UNEP(DTIE Chemicals) /WHO(PHE) GAELP/1/8 Original: English Date: May 2010

UNITED NATIONS





United Nations Environment Programme



First meeting of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paints Initial organizational meeting of contributors Geneva, 26–28 May 2010

Report of the first meeting of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paints at its initial organizational meeting of contributors

I. Introduction

1. In 2002, the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) committed to take actions to protect human health from exposure to lead. Paragraph 57 of the Plan of Implementation of the WSSD states: "*Phase out lead in lead-based paints and in other sources of human exposure, work to prevent, in particular, children's exposure to lead and strengthen monitoring and surveillance efforts and the treatment of lead poisoning.*"

2. The International Conference on Chemicals Management at its second session (ICCM-2, Geneva, 11-15 May 2009) endorsed (SAICM/ICCM.2/15 Resolution II/4B) the establishment of a global partnership to promote the phase-out of the use of lead in paint as an important contribution to the implementation of paragraph 57 of the Plan of Implementation of the WSSD and to the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management.

3. ICCM-2 invited all interested stakeholders to become members of the global partnership and, where appropriate, to commit themselves to contributing financial or in-kind resources or expertise towards the development and implementation of partnership activities. ICCM-2 requested the global partnership to adopt terms of reference using the draft terms of reference presented to ICCM-2 as their basis and to develop a business plan articulating clear milestones for progress in achieving a global phase-out of lead in paint in the following areas:

- (a) Raising awareness of toxicity to human health and the environment and alternatives;
- (b) Guidance and assistance to identify potential lead exposure;
- (c) Assistance to industry (manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers);
- (d) Prevention programmes to reduce exposure;
- (e) Promotion of national regulatory frameworks;

4. ICCM-2 requested the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organization within their respective mandates and available resources to serve as the secretariat of the global partnership.

5. ICCM-2 invited the global partnership to report on progress to the Open-ended Working Group at its first meeting and to the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its third session.

6. The global partnership endorsed by ICCM-2 is now called the "Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paints".

II. Opening of the meeting

7. The first meeting of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paints at its initial organizational meeting of contributors was held at the International Environmental House in Geneva, from 26 to 28 May 2010. The meeting was opened at 9:10 am on Wednesday 26 May 2010 by Mr. Per Bakken, Head, Chemicals Branch, Division of Technology, Industry and Economics of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Dr. Maria Neira, Director, Public Health and Environment of the World Health Organization (WHO).

8. In his opening statement, Mr. Bakken drew attention to second session of the ICCM-2 held in Geneva last year where the "lead in paint" was considered as an "emerging issue", although it was addressed at international level by the League of Nations about eighty years ago. He stressed that the use of lead in paint has continued and perhaps increased in developing countries. Recalling that ICCM-2 resolution II/4 B invited UNEP and WHO to serve as the secretariat for this Global Initiative, he presented the experience of the organizations in the establishment and coordination of broad partnerships and networks in particular SAICM, the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles, the Global Mercury Partnership and the UNEP work in relation to lead (and cadmium) since 2003. He also recalled that the Global Alliance is also a direct response to the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, paragraph 57 of the Plan of Implementation.

9. Dr Maria Neira, in her opening statement, highlighted that human exposure to lead causes every year about 143,000 deaths and accounts for 0.6% of the global burden of disease. She also stressed that childhood lead exposure is estimated to contribute to about 600,000 new cases of children with intellectual disabilities every year. Dr Neira reminded that despite the availability of safer alternative to lead pigments, paint containing lead continues to be used in many parts of the world and exposure to lead from new or previously applied leaded paint remains a significant source of human exposure to lead. She highlighted that the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paint is an ideal platform and initiative to work collaboratively, in a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approach, towards the elimination of lead paint, and therefore reduce human exposure to lead via paints containing lead. Finally, she encouraged the Global Alliance to set and strive for a timeframe by which lead paint would be eliminated.

III. Election of officers.

10. Meeting participants elected Dr. Maria Doa (United States – Environmental Protection Agency) to serve as the chair of the meeting.

11. The Secretariat drew attention to a desire to have two co-chairs from a developed and developing country for the Global Alliance in the future.

