

## SAICM Preparations for OEWG and ICCM3: Reporting on progress on emerging issues

SAICM secretariat

Workshop of the Chemicals in Products Project  
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## SAICM Preparations for OEWG/ICCM-3

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### SAICM: What It Is

- SAICM is a global policy framework to support efforts to achieve:
  - By 2020, chemicals are produced and used in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment;
- SAICM aims to coordinate, catalyse and facilitate.

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### What SAICM is *not*

SAICM is *not* a legally binding instrument.

SAICM is *not* a new organization.

SAICM does *not* replace existing institutions and mechanisms.

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### SAICM: What It Consists Of

- **Dubai Declaration** on International Chemicals Management (*political commitment*);
- **Overarching Policy Strategy** (*scope, needs, objectives, principles, financial and implementation arrangements*);
- **Global Plan of Action** (*work areas, activities, actors, timeframes and targets, indicators of progress*);

➤ *Note: Resolutions adopted by SAICM's governing body (ICCM) supplement these documents*

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### Governing Bodies

- International Conference of Chemicals Management (ICCM);
- SAICM Quick Start Programme Executive Board;
- Quick Start Programme Trust Fund Implementation Committee;
- ICCM Subsidiary bodies: Open-ended Legal and Technical Working Group (OELTWG) and Open-ended Working Group.

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### ICCM-1

- Held from 4-6 February 2006, Dubai;
- Adopted the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM), including the Dubai Declaration, the Overarching Policy Strategy and the Global Plan of Action;
- Establishment administrative arrangements: SAICM secretariat, Quick Start Program (Trust Fund, QSP Executive Board and QSP Implementation Committee).

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### ICCM-2

- Held from 11-15 May 2009 in Geneva, Switzerland;
- 800 participants from the public and private sector, including representatives from over 150 governments, intergovernmental organizations, NGOs, and industry;
- Key agenda items:
  - Rules of procedure;
  - **New emerging policy issues;**
  - Intersessional bodies;
  - Finance-related matters;
  - Relation to IFCS;
  - **Reporting of progress**
  - Strengthening of national capacities;
  - Inclusion of new activities in the SAICM GPA.

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### Outcomes of ICCM-2 - Rules of procedure

- Rules of procedure adopted (with the exception of a paragraph on the adoption of decisions);
- Contents:
  - Definition of terms;
  - Handling of sensitive matters;
  - Procedures for representation, credentials and accreditation;
  - Members and operation of the Bureau;
  - Functions of the Secretariat;
  - Role of subsidiary bodies;
  - Conduct of business of the ICCM;
  - Procedure for the adoption of decisions;
- IGOs represented in the Bureau (present IOMC chair).

### Outcomes of ICCM-2 - Emerging issues (1)

#### Process for considering emerging issues

- Open and transparent process with participation of all stakeholders;
- Secretariat to facilitate the process;
- Procedure includes five stages:
  - Call for nominations (18 months in advance of the ICCM session);
  - Submission of initial information through a questionnaire taking into account the definition of “emerging issue”;
  - Initial review and publication of submissions by the Secretariat;
  - Prioritization of submissions;
  - Inclusion of emerging issues on the provisional agenda of ICCM.

### Outcomes of ICCM-2 - Emerging issues (2)

#### Nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials:

- Acknowledgment of potential environmental and human health benefits and risks;
- Need to undertake further research;
- Request to facilitate access to relevant information and share new information as it becomes available;
- Development of a report considering, in particular, issues of relevance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
- UNITAR, in collaboration with OECD, involved in the above activities.

### Outcomes of ICCM-2 - Emerging issues (3)

#### Chemicals in products:

- Need for increased availability of and access to information on chemicals in products in the supply chain and throughout their life cycles;
- Implementation of a UNEP-led project to:
  - collect and review existing information on information systems on chemicals in products;
  - assess the information needs of different stakeholders;
  - develop recommendations for cooperative action with regard to information on chemicals in products;
- Constitution of a project advisory group and preparation of a project report.

