

Committee of Permanent Representatives
Subcommittee Meeting
Thursday, 27 April 2023
10:00 – 13:00, 15:00 – 18:00 (GMT+3)
Conference Room 1
Hybrid meeting

Agenda item 5: Briefing on the outcomes of IP4.3 SAICM meeting and preparations for ICCM-5.

This background document has been developed by the Secretariat to inform the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the outcomes of the IP4.3 SAICM meeting and preparations for ICCM-5. More specifically, it includes detailed information on the following aspects of the IP4.3 SAICM meeting and preparations for ICCM-5:

- Introduction;
- Fourth meeting of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020;
- Fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5);
- Next steps.

Following the presentation, Member States and Stakeholders are invited to engage in an exchange of views with the Secretariat regarding the outcomes of the IP4.3 SAICM meeting and preparations for ICCM-5.

Background document

Briefing on the outcomes of the resumed Fourth meeting of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste held in Nairobi, Kenya, 27 February-3 March 2023, and preparations for the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5) to be held 25 – 29 September 2023 in Bonn, Germany

27 April 2023

I. Introduction

1. This background document presents an update on the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 and preparations for fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5), scheduled for 25 – 29 September 2023 in Bonn, Germany.

II. Fourth meeting of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020

2. The IP4 meeting supported the stakeholders in their efforts to elaborate the future arrangements of the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 for consideration at the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5).

3. The IP4 meeting was held in Bucharest, Romania, from 29 August to 2 September 2022. During the meeting any essential elements of a recommended future instrument were incorporated into a single consolidated document. The language was made more understandable, clearer, and concise. Progress was made in reducing the number of targets and incorporating many new ideas and concepts raised since the third intersessional process (IP 3) meeting held in October 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand. However, despite intensive efforts undertaken in Bucharest, it was not possible to complete the intersessional process (IP) mandate. Therefore, during the plenary session held on Friday, 2 September 2022, the IP Co-Chairs outlined a proposal to adjourn IP4 and resume in early 2023, with a view to concluding consideration of the IP4 agenda. This proposal was accepted by the participants. The report of the IP4 Bucharest meeting can be found [here](#).

4. The Nairobi resumed IP4 meeting established thematic groups and Friends of the Cochairs with the objective to review the single consolidated document and to delete as many brackets as possible and consider restructuring some of its parts with a view to enhance the overall coherence and readability of the document. Approximately 400 delegates attended, representing governments, intergovernmental organizations, industry, civil society organizations and other constituencies including children and youth.

5. While significant progress was made on some parts of the text such as introduction and mechanisms to support implementation, there is still some significant work to be done on other parts such as targets and financial considerations. Therefore, the IP Co-Chairs outlined a proposal on 3 March 2023 to re-adjourn the Intersessional Process and reconvene two days before ICCM5 in Bonn, Germany on 23 and 24 September 2023. The Intersessional Process Consolidated Document can be found [here](#).

III. Fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5)

6. The fifth session of the International Conference for Chemicals Management (ICCM 5) and its high level segment will take place In Bonn between 25- 29 September 2023. There will be two days of a resumed IP4 meeting just prior to ICCM5.

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7. The High-Level Segment at ICCM5 will deliberate and decide on the further development of broad cross-sectoral and inclusive multi-stakeholder international chemicals and waste policy with a view to adopting a new enabling global framework instrument for chemicals and waste that is underpinned by a High-Level Declaration (Bonn Declaration). The High-Level Segment will lay the political foundation for ambitious commitments to address global chemicals and waste impacts in the context of the complex challenges of our time.
 8. The High-Level Declaration and new enabling global framework instrument aim to address the severe impacts of toxic chemical pollution globally. The Lancet Commission on Health and Pollution estimates at least 9 million (or one in six) premature deaths every year result from exposure to toxic chemical pollution of air, water, and soil, overwhelmingly impacting children, women, elders, and the poor in developing countries. The ILO estimates that over 1.1 million deaths are directly due to toxic exposures in the workplace. The World Bank assessment of the economic costs of inaction for toxic lead exposure alone, amounts to a reduction in global Gross Domestic Product of between 4 to 7.2% annually.
 9. The framework will create the mechanisms and incentives to foster the effective commitment and engagement of the economic and social sectors that play a key role in promoting and implementing the sound management of chemicals and waste, including innovative financing solutions. It is expected to bring in circular approaches, lifecycle thinking, and multiple benefits valuable to other agendas such as biodiversity, climate, human rights approaches. It holds significant potential in scaling up collective and whole of society actions reaching out to key sectoral ministries beyond environment ones that are needed to address coherently the pollution planetary crisis towards the achievement of the SDGs.

IV. Next steps

10. The invitations to ICCM5 and its High-Level Segment will be sent shortly, and registration is expected to commence in the month of May, 2023.
 11. ICCM5 Bureau and IP Co-Chairs are working on the finalization of the ICCM4 mandate on the development of a recommended future SAICM successor and preparation of the ICCM5 and the resumed IP4 meetings in Bonn.
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