IV. Organizational matters

- 12. <u>a) **Purpose of the meeting:**</u> The Secretariat introduced the objectives of the meeting: a) to present and discuss the background, overview and Framework of the Global Alliance, and b) to develop work plans for the five focal areas of the Global Alliance, i.e. Health Aspects, Environmental Aspects, Legislation and Regulation, Assistance to Industry, and Workers Health.
- 13. <u>b) Adoption of the agenda:</u> Meeting participants adopted the following agenda, on the basis of the provisional agenda set out in document UNEP(DTIE Chemicals) /WHO(PHE) GAELP/1/1/Rev.1:
 - 1. Opening of the meeting.
 - 2. Election of officers.
 - 3. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Purpose of the meeting
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (c) Organization of work.
 - 4. Background/overview of the Global Alliance.
 - 5. Framework WHO/UNEP Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paints
 - 6. Priority focal area work plans.

- 7. Other matters.
- 8. Adoption of the report.
- 9. Closure of the meeting.
- 14. c) Organization of work: In considering this sub-item, meeting participants introduced themselves and agreed to meet each day of the meeting from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., subject to adjustments as necessary.
- 15. Attendance: The meeting was attended by: Mr Leslie Adogame (Sustainable Research and Action for Environmental Development), Mr Ravi Agarwal (Toxics Link, International POPs Elimination Network), Professor Babajide Alo (University of Lagos), Ms Josephine Archbold (Toronto Public Health and Canadian Partnership for Children's Health and the Environment), Mr Paul Michael Bever (International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA)), Dr Mary Jean Brown (Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch, US CDC -Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-), Mrs Marie-Noel Brune Drisse (Children Environmental Health Programme, WHO), Professor Corodon Scott Clark (Department of Environmental Health, University of Cincinnati), Dr Paul Dargan (Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust), Dr Maria J. Doa (National Program Chemicals, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency), Dr Ruth Etzel (Childen Environmental Health Programme, WHO), Mr Perry Gottesfeld (OK International), Mr. Rob de Jong (Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, Transport Unit, UNEP), Ms Brenda Koekkoek (Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, Chemicals Branch, UNEP), Professor Bruce Lanphear (BC Children's Hospital and Simon Fraser University), Ms Geraldine McWeeney (SE Europe Health and Environment, WHO CO Serbia), Dr Angela Mathee (Environment and Health Research Unit Medical Research Council for South Africa (MRCSA)), Ms Elizabeth O'Brien (Global Lead Advice & Support Service (GLASS)), Mr Tristan Olivier (Lead and Paint Safety Association), Dr Archana Patel (Department of Pediatrics, Indira Ghandi Government Medical College), Mr K.W. James Rochow (Trust for Lead Poisoning Prevention), Ms Caridad Salazar (Dirección General de Salud Ambiental, Ministerio de Salud (Perú)), Mr Nanjundaiah Shashidhara (National Referral Centre for Lead Poisoning in India (NRCLPI)), Mr Stephen R. Sides (International Paint and Printing Ink Council, Inc.), Ms Christina Wadlington (Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency), Mr Jack Weinberg (International POPs Elimination Network), Mr Hemantha Withanage (Centre for Environmental Justice), Dr Jinliang Zhang (Department of Environmental Pollution and Health, Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences (CRAES), Ministry of Environment Protection (China)), Ms Carolyn Vickers (Public Health and Environment, WHO), Dr Pascal Haefliger (Public Health and Environment, WHO), Mr. David Piper (Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, Chemicals Branch, UNEP), Mr. Juan F. Caicedo R (Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, Chemicals Branch, UNEP).

V. Background/overview of the Global Alliance

- 16. The Secretariat introduced document UNEP(DTIE Chemicals) /WHO(PHE) GAELP/1/2 which provided a background and overview of the Global Alliance.
- 17. Prof Bruce Lanphear was invited to present the "Health impacts of lead and routes of exposure from lead in paint".
- 18. Mr Ravi Agarwal was invited to present the "IPEN/Toxics Link Survey Study of lead in paints in developing countries".
- 19. Mr Stephen Sides was invited to present the "Use of lead in paint and alternatives available".
- 20. Ms. Brenda Koekkoek and Mr. Rob de Jong were invited to provide presentations in relation to "Partnership models and lessons learned" within the context of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership and the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles respectively.
- 21. In considering this item, meeting participants highlighted and raised a number of points for further consideration of the Global Alliance. Attention was given to: the particular challenge in the informal sector, the relevance of awareness raising and case studies, the necessity of both human health and environmental sampling, the importance of legislative and regulatory aspects and its enforcement, the existence and availability of substitutes to lead pigments, lessons learned from existing partnership models, the need of taking into consideration the legacy issues in relation to lead in paint, the need for financial support to the Global Alliance and exploring a venue for such support.

