

## 'UNEP's Call for Written Inputs on Issues of Concern: Priorities for further work and potential further international action

### Introduction

UNEP is undertaking a consultation on priorities for further work and potential further international action on 19 Issues of concern. This call for written inputs is being conducted to gather relevant information from stakeholders and views about the next steps that should be taken on issues of concern.

The call for inputs will address 19 issues of concern and you may wish to only provide answers for issues of concern that are of relevance to your organization/ country. At the start of each section, you will be asked whether you would like to provide responses on each specific issue. If you choose "No" on the introduction page of each issue you may proceed to the next issue of concern.

Please be aware that the submitted responses will be made available on the UNEP website indicating the stakeholder affiliation/ government. The names and contact details of the respondents will not be published on the UNEP website. Further information on UNEPs consultation process can be [found here](#).

We highly recommend coordinating responses within your stakeholder affiliation/ government. Please complete this form for collecting written inputs by **15/08/2023** COB Central European time (CET).

For those using this MS word version, kindly return the completed word version of the call for written inputs. Please remember to save your work often, due to the addition of ActiveX controls below (such as option buttons and checkboxes), the autosave feature is not available on this form.

Please enter your email details.

Email:

### Background

In 2020, UNEP developed an [Assessment Report on Issues of Concern](#), to inform the international community about the current situation of specific chemicals and waste issues. It was based on a review of published evidence. It was intended to support discussion at the fifth session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA 5) and other international forums working towards sound management of chemicals and waste. The Assessment Report assessed the ability of existing actions to address current environmental and human exposure to individual chemicals and groups of chemicals. It looked at 11 issues with emerging evidence of risks identified by the Global Chemicals Outlook-II and the 6 Emerging Policy Issues (EPIs) and two other Issues of Concern identified under the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM). The report concluded that concerted international action by all stakeholders at all levels is urgently required.

GCO-II issues	SAICM Issues
1) <a href="#">Arsenic</a>	1) <a href="#">Chemicals in products (CIP)</a>
2) <a href="#">Bisphenol A (BPA)</a>	2) <a href="#">Endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs)</a>
3) <a href="#">Cadmium</a>	3) <a href="#">Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants (EPPPs)</a>
4) <a href="#">Glyphosate</a>	4) <a href="#">Hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products (HSLEEP)</a>
5) <a href="#">Lead</a>	5) <a href="#">Highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs)</a>
6) <a href="#">Microplastics</a>	6) <a href="#">Lead in paint</a>
7) <a href="#">Neonicotinoids</a>	7) <a href="#">Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials</a>
8) <a href="#">Organotins</a>	8) <a href="#">Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) and the transition to safer alternatives</a>
9) <a href="#">Phthalates</a>	
10) <a href="#">Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)</a>	
11) <a href="#">Triclosan</a>	

In March 2022, at UNEA 5.2, UNEP was requested through [resolution 5/7](#) to seek views from Member States and other stakeholders on priorities for further work, building on existing measures and initiatives, and on potential further international action on the issues discussed in the Assessment Report on Issues of Concern. The resolution also requests the preparation of a summary analysis, taking into account the views received.

Through this call for inputs, UNEP intends to respond to UNEA's request by gathering information from stakeholders about the priorities for future work and potential further international action. The findings from this call for written inputs will inform the writing of the Summary Analysis. The Summary Analysis is expected to build upon the [SAICM Survey](#) which considered the 8 EPIs and other issues of concern.

Available resources to support your responses:

All 19 issues of concern will be covered in this call for written inputs. A recording from an information webinar held on 27 April 2023, on the Assessment Report on Issues of Concern is [available here](#) for your reference. Further background information can be found below:

- Assessment report [here>>](#)
- Annexes [here>>](#)
- Factsheets on Issues of concern [here>>](#)
- Catalogue of International Actions on Chemicals and Waste [here>>](#)
- Survey from SAICM Sec on EPIs [here>>](#)

The form for submitting written inputs will remain open until **15/08/2023** COB Central European time (CET).

Thank you for your kind support with this consultation.



