

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

Bucharest, Romania, 29 August – 2 Sept 2022

Remarks for delivery by IOMC Chair (UNIDO) DRAFT

During item 3 (“Development of recommendations for consideration by the fifth session of the Conference regarding the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020”)

Thank you, Co-Chairs,

The IOMC participating organizations are pleased to participate at this 4th meeting of the Inter-sessional process here in Romania.

Since IP-3, the IOMC organizations have been continuing to actively engage in activities related to the Beyond 2020 process, including participation in the Technical Working Group on targets, indicators and milestones, Virtual Working Groups, holding of an “IOMC Webinar Series in Support of the Beyond 2020 Process” during 2021, and giving further consideration to initiatives related to meaningful multisectoral engagement, indicators, issues of global concern and EPIs, and strengthening integrated chemicals and waste management-

We would also like to emphasize that a core role and priority of the Participating Organizations of the IOMC will be to assist countries with the implementation of the new framework, Multi-sectoral engagement remains a key issue at all levels

IOMC has submitted document **INF/18** which features ideas and proposals to advance integrated chemicals and waste management. The integrated approach includes three interlinked dimensions:

1. Development of basic national chemical management system and capacities in all countries;
2. Integrating chemicals and waste management in industry sectors and product value chains; and
3. Integrating chemicals and waste management within sustainable development initiatives.

The Inf Paper 18 was discussed at a multi-stakeholder IOMC workshop on 26 August and a Technical Briefing on 27 August with a total of some 200 participants from different sectors. IOMC appreciates the valuable discussions and feedback. We would like to thank all participants and Germany for their valuable support.

During the two meetings the IOMC received valuable input from stakeholders. This includes the need to make some proposed targets more ambitious, recognize the importance of regional differences, and address stakeholder responsibilities directly, i.e. governments and industry

Taking into account, the discussions from these consultations, IOMC considers that the concept of integrated chemicals and waste management may help to structure and focus global Beyond 2020 discussions here in Bucharest.

Therefore, we propose that the Strategic Objectives and respective targets proposed in the INF 18 document are taken into account at the IP.4. The proposal aims to be focused and comprehensible and builds on the IP-3 discussion.

The 11 suggested targets and 5 strategic objectives are listed in the INF 18 document and it is Annex 2 respectively.

Although this text is already available, we have presented it in separate document.

IOMC has submitted INF23 on proposed actions to facilitate sectoral engagement in the SAICM policy process.

This document recognizes the recent SAICM evaluations and practical experiences that sectoral contribution and expertise remain below that needed. INF23 sets out actions in four key areas. Many of the actions in INF23 can be achieved without additional text changes, a small number would require change. One such proposal is for IOMC to co-convene future sessions of ICCM as was done at the first ICCM. IOMC would like to ask the IP process to allow for such a proposal to be introduced at this meeting while further legal and administrative considerations to be completed

Moreover, , two IOMC POs: FAO and WHO submitted an INF document (SAICM/IP.4/INF/16/Rev 1) on integrated pesticide management as an example of multisector engagement and collaboration.

Regarding the existing EPI, we would support a lean procedure to keep the ones that are still of relevance in the future framework. And that a decision will only be taken at ICCM-6 as explained in our submission to the VWG.

Lastly, I would to inform you that the IOMC Toolbox, a multi-sectoral project has been redesigned. to make it more accessible. This project identifies available IOMC resources that can help countries address identified national problem(s) or objectives in the area of chemicals and waste management. We would like to thank the European Union for its continued financial support for this project.

To conclude, IOMC would like to reiterate its commitment to support the new framework, with multi-sectoral engagement remaining a key issue. We look forward to constructive and active participation in the discussions this week.

Thank you madame co-chair.