- 22. Although general challenges posed by lead were recognized by all meeting participants, the meeting was reminded that the scope of this Global Alliance is specifically related to the elimination of lead in paint. UNEP noted that the Global Alliance represented one component of the lead-related work being undertaken by the Harmful Substances and Hazardous Waste. Other components include the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles, preparations of scientific reviews on lead at the request of Governing Council and the development of work on the management of lead batteries.
- 23. The Secretariat also introduced UNEP(DTIE Chemicals) /WHO(PHE) GAELP/1/4 which provided a summary of the information collected from potential contributors.

VI. Framework WHO/UNEP Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paints

24. The Secretariat presented document: UNEP(DTIE Chemicals) /WHO(PHE) GAELP/1/3) containing the draft framework of the WHO/UNEP Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paints

25. The importance of information exchange between the different working groups and outreach efforts from each focal area were also highlighted aiming to achieve the overall goal and strategy of the Global Alliance.

26. Meeting participants were invited to express interest in becoming lead sponsors for each of the focal areas. The following participants indicated their willingness to do so:

- Health Aspects: US CDC (Dr. Mary Jean Brown) and International Pediatric Association (Dr Archana Patel)
- Environmental Aspects: USEPA (Dr Maria Doa and Ms Christina Wadlington)
- Legislation and Regulation: Prof Scott Clark (University of Cincinnati) and Professor Babajide Alo
- Outreach to Industry: OK International (Mr Perry Gottesfeld) and International Paint and Printing Ink Council (Mr Stephen Sides)
- Workers' Health: none

27. Working definition of lead paint. The meeting discussed the value in defining "lead paint", in order to support the work of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint. UNEP and WHO informed participants that the meeting was not mandated, or constituted appropriately, to set a definition or standard for lead in paint, and expressed concern that any numerical level would be misinterpreted as such. The meeting proposed having a working definition for internal use by the Global Alliance, along the lines of the following:

Preamble:

There is no known threshold for lead exposure below which there is no risk to children;

Current limits established in national legislations for the content of lead in paint typically vary between 90 and 1000 ppm total lead concentration;

[Currently available empirical data indicate that paints to which lead compounds have not been added typically have total lead concentrations less than 45 ppm and often as low as 5 ppm.][Currently available empirical data indicate that household paints are available with lead concentrations less than 45 ppm.]

The working definition of lead paint for use by the Global Alliance :

[The term 'lead paint' means paint, including paint, varnish, lacquer, stain, enamel, glaze, primer or coating used for any purpose, that has a total lead concentration exceeding 90 ppm][Unleaded paint means paint that has a total lead concentration less than 90 ppm] defined as a weight percentage of the total non-volatile portion of the product or of the dried paint film.

28. The Advisory Group was charged with finalizing the text, following which it would referred back to the Global Alliance.

29. The meeting discussed a proposal to set a target for achievement of the goal to eliminate lead paint. It was agreed that a target would be useful, and the Advisory Group was entrusted with preparing a draft, for ultimate consideration by the Alliance.

30. The Secretariat agreed to revise the draft framework and submit to UNEP/WHO legal clearance and publication board approval.

31. The meeting noted that the Secretariat would formalize the Global Alliance following the finalization of the framework, which describes the process by which the Global Alliance is to be established,

32. The meeting noted provision in the draft framework for two Global Alliance Co-chairs and entrusted the Advisory Group with electing the 2^{nd} co-chair.

VII. Priority focal area work plans

33. Focal area lead sponsors were invited to present some suggested preliminary ideas for the draft work plan for each of the focal areas of work of the Global Alliance.

34. Meeting participants were invited to establish working groups for the different focal areas, based on their interest and to develop draft work plans for each the focal area based on Annex 3 of document UNEP(DTIE Chemicals) /WHO(PHE) GAELP/1/3). During the meeting, Workers' Health was discussed together with Health Aspects, on the understanding that the need for a separate focal area on Workers' Health would be further considered following the present meeting.

35. Focal area lead sponsors presented to plenary the draft work plan developed during the working group discussions. Annex I to this report includes these draft work plans.

