The Chemicals in Products (CiP) Project

Background & work undertaken

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How the CiP project started (1)

- SAICM established at ICCM in 2006
- SAICM Overarching Policy Strategy (OPS) objectives to meet the World Summit Goal

  « that by 2020 chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment »

How the CiP project started (2)

- OPS objective 15 with regard to knowledge and information includes *inter alia* :

- a) to ensure that knowledge and information on chemicals and chemicals management are sufficient to enable chemicals to be adequately assessed and managed safely throughout their life cycle

- b) to ensure, for all stakeholders:
  that information on chemicals throughout their life-cycle, including, where appropriate, chemicals in products, is available, accessible, user friendly, adequate and appropriate to the needs of all stakeholders. Appropriate types of information include their effects on human health and the environment, their intrinsic properties, their potential uses, their protective measures and regulation

Informal Workshop on Stakeholders' Information Needs on Chemicals in Articles / Products (2009) (1)

Concluded *inter alia* that

- current efforts and capacities to provide information about chemicals in articles/products and alternatives are not sufficient for informed decision making to protect human health and the environment throughout the life-cycle of articles/products
- international cooperation on this issue is essential and urgent action is needed to ensure global harmonization of information flow and access, avoid the creation of a patchwork of information systems and maximize the benefits to all stakeholders

Informal Workshop on Stakeholders' Information Needs on Chemicals in Articles / Products (2009) (2)

Recommended *inter alia* that

- a working group be established by the ICCM at its second session that responds to the need for information on chemicals in articles/products in the supply chain and throughout the life-cycle with a mandate to review existing information and develop a proposal for an information system or framework of systems and/or actions

ICCM2 (1)

Decided to implement a project with the overall objective of promoting the implementation of paragraph 15 (b) of the Overarching Policy Strategy of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management;

ICCM2 (2)

Agreed that the project will:
(a) Collect and review existing information on information systems pertaining to chemicals in products including but not limited to regulations, standards and industry practices;
(b) Assess that information in relation to the needs of all relevant stakeholders and identify gaps;
(c) Develop specific recommendations for actions to promote implementation of the Strategic Approach with regard to such information, incorporating identified priorities and access and delivery mechanisms;

Recommended that proposals for cooperative actions should take into account the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals and avoid any duplication of efforts under that system;

ICCM2 (3)

Invited UNEP to lead and facilitate the project in an open, transparent and inclusive manner, for instance through use of the Strategic Approach clearing-house mechanism and to constitute a steering group to advise it on the development and implementation of the project;

Requested each member (region) and participants (NGOs and IGO representatives) to nominate one expert each to the steering group,

Invited the UNEP to report on the project and its outcomes to the OEWG and to ICCM3 for consideration and possible decision on cooperative actions

Scoping phase of the CiP project

- survey among SAICM focal points on information systems, stakeholder needs, gaps and priorities for product sectors
- scoping meeting where priority sectors were identified for in-depth studies during the analytical phase

Scoping Meeting

The meeting recommended that priority be given to the following product sectors for in-depth analysis:

- Children's products including toys
- Electronic goods (in particular computers and mobile phones)
- Clothing and apparel (including shoes, leather and textiles and natural and synthetic fibres)
- Construction materials (including products causing indoor exposure and end-of-life reuse)
- Cosmetics and personal care
- Food containers and food packaging (including plastic materials)

Analytical phase of the CiP project

- a general study providing an overview of existing information systems and stakeholder needs and gaps analysis(Kogg& Thidell)

- case studies in 4 prioritized sectors providing in-depth analysis of situation in
  - toys,
  - electronics,
  - textiles and
  - building materials sector-expert

- Sector-expert consultation (Dec. 2010) discussed commonalities and specifics, as well as gaps and obstacles identified for the four sectors and possible ways to address these

International Workshop (1)

Workshop objectives:

- raise a wider awareness and understanding among SAICM stakeholders of the progress and findings of the project
- to review outcomes of the scoping and analytical phases
- discuss identified gaps and issues and possible options for addressing them
- identify and recommend elements (topics, points, questions etc.) to be addressed in the recommendations for cooperative actions, that are to be elaborated first as draft recommendations for OEWG (Aug 2011) and then further elaborated / finalized for consideration at ICCM3 in 2012

International Workshop (2)

To facilitate the tasks at the workshop the synthesis report was developed to provide an overview of

- the needs of major stakeholder groups,
- the experiences with existing information systems in the different sectors,
- understanding of gaps and obstacles for exchanging information on chemicals in products
- the conclusions of the different studies and meetings, including possible ways forward

International Workshop (3)

The workshop will split into 4 break-out groups to discuss a number of questions on:

1) What conclusions can be drawn regarding information needs and gaps?

2) What next steps are suggested that would contribute to the implementation of SAICM regarding the information needs?

Based on the break-out group discussions, the workshop will then develop conclusions and recommendations, including elements to be addressed in the recommendations for cooperative actions.

International Workshop (4)

The recommendations for cooperative actions should preferably

- provide a course of action to implement the SAICM objective that sufficient information is provided to different stakeholder groups to enable them to assess and manage risks from chemicals contained in products

- provide a path forward beyond ICCM3 and if possible also suggest milestones for the cooperative actions