Personal Information:

**Institution/Organization:**

National Scientific Practical Centre of Hygiene of the Ministry of Health (SPCH)

**Type of Institution:** ([Government](#) | [Intergovernmental Organization](#) | [Civil Society Organization](#) | [Business/Private Sector](#) | [Academia](#) | [Other](#))

Academia

**If relevant, please describe the membership coverage, geographical coverage and area of interest of your institution:**

Scientific Practical Centre of Hygiene of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Belarus (the PIC number is 893876438) – scientific organization and advanced testing institution in the field of hygiene, toxicology, health protection and preventive medicine in Belarus.

The Scientific Practical Centre of Hygiene (here and after SPCH) engaged in scientific, regulatory and testing activities in the following areas: health risk analysis, environmental hygiene (chemical substances and products, drinking water, ambient air, physical factors), children's and adolescents hygiene, occupational health, food safety and nutrition, radiation safety, environmental epidemiology, preventive and ecological toxicology, products and goods testing (microbiological, chemical safety).

The results of our projects have a good practical component, they are used to inform management decisions, control and preventive measures, as well as for developing a number of guidelines and sanitary-epidemiological regulation, as well as for management decisions informing, advising government on health and environmental issues, development of State

programs “Public Health and Demographic Security”, “Environment and Health”, National strategies and plans.

Professional competence of the qualified researchers (42 PhDs, 4 Doctors of science, 4 Professors) are recognized by scientific authority and confirmed on regional, national and international levels due to successful realization of international projects of WHO, UNEP, UNDP, ECE. A number of focal points for international agreements in the field of environment and health, public health issues operate on the base of SPCH: European Environmental and Health Task Force (EHP), The Protocol on Water and Health, The Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM), Codex Alimentarius, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Emergency Preparedness and Response Standards Committee (EPRaSC).

We are acting member of *WHO Global Chemicals and Health Network* and *WHO Chemical Risk Assessment Network*.

*International Educational center* (licensed by Ministry of Education) based at our Centre delivers trainings to promote update knowledge in the field of environmental and health and preventive medicine for Belarussian and neighboring country professionals. International Educational center working on training in the area of toxicology, risk analysis, chemical safety, radiation safety and food safety. Nowadays we realize several international projects in the field of chemical safety, radiation safety, food safety and toxicology as well.

More detailed information can be found here [www.rspch.by](http://www.rspch.by) [www.certificate.by](http://www.certificate.by)

**Country:** Belarus

## Questions

### 1. Arsenic

#### Screening Question - Arsenic

Arsenic is a naturally occurring metalloid that is ubiquitous in the Earth's crust. It is present in various inorganic and organic forms. Arsenic and arsenic compounds are used intentionally in wood preservatives, pesticides, animal feed additives, pharmaceuticals, glass production, alloy manufacturing, electronics, and semiconductor manufacturing.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Arsenic](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, e.g. Bisphenol A (BPA))*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:

#### Technical Questions - Arsenic

Arsenic is a naturally occurring metalloid that is ubiquitous in the Earth's crust. It is present in various inorganic and organic forms. Arsenic and arsenic compounds are used intentionally in wood preservatives, pesticides, animal feed additives, pharmaceuticals, glass production, alloy manufacturing, electronics, and semiconductor manufacturing.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Arsenic](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*.

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Legally binding*
- Soft law*
- Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives*
- No international actions are needed*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_.*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. *only coordinated international action can address the issues in sound management of chemicals*

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers)*
- Options / guidance for economic instruments*
- Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)*
- Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

*Political commitments (such as National action plan, state programme) are much more effective than voluntary initiatives.*

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

- Lack of technical capacity*
- Lack of scientific knowledge*
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*
- Difficulty with resource mobilisation*
- Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives*
- Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?*
- None, there are no factors preventing action or progress*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: *political will is the critical important to push the efforts*
5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? (*Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available.*)
6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? (*Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Arsenic](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response.*)
- Agriculture and food production*
  - Construction*
  - Electronics*
  - Energy*
  - Health*
  - Labour*
  - Pharmaceuticals*
  - Public, private, blended finance*
  - Retail*
  - Textiles*
  - Transportation*
  - Waste*
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_*
7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? (*Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...*).
- a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? (*Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):
- Agriculture and Food*
  - Biodiversity*
  - Climate Change*
  - Health*
  - Human Rights*
  - Sustainable Consumption and Production*
  - World of Work*
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

- b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high*
- High*
- Medium*
- Low*
- Very low*

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

*To establish a knowledge sharing Network*



## 2. Bisphenol A (BPA)

### *Screening Question - Bisphenol A (BPA)*

Bisphenols are a group of dozens of organic compounds that have been used as building blocks in the production of polycarbonate plastics, epoxy resins and other products since the 1960s. The variety of products include water bottles, sports equipment, medical devices, household electronics, thermal paper receipts, and food and beverage cans.

