

**Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint/Lead Paint Alliance
Advisory Council Meeting/Conference Call**

Geneva, Thursday, 19 April 2018
13:00- 15:00

Report of the Meeting

Item 1: Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by UN Environment and the World Health Organization (WHO) as co-secretariats of the Lead Paint Alliance, followed by welcome remarks by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Chair of the Lead Paint Alliance.

The meeting was attended by representatives from the USEPA, the WHO, UN Environment, the governments of Colombia, Moldova and Kenya, the International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN), the European Commission, and the International Paint and Printing Ink Council (IPPIC). Thailand was unable to participate in the meeting.

(a) Purpose of the meeting

The Chair elaborated on the purpose of the meeting, describing how the meeting intended to inform the Alliance Advisory Council on progress and to invite them to share their own activities. The Chair (Walker Smith, EPA) highlighted the new name “Advisory Council” which better reflects its central role to the Alliance than the previous name of “Advisory Group”.

(b) Overview of progress to date

The Chair provided an update on the key areas of progress since the last Advisory Council meeting. Highlighted was the publication of the Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint and its various translations, the resolution of the American Bar Association, the UNEA 3 resolution which marked strong consensus from all Member States on the issue of lead, the development of a Global Environment Facility project including a lead paint component, and the admission of new members to the Lead Paint Alliance.

Item 2: Organizational Matters

(a) Adoption of the provisional agenda

The Lead Paint Alliance Advisory Council adopted the agenda for the meeting on the basis of the provisional agenda.

Item 3: Review of overall progress in relation to the Lead Paint Alliance Action Plan 2017–2018 and links to the SAICM GEF project lead in paint component.

(a) Updates from Advisory Council Members

Members of the Advisory Council were invited to report back on their key activities carried out within the previous year, and the results and outcomes in relation to the Lead Paint Alliance Action Plan 2017–2018.

IPPIC reflected on their ongoing commitment to the Lead Paint Alliance, and their role in furthering the lead paint agenda. IPPIC announced that they have endorsed the model law and have posted it on their website. They have also sent a support letter to the Global Environment Facility offering their support for the GEF project and

offering to increase their capacity to hold industry workshops, and establish regional country 'champions' for lead in paint.

The European Commission (EC) noted that lead is already heavily restricted in Europe, but certain yellow and red pigments (lead chromate and sulfochromate) are still permitted under a special authorization procedure. In January 2014, the EC received a number of requests for use, and authorization was granted for a limited period (until February 2022 for industrial use, and January 2019 for professional non-consumer use). Those wanting to extend this need to re-apply for a permit for use. The use of the exempted pigments is decreasing, as observed from the required reporting from companies using these compounds. Nonetheless, the EC anticipates that it may receive applications for extensions, which will be published in a 2-month public comment period.

IPEN reflected on their key lead activities from 2017. This included the collection and release of lead paint testing data in 19 countries, and the release of one global and one regional report, along with other national reports. They advocated for and supported the enactment of lead paint legislation in Cameroon, and supported the implementation of lead paint legislation in the Philippines. Standards in Tanzania were developed and are now in force, but those for Bangladesh and Ethiopia are still pending. An IPEN member NGO promoted the revision of Brazilian standards for lead in paint. IPEN described their activities from ILPPW in 2017, including involvement of 41 IPEN partners in 37 countries. In 2018, IPEN intends to conduct paint testing in The Gambia, Iraq, Mexico and Jamaica. A certification program developed by IPEN is being adopted, and at this stage one company from Bangladesh and one from the Philippines have joined who are receiving certification. Interest has been expressed by companies in Kenya, Tanzania, Sri Lanka and Brazil. Kenya passed legislation for 90ppm total lead; Pakistan for 100ppm, and Brazil for 90ppm which is currently being expanded to include all paints.

Colombia described how their Ministry of Environment is investigating lead use in paint in the country by testing 200 samples of home-use paint. This will form the basis for the development of a plan of action for the elimination of lead paint and technical guidelines for SMEs on reformulating paint to eliminate lead. This is expected to be published at the end of 2018, and the USEPA requested to be sent the results when available.

Moldova described their ILPPW activities, including a televised awareness-raising activity and a social media presence. National legislation is under development that will control lead in paint at 90ppm, and will control the import of lead paint. The Ministry of Health has developed a set of questions and answers about the new legislation which is on their website. A national strategy and action plan to 2020 has been developed which is currently open for public comments and is expected to be finalized by the end of 2018. IPEN noted that the Moldova activities are largely the result of the regional workshop held in Moldova in May 2016, which resulted in support from the UNEP Regional Office for Europe to promote a lead paint law.

Due to technical difficulties, Kenya was unable to provide an update during the call. Following the call, they provided information describing their activities and current status. Kenya established a National Lead Paint Standard of 90 ppm legal limit of total dry weight. The standard was developed by involvement of 15 Technical Committee Members from 15 different institutions. The institutions included 5 major Paint Manufacturers, Academia, Research, Regulators, Consumer Network, and Enforcers. Awareness-raising efforts for the introduction of these standards were conducted using a range of media. The Kenya Bureau of Standards continued to work on the harmonization of the lead paint standards in the East Africa Community (five member states) as a new work item for 2017/2018. The University of Nairobi, a partner to the Lead Paint Alliance, continues to encourage their undergraduate and postgraduate students to undertake projects related to lead in paint. The Centre for Environment Justice and Development (CEJAD), NGO organized a stakeholders' dialogue workshop on National regulation of lead paints in Kenya. At the Third United Nations Environment Assembly, Kenya made voluntary commitments to promote elimination of lead in paint and participated during the side event.