36. For the finalization process of the focal area work plans it was suggested that the co-lead sponsors submit the draft work plans to the Secretariat by 18 June 2010, including highlighting of the two top priorities actions and in accordance with the suggested focal area work plan template presented in Annex 3 of document UNEP(DTIE Chemicals) /WHO(PHE) GAELP/1/3). The Advisory Group will review and prepare a holistic work plan of the Global Alliance within a 6 week timeframe.

VIII. Other matters.

37. The Secretariat presented the following documents: UNEP(DTIE Chemicals) /WHO(PHE) GAELP/1/7) : UNEP(DTIE Chemicals) /WHO(PHE) GAELP/1/6) and UNEP(DTIE Chemicals) /WHO(PHE) GAELP/1/5) in relation to communication and outreach materials, list of future key events and meetings for updates on progress and/or future interactions, and potential registration at the Commission of Sustainable Development of the Global Alliance, respectively.

38. Suggested ideas presented through the above-mentioned documents were well received by meeting participants. The Secretariat was entrusted to follow up accordingly.

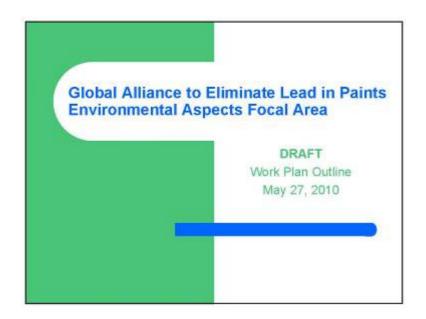
IX. Adoption of the report.

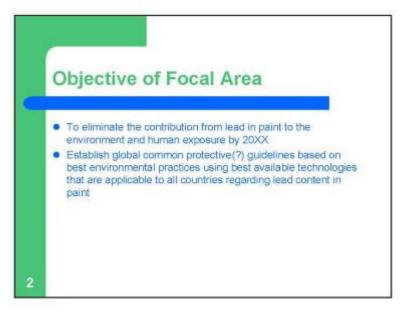
39. The meeting participants adopted the present report on the basis of the draft report set out in this draft document, as orally amended.

X. Closure of the meeting.

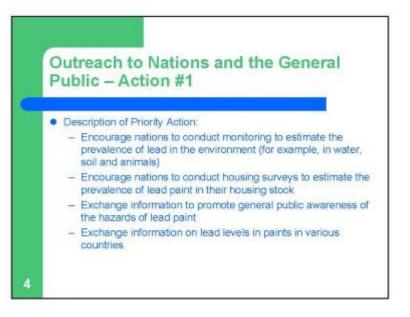
40. Following the customary exchange of courtesies the Chair declared the meeting closed at 5.30 p.m. on Friday, 28 May 2010.

