

Update on Legislative/Regulatory Focal Area

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Exchanging Information on Legislation and Regulations (L1)

-Upon request members have provided information on existing legislation/regulations in such countries as Australia, China, India (voluntary), Singapore and United States.

-Members have also been asked to review and offer comments on proposed legislation (e.g. Philippines, Sri Lanka)

Develop Elements of National Regulatory Framework (L2)

-A major portion of the Focal Area efforts have been to develop a 9-point framework for the elements of national legislation and regulations,

-Other members of Advisory Committee and Secretariat contributed.

Status of Regulatory Framework Document

- The Revised Document To Be Prepared for Publication by UNEP; Expected Release Date Has Not Yet Been Announced.
- This Document Will be Very Useful for Countries Now or Soon Planning to Develop Regulatory Frameworks.
- Regulatory Framework Document Can Also Be Useful in Evaluation of Existing Programs

Elements of Legislation/Regulation

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- **1. Definition of Lead Paint**
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- **2. Analytical Methods (ppm)**
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- **3. Effective date(s)**
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- **4. Enforcement Mechanism**
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- **5. Penalties for Non-Compliance**
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- **6. Disposition of Products Violating Legislation/Regulations**
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- **7. Paint Container Labeling**
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- **8. Third-party Certification**
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- **9. Timeline for Review**
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Definition of Lead Paint

- The term “paint” includes: varnishes, lacquers, stains, enamels, glazes, primers or coatings .
- Lead paint” is paint to which one or more lead compounds have been added.
- Total lead levels in many decorative paints from a number of countries are less than 90 ppm and often below 45 ppm.
- Efforts should be made to keep the total lead content in paints as low as possible

Strengthening Public Health Aspects of Lead Paint Legislation (L6) [coordinated with Health and Other Focal Areas]

- Place Warning on All Paint Containers of Dangers of Lead Dust Hazards from Preparing Existing Painted Surfaces for Re-Painting.
- Provide Warnings of Paint Removal Methods That Create Dangerous Amounts of Lead Dust if the Old Paint Contains Lead (e.g. dry sanding/scraping) .
- Early Lead Paint Removal Methods in USA Actually Resulted in Lead Poisoning and 10- to 100-fold increases in Dust Lead.
- Recent Lead Paint Removal in Playground in Nearby Country, Which Occurred When Presence of Lead Paint was Discovered, Resulted in Major Increase in Soil Lead.

Distribution of Regulatory Framework Document

- Distribution to Governments/NGOs Is One of Major Tasks of Focal Area
- Increased Lead Paint Elimination Activities Stimulated by IPEN SWITCH Asia Project , for Example, Will Increase Interest in and Need for the Document.
- Release of Regulatory Framework Prior to ICCM-3 Would be Most Helpful

Importance of Dust Lead Levels

- Many Studies Have Found Strong Correlations between Dust Lead on Floors and Children's Blood Lead.
- Dust Lead Standards Have Been Developed That Must be Met on Surfaces after Lead Hazard Control Interventions Performed.
- A fingernail sized chip of 3-layers of yellow paint-spread as dust over one square foot of floor-would create a floor dust level 100 times current limit in US !

Conclusions

- Lead Paint Elimination Needs a Regulatory Framework.
- Include Paint Can Labeling Regarding Dust Lead Hazards.
- Because of Huge Amounts of Lead Dust Created in Process of Working on Lead-Painted Surfaces, Detailed Work Practices Have Been Developed to Minimize Risks.
- Training Requirements for Workers Engaged in Renovation, Remodeling and Painting Included in Regulatory Framework Can Help to Reduce Lead Hazards.