



DSPE - STEB
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1211 Genève 8

N/réf.: MK/44263

Head, Chemicals Branch
Att: David Piper / Juan Caicedo
United Nations Environment Programme
Division of Technology, Industry and
Economics

11-13, Chemin de Anémones
CH-1219 Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland

Geneva, 24th January, 2012

Letter of intent

Dear Sir,

The STEB (Service de Toxicologie de l'Environnement Bâti), is a governmental agency for the Republic and State of Geneva. We are involved in the assessment of the risk to human health and the environment related to the presence of hazardous compounds in buildings.

The STEB possesses a laboratory which performs analyses on indoor air, dust and raw materials in order to assess the risks of exposure to toxic substances present in buildings. We are also in charge of the laws enforcement for sound management of hazardous substances on building sites, especially when construction work is planned.

In this context, the lead paint hazard is of great concern, and we are actively working in planning and implementing lead-hazard control measures.

We already conducted an evaluative study on the frequency of lead occurrence in paints for the Canton of Geneva. We also performed a comparative study of various detection methods applicable to lead paint (handheld X-ray fluorescence versus destructive chemical elementary analysis). We would be very interested in pursuing this comparison by testing other quick field testing methods. Besides these studies, we also evaluated and compared the efficacy of various lead paint removal techniques as well as their risks for home renovators, construction workers, public or environment.

Our current work deals with the definition of criteria expressed in lead area concentration above which particular care must be taken when working with the incriminated matter, in order to avoid workers-, as well as population exposure. As a function of the obtained results for the detection methods evaluation, we intent to complete the evaluation study in the Canton of Geneva.

We would be very pleased to act as contributors to the GAELP by sharing our study results with other partners, and thus helping to achieve better knowledge of this great concern, and we hope to contribute to the elimination of lead-paint hazards.

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Staying at your disposal for any complement of information you would need, I remain, Dear Sir, yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Kohler', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Marcel Kohler
Directeur



GLOBAL ALLIANCE TO ELIMINATE LEAD PAINT INFORMATION ON BECOMING A CONTRIBUTOR

The Global Alliance is a voluntary collaborative initiative to focus and catalyze the efforts of a diverse range of stakeholders to achieve international goals to prevent children's exposure to lead from paint and to minimize occupational exposures to lead paint. The Global Alliance is a joint undertaking of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

WHAT IT MEANS TO BECOME A CONTRIBUTOR TO THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE

- **Making a commitment to achieving the overall goals and objectives of the work of the Global Alliance.**
- **Contributing financially and/or in-kind technical expertise to the development & implementation of activities which help in achieving the goals and objectives of the Global Alliance.**
- **Working in accordance with the operational framework for the work of the Global Alliance**
- **Being identified publicly as a contributor on the Global Alliance website.**
- **Networking, sharing information & participating with other contributors in the Global Alliance.**

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE

The overall goal of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint is to prevent children's exposure to paints containing lead and to minimize occupational exposures to lead paint. The broad objective is to phase out the manufacture and sale of paints containing lead and eventually to eliminate the risks that such paint pose. The participation of representative and interested experts from Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non governmental organizations including civil society, regional bodies, philanthropic organizations, academia, the media and the private sector is encouraged.

The work of the Global Alliance is organized in five focal areas:

- ① Environmental aspects,
- ② Health aspects,
- ③ Worker's health,
- ④ Legislation and regulation, and
- ⑤ Outreach to industry.

HOW TO BECOME A CONTRIBUTOR TO THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE TO ELIMINATE LEAD PAINT

Organizations and individuals should complete the attached questionnaire to provide information on the specific initiatives being undertaken in support of the overall goals and objectives of the Global Alliance. The completed questionnaire should be accompanied by a letter of intent setting out the commitment of the contributor to the overall goals and objectives of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint.