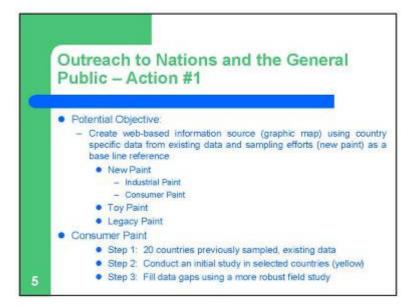
Annex 1. Draft focal area work plans



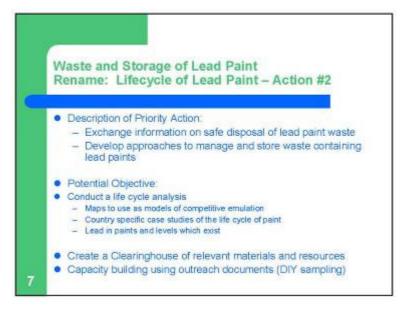


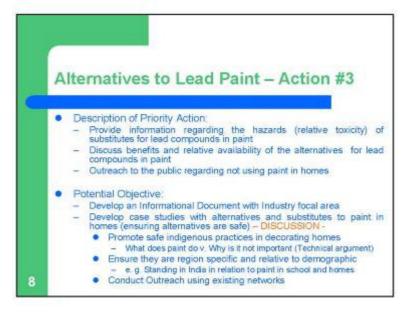


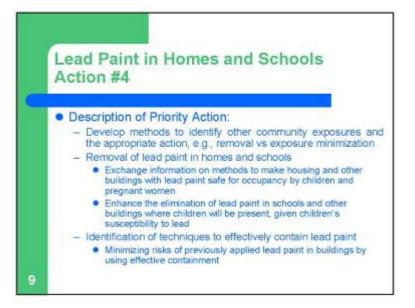


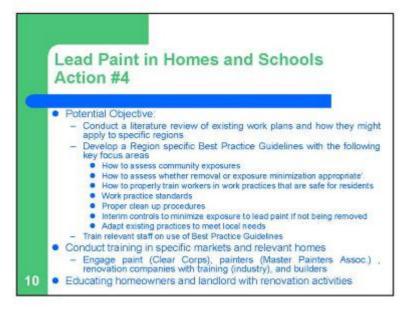


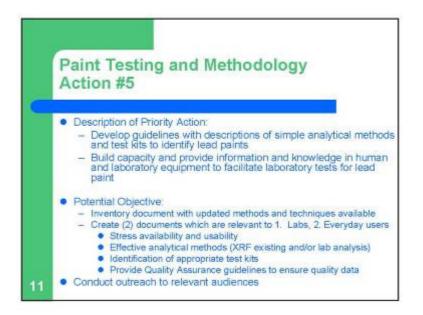












Outreach to Industry Focus Area Discussion Notes

Priority 1: Outreach/Education

Formal Sector Paint Manufacturers

Getting their attention-

- 1. Materials and messages should touch on every driver; worker safety and health; waste management; potential multiple uses of product; customer preference.
- 2. Materials and messages should notify manufacturers of the Alliance and Secretariat interest in the issue.
- 3. Materials and messages should respond to regional differences.
 - a. Data needs include
 - i. Indentify markets/regions manufacturers are working in.
 - ii. Indentify industry arguments in favor of the status quo.
 - iii. Identify various in-country networks of both industry representatives and NGOs and other stakeholders. IPEN (Europe and Asia ?) and REC (Central Europe) have regional networks that could be contacted.
 - iv. Identify and quantify differences in costs to large versus small companies and by region.
 - v. Determine which information is proprietary and which publically available.
 - vi. Identify or develop case studies that describe reformulation efforts in various markets.

Capitalize on Upcoming Meetings

- 1. IPPIC has a scheduled tour of Asia including India and China; Alliance members should be invited to attend/present at these meetings.
- 2. Identify and participate in paint trade shows.

Content of Materials and Messages

- 1. Making the business case
 - a. Provide industry with data regarding reformulation/costs and benefits of eliminating lead in paint.
 - b. Mercury thermometers are a pertinent example.
 - c. India example-include information on improved access to export market if product meets EC/USA standards; reformulation cost 15% (of what?) and this is a onetime cost; cultural religious uses of lead paint may contaminate water/ambient air; parental demand for safe toys.

Informal Sector/Small Manufactures

- 1. Develop or build on existing resources for example Clean Fuel NGOs to implement a country specific approach.
- 2. Develop system of 'national champions' as the vehicle for outreach to informal sector. Such champions will need concrete financial support.

Evaluation

1. Baseline prevalence of lead paint manufacturers; units/percent of product with lead and blood lead levels or baseline burden of disease (WHO) in country essential to evaluation efforts.

Pigment and Other Paint Component Manufacturers

- 1. Recognized as a need but of less immediate priority.
- 2. Invite a representative to join Alliance- good representation of small and large companies in Colored Pigment Association.

Priority Area 2: Certification and Labeling

Labeling

- 1. Phase 1-If limited of lead paint use is allowed, product should be labeled ' not to be used where children may contact it'.
- 2. Phase 2-Instruction on safe application if under lying surface may have lead paint (legacy issue).

Certification

- 1. Definitions
 - a. First Party-Manufacuturer tests and certifies own product.
 - b. Second Party- (I've forgotten)
 - c. Third Party-Independent certification body
- 2. Practicalities of third party certification
 - a. Industry participation is essential
 - i. Alliance should draft specifications for third party certification body
 - ii. Alliance should draft framework for certification and outreach for review by industry or its representatives.
 - iii. Piracy of certification occurs in two ways
 - Certification label is applied to uncertified product. It is the responsibility of the third party certification body to police this by periodic testing of market place and takinglegal action against pirates
 - Both certification label and copy righted material from a lead safe product are pirated. In this case certifying body and manufacturer will often work together to halt the practice.