Among the bisphenols, bisphenol A (BPA) has attracted the most attention. The consumption of BPA and related products is widespread and estimated to continue to grow in the foreseeable future, driven mainly by increasing demand for polycarbonates and other plastics.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Bisphenol-A](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Cadmium)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:

## Technical Questions - Bisphenol A (BPA)

Bisphenols are a group of dozens of organic compounds that have been used as building blocks in the production of polycarbonate plastics, epoxy resins and other products since the 1960s. The variety of products include water bottles, sports equipment, medical devices, household electronics, thermal paper receipts, and food and beverage cans.

Among the bisphenols, bisphenol A (BPA) has attracted the most attention. The consumption of BPA and related products is widespread and estimated to continue to grow in the foreseeable future, driven mainly by increasing demand for polycarbonates and other plastics.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Bisphenol-A](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes  
 No  
 Do not know

a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. \_\_\_\_\_

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Legally binding  
 Soft law  
 Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives  
 No international actions are needed  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. only coordinated international action can address the issues in sound management of chemicals

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures

- ✓ *Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers)*
- Options / guidance for economic instruments*
- ✓ *Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)*
- ✓ *Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

*MoH was implemented in the WHO project aimed at endocrine-disrupting chemicals (including bisphenol A) into the frame of SAICM QUICK start program financed project (2017-2018). As project results population awareness was raised, a review of the primary incidence of some endocrine diseases was performed, gaps and problems were identified, strategies to minimize the negative impact of hazardous chemicals on the human health of the endocrine system were indicated.*

*There is a gap in legislation for endocrine-disrupting chemicals (including bisphenol A) management. Nevertheless monitoring of containing the some endocrine-disrupting chemicals (including bisphenol A) in products, raw materials and waste during sanitary-epidemiological surveillance is conducted but the findings are fragmented, making it difficult to conduct a comprehensive risk assessment for public health and the environment. More over there is a lack of HBM.*

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

- ✓ *Lack of technical capacity*
- Lack of scientific knowledge*
- ✓ *Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*
- Difficulty with resource mobilisation*
- ✓ *Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives*
- Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?*
- None, there are no factors preventing action or progress*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

*Implementing the WHO project (2017-2018) public awareness was raised, a review of the primary incidence of some endocrine diseases was performed, gaps and problems were identified, strategies to minimize the negative impact of hazardous chemicals on the human health of the endocrine system were indicated.*

*There is a gap in legislation of the Republic of Belarus hazardous chemicals and products related to EDC or containing EDC, as well as requirements for ir.*

*In the there is no legal basis for the regulation of*

- *assessment of the hazard and risk to health and the environment of hazardous chemicals; classification and labeling;*
- *ensuring the safety of the use of chemicals informing those working in industry and agriculture;*
- *establishing the manufacturer's responsibility for safety chemical substances;*
- *information support for those interested in the circulation of chemicals;*
- *control of the content of priority ER in consumer products and*
- *food products.*

*Content regulations are not updated with international requirements ER in cosmetics, personal care products, foam detergents:*

- *bisphenol A in containers and packaging intended for contact with food, groceries, tin cans, goods for children (bottles for feeding, nipples, teethers, etc.);*
- *antipyridines in light industry products, floor carpets, textile products;*
- *nonylphenols, organotin compounds, perfluorooctanesulfonic acids in light industry products.*

*In the Republic of Belarus, monitoring and control of hazardous chemicals in consumer products, raw materials and waste is carried out within the framework of sanitary and epidemiological surveillance. However, information about ER is fragmented, which makes it difficult to conduct a comprehensive risk assessment for public health and the environment. There is no human biomonitoring program.*

*Chemical safety issues are not fully reflected in the curricula of basic and postgraduate medical education, educational and information materials for educational work among the population.*

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Bisphenol A](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response).*

- Agriculture and food production*
- Construction*
- Electronics*
- Energy*
- Health*
- Labour*
- Pharmaceuticals*
- Public, private, blended finance*
- Retail*
- Textiles*
- Transportation*
- Waste*

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? (*Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...*).