PLEASE SUBMIT THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE TO BOTH:

**Head, Chemicals Branch
Att: David Piper / Juan Caicedo
United Nations Environment Programme
Division of Technology, Industry and Economics**

11-13, Chemin de Anémones
CH-1219 Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland
Fax : +41 22 797 34 60
Email : lead-cadmium.chemicals@unep.org

**Director Public Health and Environment
Att: Lesley Onyon
World Health Organization
Public Health and Environment**

20 Avenue Appia
CH-1211 Geneva 27 Switzerland
Fax: +41 22 791 4127
Email: noleadinpaint@who.int

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT UNEP AND WHO AT THE ABOVE ADDRESSES.
[HTTP: //WWW.UNEP.ORG/HAZARDOUSSUBSTANCES/](http://www.unep.org/HAZARDOUSSUBSTANCES/)
(SECTION ON GAELP)**



World Health
Organization

GLOBAL ALLIANCE TO ELIMINATE LEAD PAINT QUESTIONNAIRE FOR POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTORS

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY IN CAPITALS AND IN BLACK

Mr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mrs		Ms		Dr		Prof	
FAMILY NAME		Kohler							
FIRST NAME		Marcel							
TO WHICH SECTOR DO YOU IDENTIFY YOURSELF OR YOUR INSTITUTION (ONE ANSWER ONLY)		A) Government							<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		B) Intergovernmental organization							<input type="checkbox"/>
		C) Non-governmental organization							<input type="checkbox"/>
		D) Other (e.g. academia, media, private sector, interested individuals, etc.)							<input type="checkbox"/>
YOUR JOB TITLE		Director							
FULL MAILING ADDRESS		<i>Service de toxicologie de l'environnement bâti (STEB) DSPE, Etat de Genève Avenue Sainte-Clotilde 23 CP 78 CH-1211 Genève 8 Switzerland</i>							
CITY/STATE/POSTAL CODE		CH-1211 Genève 8							
COUNTRY		Switzerland							
TEL (PLEASE INDICATE COUNTRY AND CITY CODES)		+4122 388 80 71							
FAX (PLEASE INDICATE COUNTRY AND CITY CODES)		+4122 388 80 37							
E-MAIL		marcel.kohler@etat.ge.ch							
WEBSITE		www.ge.ch/steb							



UNEP



World Health Organization

GLOBAL ALLIANCE TO ELIMINATE LEAD PAINT QUESTIONNAIRE FOR POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTORS

TYPE OF CONTRIBUTION	Financial (estimated amount _____)	
	In-kind (please describe below _____)	X
	Materials (please describe below _____)	

Please describe in the space below the activity that you would like recognized as a contribution. Wherever possible, please select which one of the descriptions from the list in the annex most closely aligns with your proposed contribution

Exchange information on safe methods to conduct repair or renovation activities on the interior and exterior of homes and other buildings that contain lead paint to minimize exposures to residents and workers and to minimize releases to the environment (including from wastes) that may contribute to future exposures and exchange information on pathways of exposure to lead paint for children and adults

My contribution most closely aligns with the work described in the annex section A B,C,D E and F (please select which ones that apply and give number of activity)

PLEASE SIGN THE FORM BELOW

Name	Marcel Kohler
Signature	
Date	22 January 2012

PLEASE ATTACH YOUR LETTER OF INTENT TO THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE

ANNEX

EXAMPLES OF ACTIVITIES THAT MAY DESCRIBE POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS

A	Health Aspects (including lead toxicity and human exposure, but excluding workers health)
A1	Exchange information on the effects of lead on health
X A2	Exchange information on pathways of exposure to lead paint for children and adults
A3	Provide technical expertise in the design and implementation of studies to estimate the distribution of levels of lead in blood in the populations of other nations
A4	Encourage nations to monitor health to estimate the prevalence of lead in human blood
A5	Build capacity and sharing information to monitor health to estimate the prevalence of lead in human blood, interested, not expert
A6	Build capacity and providing training to develop and maintain high-quality laboratory testing for lead in blood
A7	Assess the hazards of substitutes for lead compounds in paint
A8	Discuss and building capacity on how to reach health providers, caretakers and parents on how to minimize children's exposure to lead from lead paint hazards as part of efforts to minimize exposures to all sources of lead exposure in the household
X A9	Exchange information to promote general public awareness of the hazards of lead paint
A10	Contributing to the activities that contribute to national, regional or global achievement of the work of the Global Alliance
B	Environmental Aspects
B1	Encourage nations to conduct monitoring to estimate the prevalence of lead in the environment (for example, in water, soil and animals)
B2	Exchange information on lead levels in paints in various countries
B3	Assess the hazards of substitutes for lead compounds in paint
X B4	Encourage nations to conduct housing surveys to estimate the prevalence of lead paint in their housing stock
X B5	Develop guidelines with descriptions of simple analytical methods and test kits to identify lead paints
X B6	Build capacity and providing information and knowledge in human and laboratory equipment to facilitate laboratory tests for lead paint
X B7	Exchange information on methods to make housing and other buildings with lead paint safe for occupancy by children and pregnant women
B8	Minimize risks of previously applied lead paint in buildings by using effective containment
B9	Enhance the elimination of lead paint in schools and other buildings where children will be present, given children's susceptibility to lead
B10	Exchange information to promote general public awareness of the hazards of lead paint
B11	Exchange information on safe disposal of lead paint waste
B12	Develop approaches to manage and store waste containing lead paints
B13	Contributing to the activities that contribute to national, regional or global achievement of the work of the Global Alliance
C	Workers Health (including home-owners repairs)
X C1	Exchange information on safe methods to conduct repair or renovation activities on the interior and exterior of homes and other buildings that contain lead paint to minimize exposures to residents and workers and to minimize releases to the environment (including from wastes) that may contribute to future exposures
X C2	Discuss steps to teach renovators, painters and other professionals how to minimize children's exposure to lead from lead paint
X C3	Exchange information on steps to warn workers of their vulnerability and exposure to lead in small-sized and medium-sized enterprises, in particular in developing countries
X C4	Exchange information to promote general public awareness of the hazards of lead paint
C5	Contributing to the activities that contribute to national, regional or global achievement of the work of the Global Alliance