IPPIC confirmed that they are able to reach industry through its associations, and that they endorsed the model law and guidance on the IPPIC website, including through a supportive funding letter. They are establishing regional 'champions' which focus on lead paint reduction at government level. IPPIC remains committed to the goals of the Lead Paint Alliance.

(b) Overview of lead paint component of SAICM GEF full-sized project

In July 2017, the Global Environment Facility approved a SAICM full-sized project with a lead paint component. UN Environment provided an update on this project, and circulated a supporting presentation. The goal of this project is to see 40 countries restrict the use of lead in paint, and this will be achieved through a number of small- and medium-sized enterprise paint industry pilot projects, and legislative, communication and advocacy work.

The project is in the development and planning stage, and is expected to be finalized in 2018. The project will begin with a letter from WHO and UNEP inviting countries to join the project. Once they sign on, WHO, UNEP, or the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI) can take the lead in a country depending on their needs. The project will measure the number of countries with laws and number of companies switching to lead-free paint manufacturing.

A question was asked about how the lead component relates to other components in the project, especially with regards to being finished for submittal. UN Environment explained that the lead paint component part is in an advanced stage of development and the other components are not expected to delay the commencement of the project. It was noted that co-financing is also in place for all the project components.

UNEP will send the whole project document to the Advisory Council, once ready, for review

(c) Status of legislation/lead paint limits in “fast track” countries: Brazil, Cambodia, Jamaica, Ukraine, Moldova

Since the last Update of Global Status of Legislation on Lead Paint in September 2017, some countries have made progress drafting new or improving legislation or regulations on Lead Paint. Country representatives, UN Environment regional coordinators, IPEN and the USEPA shared information about the current status of legislation or regulations in these countries.

Brazil is currently updating the draft law to reduce the lead content to 90ppm and expand the scope to include all paints. The draft revision was open for public comments until March 2018. Comments have been received, including joint comments from USEPA and UN Environment, and suggestions compiled, and a summary of this input has been published by the Ministry of Environment. The law will be amended based on these comments, and will be submitted to Congress. The Alliance may be able to view this revised draft before it is sent to Congress. Following the Advisory Council call, it was confirmed that the Alliance will be able to review the draft.

In Jamaica, awareness-raising activities on the model law have been held, including a one-day briefing hosted by the School of Law in December 2017, and discussion with government agencies. Jamaica is open to developing a lead paint law and would like to conduct testing of paint. IPEN will do the testing in cooperation with a local NGO (CARPIN) and release the results during the ILPPW.

In Ukraine, funding was received from the Organization for Security Cooperation Europe (OSCE) to develop legislation. A final draft of this legislation is now available, and is being reviewed by the US EPA, UN Environment, and ABA ROLI. The action on lead paint in the Ukraine is a result of the Moldova 2016 workshop which prompted the OSCE to fund the development of this regulation.

A Law on Chemicals is being developed in Moldova. Questions were posed about the content of this law (concerning its apparent limitation to lead carbonates and sulfates rather than all lead compounds), and the representative of Moldova agreed to provide the Advisory Council with more information on the specific contents of the law at a later date. The first draft of the law was written in 2016 and it has been undergoing agency review since then, and still needs to be adopted by Parliament. It is unclear if any changes have been made to the law during this review period.

Cambodia's lead paint restriction is currently included in a broader environmental law, which is currently under development. USEPA is providing technical assistance in drafting the lead paint language and is also working with Cambodia to draft implementing regulations for the lead paint law. The timeline for finalisation and enactment of this environment decree was unknown.

Item 4: Lead Paint Alliance communication and outreach

(a) Lead Paint Alliance brand identity guidelines on the use of the new identifier

The USEPA, as Chair of the Alliance, has contributed its expertise in developing the Lead Paint Alliance communication materials including the brand identity guidelines. WHO presented on the brand identity guidelines describing two images: a red paint slash with the words 'Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint', which will be the formal identifier of the Alliance, and a colourful 'stop' sign with the words 'Ban lead paint', which will be a campaign graphic. Use of the Alliance identifier will be restricted to WHO, UN Environment, while the Chair and other partners will be able to use the identifier for limited purposes, with the approval of WHO and UN Environment. The 'stop' sign will be available for more general use including for the ILPPW. The brand identity guidelines are still under development and will be provided to the Advisory Council when finalized.

(b) Update on the Lead Paint Alliance website

UN Environment is the host to the Lead Paint Alliance website. USEPA described how to search and navigate for lead paint documents in the new un.environment.org website. A supporting presentation was circulated.

(c) Analysis of International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (ILPPW) and planning for 2018

Since the inception of the annual ILPPW, organizations arranging events have been asked to provide information through a registration page hosted on the WHO website. WHO presented an analysis of events held as part of the ILPPW events since its inception. WHO noted that the Alliance is seeking more engagement by partners, especially of the industry sector, and invited IPPIC to be more involved during the ILPPW. WHO is working on developing improved mechanisms to record and track the types of events held during ILPPW, in order to better assess their effectiveness and outcomes. WHO also invited input and ideas for events during the ILPPW.

Item 5: Lead Paint Alliance Advisory Council operations

(a) Bi-annual meetings

The Advisory Council is expected to communicate regularly and meet via teleconference or face-to-face at least twice a year. The proposed schedule of upcoming meetings is: October 2018, February 2019, and September 2019. Specific dates will be identified after this teleconference, with input from all participants.

(b) Updates on new Partners

WHO and UN Environment reported on new partners that have been officially accepted to the Lead Paint Alliance. Note that Foncham International was incorrectly included in the new participants list, as this application is still pending approval by the WHO.

Item 6: Any other business

No other orders of business were raised.

Item 7: Closure of the meeting

The meeting concluded at 15:00 Geneva time, and closing remarks were received from the Chair and the Secretariat.