Information on Chemicals in Products – a Key to Sustainability

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"Lack of Information on Chemicals in Products is an Obstacle in achieving a Greener Economy”

Side-event at the Commission on Sustainable Development, CSD-18, May 2010
Information on Chemicals in Products is a Key to Sustainability

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With improved information Designers can more safely use Recycled Materials

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Examples of Chemical additives in materials

- Stabilizers (tin and lead compounds)
- Plasticizers/softeners (phtalats; DEHP)
- Pigments (azo dyes)
- Flame retardants (HBCD, deca-BDE, SCCPs etc)
- Anti-bacterial substances (silver, triclosan)
- Dirt and water repellant (Perfluorinated compounds)
Examples of Chemicals for assembling and surface coating of products

Assembling
• Glues
• Sealants

Surface coating
• Paints
• Varnishes
• Chromium plating

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Producers are central in documenting and enabling information transfer.

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Childrens products

- Lead in paint, pastels, plastic toys, jewelry
- Neurotoxicant

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Retailers and consumers should have access to information for informed choices

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Consumers need access to information for improved waste management

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Information can improve Recycling and Waste management

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Greener Economy by closing the circle

Possibilities for safer reuse of materials in designing and producing new products

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Global cooperative action to improve information - a key to improved Sustainability

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