope while avoiding the duplication of existing information resources. The clearing house is therefore structured to cover all five categories of objectives set out in the Overarching Policy Strategy, with an emphasis on providing an entry point to the wealth of databases, information portals, publications and calendars of events that are already established.
4. A further dimension to the clearing house is provision for individual stakeholders such as Governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to present information on their Strategic Approach implementation activities, either through links to existing websites or, where none exist, by making the information available through the Strategic Approach clearing house. The clearing house also makes provision for regional and other groups of stakeholders to interact electronically to exchange information or develop positions on issues.

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5. The current status of the information clearing house is that the technical infrastructure is essentially ready. A copy of the home page of the clearing house in its current state of development is attached for reference in the annex to the present note. All that remains to be done for the clearing house to become operational is for the secretariat to obtain the staff resources required to populate the clearing house with links and other data that are sufficiently extensive to make the clearing house a worthwhile tool, to update the clearing house on a continuous basis so that it can be relied upon as a source of accurate and current information and to respond promptly and effectively to requests for guidance. In its budget proposal for the period 2010–2012 contained in document SAICM/ICCM.2/9, the secretariat recommends the establishment of a Professional post at the P-3 level to perform, among other tasks, the work of operating and further developing the clearing house.
6. The information clearing house will be on display at the secretariat's exhibition booth during the current session of the Conference.
7. The Conference may wish to note the progress in the development of the secretariat's information clearing house and the need for additional staff resources to make it operational.

Annex

SAICM Information Clearing House

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Monday May 04th Hi Matthew Gubb, Log out Search Text size + x -

HOME RISK REDUCTION KNOWLEDGE & INFORMATION GOVERNANCE CAPACITY BUILDING ILLEGAL INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC STAKE HOLDERS EVENTS



Welcome to the SAICM Information Clearing House

In accordance with Paragraph 28 of the SAICM Overarching Policy Strategy which mandates the provision of "information clearing-house services such as the provision of advice to countries on implementation of the Strategic Approach, referral of requests..."

ICCM2 Meeting in Geneva

ICCM2 will be the first opportunity to review progress in the implementation of ...



SAICM Website

Adopted by the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM) on 6 February 2006 ...



NEW ADDITIONS	FORUM LATEST	MOST SEEN
Country profiles for Zimbabwe		
Country profiles for Zambia		
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NEWSLETTERS & BULLETINS	KEY DATABASES	PROPERTIES OF CHEMICALS
<h4>The WHO quarterly bulletin on IHR implementation</h4> <p>Issued by the International Health Regulations (IHR) Coordination Programme, World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva and Lyon</p> <p>http://www.who.int/ihr/ihrnewsissue5/en/index.html</p> <p>MORE: ENDSreport.com WHO Public Health and Environment e-News</p>	<h4>Chemical Product Supplier Database ChemExper Chemical Directory</h4> <p>The goal of this project is to create a common and freely accessible database of chemicals over the internet. This database contains chemicals with their physical characteristics. Everybody can submit chemical information and retrieve information with a Web browser.</p> <p>http://www.chemexper.com/</p> <p>MORE: CHEMnetBASE (Database) CrossFire Beilstein .</p>	<h4>Exclusive Chemistry Online Catalog</h4> <p>Welcome to our on-line compounds catalogue. Search for chemicals in our continually updated catalog of over 2,000 available rare chemicals and building blocks.</p> <p>http://www.exchemistry.com/chemicals-catalog.html.</p> <p>MORE: OECD information portal on chemical substances Organic Syntheses</p>
<h4>MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS</h4> <h4>Green Customs Initiative</h4> <p>"the Green Customs Initiative is an unprecedented partnership of international organisations cooperating to prevent the illegal trade in environmentally-sensitive commodities and facilitation of the legal trade in there."</p> <p>Green Customs Initiative website</p> <p>MORE: World Customs Organization Montreal Protocol United Nations Environment Programme (Ozone Secretariat)</p>	<h4>SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH</h4> <h4>Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health Sciences</h4> <p>Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health Sciences starting May 2009</p> <p>http://www.academicjournals.org/JTEHS</p> <p>MORE: American Chemical Society Publications Home Page University of Cambridge Chemistry Journals</p>	<h4>RESOURCE GUIDES</h4> <h4>Acutely Toxic Pesticides - a global guide to resources</h4> <p>The listing of resources in this document is intended to provide information and guidance. The mention of specific resources or their producers does not imply that they are endorsed or recommended by the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety in preference to others of a similar nature that are...</p> <p>MORE: SAICM - USG Resource.submitte.doc</p>

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