

Minutes of the Lead Paint Alliance Chair – Secretariat Meeting

Geneva, Thursday, 19 April 2018

9:00 – 12:00 am

1. Opening of the Meeting

The meeting of the Lead Paint Alliance Chair and Secretariat was held in the International Environment House, Geneva, from 9:30am to 12:00pm on 19 April 2018.

The meeting was attended by Walker Smith and Angela Bandemehr from the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Carolyn Vickers, Joanna Tempowski and Evelyn Kortum from the World Health Organization (WHO), Desiree Narvaez, Jacob Duer, Victor Estellano and Emma Keech from the UN Environment Programme (UN Environment).

Carolyn Vickers introduced Evelyn Kortum as the new member of the WHO team.

2. Lead Paint Alliance Activities Update

Updates were provided by the WHO, the USEPA and UN Environment on the status of activities.

The WHO provided the following updates:

- a. The preparations for International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (ILPPW) are underway, and the WHO hopes to have key documents published on the website in August, so that ILPPW campaigns will be able to use the most current information. The WHO commented that they would like to encourage greater industry involvement in ILPPW activities.
- b. This year's focus of the ILPPW is to promote the Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint.
- c. At this year's World Health Assembly there will be an interagency technical briefing on health and environment on 24 May for the member states. Both Eric Solheim and the WHO DG are expected to speak. While the focus will be air pollution it may be possible to get a mention for lead paint.
- d. The WHO has begun planning a meeting for the Global Chemicals and Health Network (GCHN) in November. This will be a collaborative, policy-oriented forum.
- e. The deadline for the progress report for the WHO Chemicals Roadmap is February 2019 (for the May WHA). A UN Environment representative noted that this coincides with the meeting of the SAICM Open Ended Working Group, and that there is potential for sharing of information here.

UN Environment reported on progress in translating the Model Law. It has been translated into Russian and Spanish and translation into French is underway. UN Environment will investigate translation into Arabic and Chinese. It was suggested that Singapore could be approached for Chinese translation. These translations can be promoted during ILPPW.

The USEPA provided the following updates:

- a. The USEPA legal team is ready to help countries to develop lead paint laws and they are working with ABA ROLI on this. They have discovered a resource within the Library of Congress that can advise on national laws in countries.
- b. The USEPA has regular meetings with IPPIC. IPPIC has a group on environmental issues chaired by Martin Engelman. IPPIC is proposing to provide technical guidance on reformulating lead paints and will encourage members to become regional champions to provide technical assistance to paint companies.
- c. The USEPA will develop a short paper on the UNEA-3 resolution on lead, highlighting the rationale for the focus on lead in paint, as opposed to other sources of lead. This is, in part, a response to comments from an environmental NGO that paint is not an important source of lead exposure.
- d. The USEPA provided some country updates. In Kazakhstan control measures for lead will be included in the new environment code. Brazil and Argentina are planning to revise their existing lead paint laws to be more restrictive. USEPA has participated in a Caribbean regional workshop and webinars

and Jamaica has stated its intention to develop a lead paint law, which will involve joint work between the ministries of environment and health. USEPA has been providing legal assistance to Cambodia and Viet Nam.

3. Proposed Lead Paint Alliance Communications Strategy

The participants agreed to postpone the discussion on the Communications Strategy to a later date due to time restraints.

4. Global Environment Facility Project

An update on the GEF project was provided by the GEF Secretariat of UN Environment. The GEF project is currently on track, and the Lead Paint component of the project design is at an advanced stage. It is expected the project will be approved in July or August of 2018.