D	Legislation and Regulation
D1	Exchange information on national, provincial, State and local regulations and legislation on lead concentrations in paints permitted in various countries
D2	Develop guidelines for establishing national standards, including those that would permit the use only of lead-free paints
D3	Encourage nations to require that only lead-free paint may be used in construction activities or renovations being supported with government funds
D4	Provide guidance for and information on effective enforcement of national standards, including on how to avoid smuggling of lead paint
D5	Build the legal enforcement capacity of environmental health officers in ministries, local authorities and mines
D6	Provide international support to developing countries by devising further methods to enact comprehensive legislation to phase out lead paint completely
D7	Exchange information and providing international support to strengthen and harmonize existing national legislation that focuses on protecting public health in relation to the phase-out of lead paint
D8	Build capacity and providing information and knowledge to help officials in a range of ministries to test for lead paint
D9	Exchange information to promote general public awareness of the hazards of lead paint
D10	Contributing to the activities that contribute to national, regional or global achievement of the work of the Global Alliance
E	Outreach to industry (including informal sector and small and medium enterprises)
E1	Exchange information on labelling and certification systems with regard to the presence and concentrations of lead in paint
E2	Discuss and providing technical assistance on steps that could be taken to phase out lead from paints and surface coatings such as lacquers, veneers and powder coatings worldwide
E3	Encourage the use of financial incentives to support the use of lead-free paints
E4	Share knowledge on the availability of substitutes to replace lead compounds in paints
E5	Assess the feasibility of the voluntary phase-out of the production of lead in paint in cooperation with business and industry, including at the (sub)regional level
E6	Encourage wholesalers and retailers to halt sales of lead paints
E7	Exchange information on suggestions for warning labels on new cans of paint alerting users to the health risks that could result if the surfaces being prepared for repainting contain lead paints
E8	Exchange information to promote general public awareness of the hazards of lead paint
E9	Contributing to the activities that contribute to national, regional or global achievement of the work of the Global Alliance
F	National Contributors (including activities to champion the implementation of GAELP goals and objectives at national and local levels)
F1	Translate GAELP-related materials into national or local languages
F2	Disseminate GAELP-related materials nationally or locally
F3	Establish a GAELP-related web site in national or local languages with links to the GAELP web site
F4	Test the lead content of paints sold or used nationally or locally and disseminate results
F5	Mobilize national or local support for lead paint elimination within civil society and/or the health professions
F6	Undertake communications activities aimed at raising public awareness about lead paint and its hazards and at promoting consumer avoidance of lead paints
F7	Provide information to national or local manufacturers of lead paints on how to efficiently reformulate their paints
F8	Contribute to the establishment of regional or national voluntary third-party paint certification and labeling programs
F9	Engage in policy dialogue to promote legislation or regulations to prohibit the manufacture, import, sale and use of lead paints
F10	Monitor compliance with national legislation, regulations or standards controlling the lead content of paints manufactured, imported, sold or used nationally and locally