

Draft questions to the Working Groups of the Chemicals in Products Scoping Meeting

Priority sectors and existing information systems

1. Taking into consideration the priorities and associated rationale identified by the needs survey, the working groups are requested to identify and order the five top priority sectors to be considered for the analysis phase of the project and to outline:

- Why are the sectors of high priority?
- Are there some sub-sectors in the priority sectors that the group feels should serve as good examples for the analysis phase of the project?*. For example, mobile phones could maybe be chosen to serve as an example in the study of electronic products.

2. Taking into consideration information systems (e.g. those identified through the needs survey):

- Are there any chemicals information systems known to be in use and associated with the above priority sectors (or sub-sectors) and information categories?
- Are there systems that appear to hold a special potential for adaptation to enable the transfer of the appropriate chemicals information to the needs of relevant stakeholders?

Stakeholders and their needs

3. Taking into consideration the information categories identified in the needs survey and the corresponding stakeholder groups and their needs and uses:

- Identify who are the major stakeholders groups to be considered for information on chemicals in products in general. What is the main reason for their information need.
- Is there any special or key chemicals information that should be associated to the above priority sectors / sub-sectors?
- Identify major points through the product life cycle where a product's chemical-content information can be associated with the product. Identify points in the life cycle where such information could potentially be lost.

Identifying key questions to be answered in the analysis phase and recommendations for possible case studies and in which regions

4. Identify key questions that should be responded to through the analytical phase, including those of case studies**.

5. Discuss and suggest up to 3 case studies, preferably in different regions, analyzing stakeholders' needs and possibly against available information systems, for the priority product sectors.

* As an example, electronic goods can perhaps be divided into PC processing units, mobile phones, televisions and cathode-ray tube monitors, printers and peripherals. With respect to their associated chemicals information needs, some of these may have similar supply / manufacturing chains, disposal routes, consumer groups, etc. In the project's analytical phase it may be necessary to look into only a certain defined area(s) and for this it would be useful to know if the group thinks of those that could most usefully be the target of the analytical work.

** Examples:

What factors should be considered when information is presented so that it may be effectively understood, transmitted and used by the stakeholder groups that would need it?

Are there needs specific to developing countries and countries with economies in transition and how might these be taken into account in chemicals in information systems?

How might chemicals information potentially be associated with a product to ensure it remains available? For example, attached to the product, included with (i.e. accompanying) the product, available via a centralized source (e.g. an on-line database) or made available in some other way?