Limited Use

Legitimate Use of Lead Paint

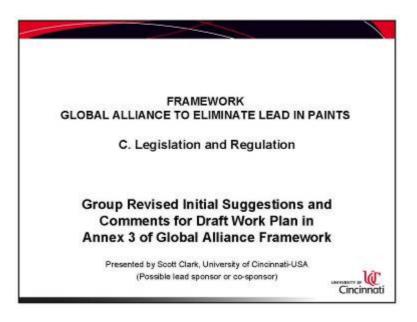
- 1. Military applications
- 2. Candidate list- Maria Doa will explore candidate list for lead paint/lead pigments and export restrictions.
- 3. Countries should not adopt the US candidate list by reference as there may be trivial uses of lead paint on the list.

Other Considerations

Countries Should Not Permit the Export of Products that Would Not be Allowed for Sale in the Country of Manufacture

In consultation with environment group develop criteria by which the safety of substitutes for lead is considered and develop a short list of unacceptable substitutes.

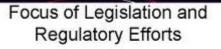
The formal sector industry supports the elimination of lead paint and a regulatory platform for enforcement.



Importance of Legislative Action to Address Use of Lead-based Paint

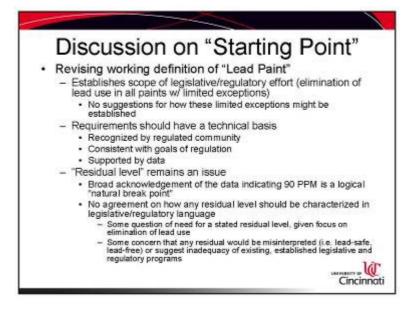
- · to protect children from exposure
- to protect workers during construction activities
- to effectively allocate resources to reduce exposures

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- Initial focus is the development of "model legislation"
- "Legislation" taken to mean both the legal authority as well as specifications (regulation) necessary to achieve goals
 - Eliminate future use of lead in paints
 - Reduce health hazards from legacy of former use of lead-containing paints (assess size of problem, establish remediation programs)





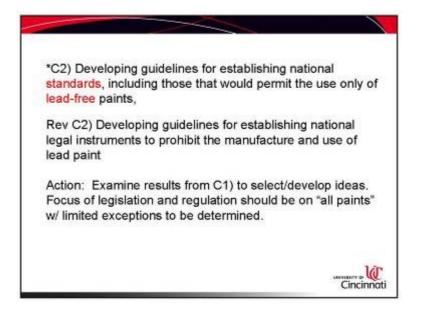


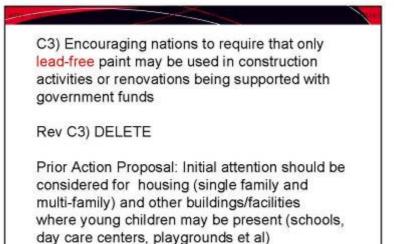
Cincinnati

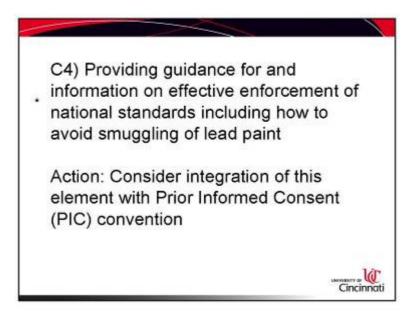
C1) Exchanging information on national, provincial, State and local regulations and legislation on lead concentrations in paints permitted in various countries.

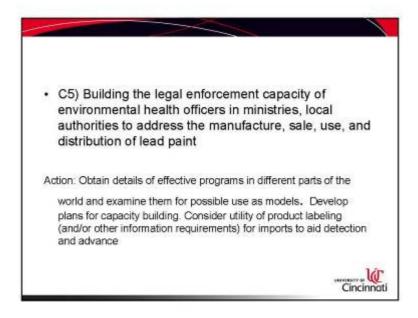
 Action: Request information from member associations of IPPIC, from members of Global Alliance directly and from literature; Assemble the information obtained for distribution to interested parties. Compare limits in regulations with concentrations measured in recent studies (to help determine scope and content of model legislation).