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? (*Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

- Agriculture and Food
- Biodiversity
- Climate Change
- Health
- Human Rights
- Sustainable Consumption and Production
- World of Work
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Very low

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

*Regulation within Eurasian Economic Union (The Eurasian Economic Union consists of five member states: Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Armenia) – including ED into the Technical Regulations TR 041/2017 "On Safety of Chemical Production"*

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

*To establish a regional ED knowledge sharing Network including bisphenols*

### 3. Cadmium

#### *Screening Question - Cadmium*

Cadmium is a toxic metal that is naturally found in the Earth's crust, generally at low levels. Cadmium and cadmium compounds are mainly used in nickel-cadmium batteries, alloys, coatings and plating, pigments in plastics, glasses, ceramics and paints, solar cells, PVC stabilisers and others. It has been produced, used and released in large quantities, and thus intentional human uses have caused widespread, persistent contamination and exposure.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Cadmium](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Glyphosate)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:

## Technical Questions - Cadmium

Cadmium is a toxic metal that is naturally found in the Earth's crust, generally at low levels. Cadmium and cadmium compounds are mainly used in nickel-cadmium batteries, alloys, coatings and plating, pigments in plastics, glasses, ceramics and paints, solar cells, PVC stabilisers and others. It has been produced, used and released in large quantities, and thus intentional human uses have caused widespread, persistent contamination and exposure.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Cadmium](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes  
 No  
 Do not know

a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. \_

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions prepared by UNEP for more information on available options](#)).*

- Legally binding  
 Soft law  
 Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives  
 No international actions are needed  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. \_\_\_\_\_

*Regulation is carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Bazel Convention which is in force in Belarus.*

*Political commitments are much more effective than voluntary initiatives.*

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions prepared by UNEP for more information on available options](#)).*

- Regulatory control measures

- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers)*
- Options / guidance for economic instruments*
- Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)*
- Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: *only coordinated international action can address the issues in sound management of chemicals* \_\_\_\_\_

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

- Lack of technical capacity*
- Lack of scientific knowledge*
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*
- Difficulty with resource mobilisation*
- Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives*
- Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?*
- None, there are no factors preventing action or progress*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Cadmium](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response).*

- Agriculture and food production*
- Construction*
- Electronics*
- Energy*
- Health*
- Labour*
- Pharmaceuticals*
- Public, private, blended finance*
- Retail*
- Textiles*
- Transportation*



- Waste
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

In Belarus cadmium is regulated in all relevant sectors of economy.

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? (*Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...*).

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? (*Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

- Agriculture and Food
- Biodiversity
- Climate Change
- Health
- Human Rights
- Sustainable Consumption and Production
- World of Work
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Very low

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

To establish a regional knowledge sharing Network

#### 4. Glyphosate

##### *Screening Question - Glyphosate*

Glyphosate is an organophosphorus herbicide for agricultural, forestry and residential weed control that kills or suppresses all plant types, with the exception of those genetically modified to be tolerant to it. Since its introduction in 1974, glyphosate has become the most widely used herbicide worldwide. The largest use of glyphosate has been in agriculture, however glyphosate use in urban settings can also be a significant source of contamination.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Glyphosate](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Lead)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:

## Technical Questions - Glyphosate

Glyphosate is an organophosphorus herbicide for agricultural, forestry and residential weed control that kills or suppresses all plant types, with the exception of those genetically modified to be tolerant to it. Since its introduction in 1974, glyphosate has become the most widely used herbicide worldwide. The largest use of glyphosate has been in agriculture, however glyphosate use in urban settings can also be a significant source of contamination.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Glyphosate](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. \_\_\_\_\_

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Legally binding
- Soft law
- Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives
- No international actions are needed
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. Lack of reliable information

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers)
- Options / guidance for economic instruments

- Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)*
- Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)*?