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### Outcomes of ICCM-2 - Emerging issues (4)

#### Electronic waste:

- Organization of a workshop to identify and assess chemicals management related issues during the lifespan of electronic and electrical equipment, including their design, green chemistry, recycling and disposal;
- Recognition that near-end-of-life and end-of-life electrical and electronic products are a growing concern in developing countries and identified lack of capacity to handle those materials in a safe manner;
- Design of greener electronic and electrical products;
- Consideration of product stewardship and extended producer responsibility.

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### Outcomes of ICCM-2 - Emerging issues (5)

#### Lead in paint:

- Decision to establish a global partnership to promote the phasing out of lead in paints with the following objectives:
  - Awareness raising on the toxicity of lead and on alternatives;
  - Guidance and assistance to identify potential lead exposure;
  - Prevention programmes to reduce exposure;
  - Promotion of national regulatory efforts;
- UNEP and WHO to serve as the partnership's secretariat.

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### Outcomes of ICCM-2 - Emerging issues (6)

#### PFCs:

- Further scientific research needed on environmental and health effects of PFCs;
- Need to develop alternatives to PFCs;
- Agreement to eliminate PFCs and to promote the transfer of technologies to achieve this objective;
- Development of stewardship programmes and regulatory approaches to reduce emissions and content of PFCs in products;
- Development of information gathering and information exchange activities (alternatives currently in use, regulatory actions and voluntary programmes);
- Need to monitor emissions, environmental fate and transport, and exposure to PFCs.

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### Outcomes of ICCM-2 - Open-ended Working Group

- Agreement to establish an open-ended working group (OEWG) as intersessional subsidiary body;
- Function is *to review and discuss proposals on emerging issues prior to ICCM sessions*;
- Meeting once in the year prior to each session of the conference;
- Consideration of progress made in the implementation, development and enhancement of SAICM.

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### Outcomes of ICCM-2 – Modalities for reporting progress in implementation

#### Proposal on modalities contains three chapters:

- A. Overall guidance** (how to respond to a questionnaire for data collection for performance indicators)
- B. Indicators** (identification of 20 indicators organized into five groupings)
  - Risk reduction;
  - Knowledge and information;
  - Governance;
  - Capacity building and technical cooperation; and
  - Illegal international traffic;
- *Collection of data at the national level, but monitoring of progress at the regional and global levels*
- C. Preparation of reports** (first progress report to be completed by the end of 2011)

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### Outcomes of ICCM-2 - Inclusion of new activities in SAICM's GPA

- Procedure to include new activities has been approved;
- Criteria for proposals:
  - Relevance to SAICM's Overarching Policy;
  - Adverse effects on human health and the environment;
  - Consistency with and complementarity to existing international policies or agreements.

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### Other notable features of ICCM2 included:

- Took note of guidance document developed by SAICM & UNITAR in collaboration with IOMC on the development of SAICM implementation plans,
- Technical briefings on emerging policy issues,
- Two high-level roundtables on public health and financing of SAICM,
- SAICM awards to 45 contributors (financial and in-kind),
- Over 25 side events, including ICCA CEOs, CropLife and ICMM, CEC, US Government, European Commission,
- Exhibitions.

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### Intersessional period – Outlook:

- Established intersessional bodies, mechanisms and processes are to provide the necessary information to evaluate the progress made in the implementation of the SAICM.
- Regional meetings until ICCM3 (2012):
  - African regional meeting, Nairobi (4-8 April 2011)
  - Latin American and Caribbean regional meeting, Panama (2011)
  - Asia-Pacific regional meeting, Beijing (July 2011)
  - Central and Eastern European regional meeting, Lodz, Poland (June 2011)
  - QSP Implementing Committee, QSP Executive Board, SAICM Bureau
- First session of Open-ended Working Group, Belgrade Aug 29- Sep 3, 2011.
- ICCM-3 to be held in Summer 2012.

## SAICM Preparations for OEWG/ICCM-3

### Conclusion:

- SAICM process entering important implementation phase (after establishment of structure and required processes);
- OEWG key element in the decision making process leading to ICCM3.
- Further information:
  - ICCM-2 report and further information available at: website of SAICM secretariat, [www.saicm.org](http://www.saicm.org);
  - For summaries of the results of ICCM-2:  
*ICCM-2: <http://www.iisd.ca/vol15/enb15175e.html>*



# Thank you

Please visit the SAICM web site at:

[www.saicm.org](http://www.saicm.org)

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