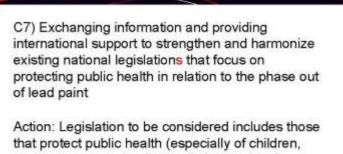




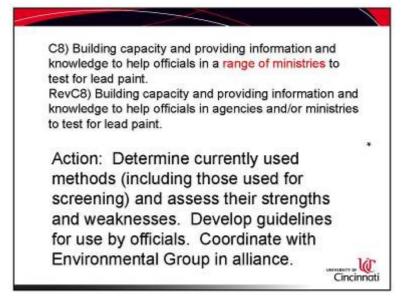








pregnant women, lead remediation workers) associated with activities related to phase out of lead paint, those addressing the legacy of former use and necessary remediation actions.



C9) Exchanging information to promote general public awareness of the hazards . of lead paint

Action: Coordinate with "Health Effects" focus area to utilize the information they are developing and also coordinate with "Industry Outreach" focus (i.e. information distribution including labeling and hazard communication)

Health Effects Focal Area-Activities and Work Plan

1. Summary of the Focal Area Issue

Providing tailored information to various stakeholders on the health effects of lead paint is a critical element in building advocacy, political will and acceptance of the importance to eliminating lead in paint and addressing legacy issues.

- 2. Objectives of the Focal Area
 - Provide heath rationale to industry, government, and other stakeholders to stimulate action and the development of legislation to eliminate the lead paints;
 - Encourage health care providers/ leaders to take leadership role in promoting the elimination of lead in paint;
 - Build capacity in hazard assessment, lead poisoning prevention, blood lead measurement and monitoring, laboratory analysis, exposure assessment and exposure reduction by sharing information and leveraging the expertise and experience of Alliance members;
 - Provide best practices to promote the public awareness of the hazard of lead paints.
- 3. Priority Actions/Activities

a.Enlist support/endorsement from key stakeholders early in process

- i. Meeting of International Pediatric Association Johannesburg August 2010
 - Building on WHO lead information packet for meeting add in description of the Global Alliance and its mission; cover letter "We, the World's pediatricians, support the efforts to eliminate lead paint....."
 - 2. Follow up with signatories in 2 months to obtain action plans developed by national IPAs on implementing lead poisoning prevention programs at the national, regional and local level
 - 3. Canvas Alliance membership for best practices for lead poisoning prevention programs; review and forward to Secretariat for posting on Alliance website.
 - 4. Canvas Alliance members for champions who are members/attendees of IPA meeting.
 - 5. Canvas Alliance members for case studies of pediatric health providers best practices for lead poisoning prevention programs.
- ii. Meeting of African Ministers of Health and Environment Angola November, 2010
 - 1. Determine if there will be a conference statement and opportunity to include elimination of lead in the statement.
 - 2. Canvas Alliance members for champions who are members/attendees of Ministers' meeting.
 - 3. Tweak IPA materials for use as information package to Ministers' meeting.
- iii. Alliance members identify opportunities for regional meetings including industry, health providers, policy/decision makers, media and press and others.
 - 1. By the end of June, 2010 members will provide information on the meetings scheduled for 2011.

- b. Health Rationale/ Campaign Documents
 - Using WHO burden of disease estimates and reasonable ranges of contribution of lead paint to these estimates, develop estimates of the economic impact by country for policy/decisions makers and others. (linkage with environmental group lead in paint maps) Countries should develop local estimates.
 - ii. Identify studies of blood lead levels of paint manufacturer workers and health effects related to such levels for materials for industry.
 - iii. Identify studies of the prevalence of take home lead exposures for materials for industry and other stakeholders (teachers, policy makers).
 - iv. Identify documents the 'fight the myths ' of the advantages of lead paint.
 - v. Identify case studies of best practices for lead poisoning prevention programs at national, regional, local levels.

c. Blood Lead Testing Guidance

- i. Suggested methodology for data collection and transport for local country officials
- ii. Suggestion for regulatory language for laboratory based reporting of all blood lead levels (consultation with legislative focal group)
- iii. Suggestions for QA/QC protocols and training.
- d. Explore opportunities for use of social media sites to 'get the word out' (Twitter, Face Book, You Tube)
- e.Link with US Lead Poisoning Prevention Week Activities
 - i. Opportunity for World Wide Lead Week 2011 (planning) or 2012 (execution).
- 4. Opportunities and Linkages

f. Leverage NGOs that have been working on clean fuel to refocus on eliminating lead paint.