- Lack of technical capacity*
- Lack of scientific knowledge*
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*
- Difficulty with resource mobilisation*
- Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives*
- Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?*
- None, there are no factors preventing action or progress*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

*In Belarus TECHNICAL CODE OF ESTABLISHED PRACTICE «RULES FOR HANDLING UNSUITABLE PESTICIDES» TKP 17.11-09-2014 is in force. This Technical Code of Established Practice establishes the rules for handling unsuitable pesticides on the territory of the Republic of Belarus:*

- expired pesticides;*
- pesticides that have become unusable under other circumstances;*
- pesticides prohibited for use;*
- pesticides that do not have a state registration certificate in accordance with.*

*Pesticide's assessment performed at the regional level.*

*It is necessary to implement a control system and the exchange of information and knowledge.*

*There is a need to establish a knowledge exchange Network.*

*There is a need organize discussion of information within the framework of the initiative UCT Pesticide Discussion Forum.*

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Glyphosate](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response).*

- Agriculture and food production*
- Construction*
- Electronics*
- Energy*
- Health*
- Labour*
- Pharmaceuticals*
- Public, private, blended finance*
- Retail*
- Textiles*
- Transportation*
- Waste*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

- Agriculture and Food*
- Biodiversity*
- Climate Change*
- Health*
- Human Rights*
- Sustainable Consumption and Production*
- World of Work*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high*
- High*

*Medium*

*Low*

*Very low*

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

*To monitor the use the Glyphosate containing pesticides in Belarusian agriculture*

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

*To establish a regional knowledge sharing Network on pesticides of concern*

## 5. Lead

### *Screening Question - Lead*

Lead is a toxic metal that occurs naturally in the Earth's crust. It may exist in both inorganic and organic forms. The current global uses of lead are in batteries, rolled and extruded products, pigments and other product additives (e.g. for paints, cathode ray tubes, enamels and ceramics, PVC stabilisers), ammunition, alloys, cable sheathing and other uses

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Lead](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Microplastics)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:

## Technical Questions - Lead

Lead is a toxic metal that occurs naturally in the Earth's crust. It may exist in both inorganic and organic forms. The current global uses of lead are in batteries, rolled and extruded products, pigments and other product additives (e.g. for paints, cathode ray tubes, enamels and ceramics, PVC stabilisers), ammunition, alloys, cable sheathing and other uses

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Lead](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes  
 No  
 Do not know

a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. \_\_\_\_\_

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Legally binding  
 Soft law  
 Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives  
 No international actions are needed  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures  
 Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers)  
 Options / guidance for economic instruments  
 Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)  
 Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research



Other: \_\_\_\_\_

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: only coordinated international action can address the issues in sound management of chemicals

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization (Multiple answers based on list below)?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilisation
- Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives
- Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?
- None, there are no factors preventing action or progress
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? (Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).

Every each year our center (SPCH of the MoH) have participated in the International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (ILPPW) takes place on last decade of October. This week of action is an initiative of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (the Lead Paint Alliance), which is jointly led by the UN Environment Programme and WHO.

Last year (2022) we were encouraged to perform the activities in the framework of UNEP/WHO project on prohibiting lead in Paints during the ILPPW. Morey detailed available at <https://www.who.int/europe/publications/m/item/case-study-belarus-prohibiting-lead-in-paints>

Objective: - to develop and agree with stakeholders the legal requirements to prohibiting lead paints incl. establishment of a legal limit of 90 ppm lead in paints.

Specific tasks:

- to strengthen the national capacity in all stakeholders and in particular in public health sector;
- to develop a consolidated position with industry on lead paints;
- to raise awareness and share knowledge for manufacturers on non-lead alternatives;
- to increase awareness about lead in paints and educate children and their parents on lead, its health impacts and how to avoid it.

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? (Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Lead](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response).

- Agriculture and food production
- ✓ Construction
- Electronics
- Energy
- ✓ Health
- Labour
- Pharmaceuticals
- Public, private, blended finance
- Retail
- Textiles
- Transportation
- ✓ Waste
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

- Agriculture and Food
- Biodiversity
- Climate Change
- ✓ Health
- Human Rights
- ✓ Sustainable Consumption and Production
- ✓ World of Work
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Very low

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

*In order to increase the evidence based there is a need for the development of HBM. MoH of the Republic of Belarus strongly supported 4 partnership initiatives at the Seventh Ministerial Conference Belarus and joined the EHP Partnership for HBM (letter of intention to the EHP Partnership for HBM signed by the Minister of Health of the Republic of Belarus – Dr. D.Pinevich). Designated national coordinator for participation in this Partnership is SPCH.*

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

*To establish a regional knowledge sharing Network  
To provide technical support of the EHP partnership*

## 6. Microplastics

### *Screening Question - Microplastics*

Microplastics are solid particles made of synthetic polymers, typically defined as smaller than 5 mm. Microplastics have been intentionally added to a wide range of products and application areas for diverse technical functions. For example, they are added in cosmetics and personal care products, detergents and maintenance products, agriculture and horticulture, medical devices and in vitro diagnostic medical devices, medicinal products for human and veterinary use, food supplements, paints, coatings and inks, oil and gas drilling and production, plastics, technical ceramics, media for abrasive blasting, adhesives, 3D printing materials and printing inks.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Microplastics](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Neonicotinoids)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:

## Technical Questions - Microplastics

Microplastics are solid particles made of synthetic polymers, typically defined as smaller than 5 mm. Microplastics have been intentionally added to a wide range of products and application areas for diverse technical functions. For example, they are added in cosmetics and personal care products, detergents and maintenance products, agriculture and horticulture, medical devices and in vitro diagnostic medical devices, medicinal products for human and veterinary use, food supplements, paints, coatings and inks, oil and gas drilling and production, plastics, technical ceramics, media for abrasive blasting, adhesives, 3D printing materials and printing inks.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Microplastics](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes  
 No  
 Do not know

a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. \_\_\_\_\_

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Legally binding  
 Soft law  
 Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives  
 No international actions are needed  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. \_\_\_\_\_

only coordinated international action can address the issues in sound management of chemicals

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures

- ✓ *Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers)*
- Options / guidance for economic instruments*
- Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)*
- ✓ *Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

- Lack of technical capacity*
- ✓ *Lack of scientific knowledge*
- ✓ *Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*
- ✓ *Difficulty with resource mobilisation*
- Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives*
- Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?*
- None, there are no factors preventing action or progress*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Microplastics](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response).*

- ✓ *Agriculture and food production*
- Construction*
- Electronics*
- Energy*
- ✓ *Health*
- Labour*
- Pharmaceuticals*
- Public, private, blended finance*
- ✓ *Retail*
- Textiles*
- Transportation*
- ✓ *Waste*

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? (*Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...*).

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? (*Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

- Agriculture and Food
- Biodiversity
- Climate Change
- Health
- Human Rights
- Sustainable Consumption and Production
- World of Work
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Very low

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

*In order to reduce the use of disposable plastic dishes in catering facilities, as well as to take measures to abandon plastic packaging, replace it with paper and other types of environmentally friendly packaging, in Belarus approved the List of disposable plastic dishes, the use and sale of which are prohibited in catering facilities.*

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

*To establish a regional knowledge sharing Network*

## 7. Neonicotinoids

### *Screening Question - Neonicotinoids*

Neonicotinoids are a class of neuroactive insecticides chemically related to nicotine. Since the first neonicotinoid (imidacloprid) was commercialized in the 1990s, seven main compounds (acetamiprid, clothianidin, dinotefuran, imidacloprid, nitenpyram, thiamethoxam and thiacloprid) are now available on the global market. Today, neonicotinoids are used in protecting plants, livestock and pets from pest insects, as well as for malaria vector control, i.e., mosquitos, to protect humans, in more than 100 countries. Neonicotinoids are also used as biocides.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Neonicotinoids](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Organotins)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:



### Technical Questions - Neonicotinoids

Neonicotinoids are a class of neuroactive insecticides chemically related to nicotine. Since the first neonicotinoid (imidacloprid) was commercialized in the 1990s, seven main compounds (acetamiprid, clothianidin, dinotefuran, imidacloprid, nitenpyram, thiamethoxam and thiacloprid) are now available on the global market. Today, neonicotinoids are used in protecting plants, livestock and pets from pest insects, as well as for malaria vector control, i.e., mosquitos, to protect humans, in more than 100 countries. Neonicotinoids are also used as biocides.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Neonicotinoids](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. \_\_\_\_\_

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Legally binding
- Soft law
- Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives
- No international actions are needed
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. \_\_\_\_\_

*Lack of reliable information*

*All neonicotinoids are used in agriculture - not prohibited or strictly restricted*

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*
- ✓ *Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers))*
- Options / guidance for economic instruments*
- Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)*
- ✓ *Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

- ✓ *Lack of technical capacity*
- ✓ *Lack of scientific knowledge*
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*
- Difficulty with resource mobilisation*
- ✓ *Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives*
- Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?*
- None, there are no factors preventing action or progress*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

*Discussion of information within the framework of the initiative UCT Pesticide Discussion Forum*

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Neonicotinoids](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response).*

- ✓ *Agriculture and food production*
- Construction*
- Electronics*
- Energy*
- ✓ *Health*
- Labour*
- Pharmaceuticals*
- Public, private, blended finance*
- Retail*

- Textiles*
- Transportation*
- Waste*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

- Agriculture and Food*
- Biodiversity*
- Climate Change*
- Health*
- Human Rights*
- Sustainable Consumption and Production*
- World of Work*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high*
- High*
- Medium*
- Low*
- Very low*

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

*To monitor the use the Glyphosate containing pesticides in Belarusian agriculture*

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

To establish a regional knowledge sharing Network

## 8. Organotins

### Screening Question - Organotins

Organotins are organic compounds that contain at least one tin-carbon bond. There are four main groups of organotin compounds, which are used in various applications. Mono- and di-organotins are mainly used as heat stabilisers in polyvinyl chloride (PVC) in a wide range of applications, including window frames and house siding, PVC pipes, food contact blister packs and water bottles. Tri-organotins are mainly used as biocides (e.g. in wood preservatives, in anti-fouling paints for boats and in textiles) and as pesticides. Tetra-organotins have been used as intermediates in the preparation of other organotins and as oil stabilisers.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Organotins](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Phthalates)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:

Organotins are organic compounds that contain at least one tin-carbon bond. There are four main groups of organotin compounds, which are used in various applications. Mono- and di-organotins are mainly used as heat stabilisers in polyvinyl chloride (PVC) in a wide range of applications, including window frames and house siding, PVC pipes, food contact blister packs and water bottles. Tri-organotins are mainly used as biocides (e.g. in wood preservatives, in anti-fouling paints for boats and in textiles) and as pesticides. Tetra-organotins have been used as intermediates in the preparation of other organotins and as oil stabilisers.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Organotins](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. only coordinated international action can address the issues in sound management of chemicals

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Legally binding
- Soft law
- Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives
- No international actions are needed
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures

- ✓ *Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers)*
- Options / guidance for economic instruments*
- Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)*
- ✓ *Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

- Lack of technical capacity*
- ✓ *Lack of scientific knowledge*
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*
- ✓ *Difficulty with resource mobilisation*
- ✓ *Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives*
- Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?*
- None, there are no factors preventing action or progress*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

*There is a lack of legal base framework to monitor / tracking the organotins content in consumer goods, in biocides*

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Organotins](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response).*

- Agriculture and food production*
- ✓ *Construction*
- Electronics*
- Energy*
- ✓ *Health*
- Labour*
- Pharmaceuticals*
- Public, private, blended finance*
- ✓ *Retail*

- Textiles
- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ Waste
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? (*Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...*).

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? (*Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

- Agriculture and Food
- Biodiversity
- Climate Change
- ✓ Health
- Human Rights
- ✓ Sustainable Consumption and Production
- World of Work
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Very low

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

*To make an inventory of organotins in consumer goods*

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

*To establish a regional knowledge sharing Network*

## 9. Phthalates

### Screening Question - Phthalates

Phthalates are a large family of semi-volatile organic compounds. They are a group of plasticizers with softening and elastic effects, and they are produced in high volumes to be used in products such as vinyl flooring, adhesives, detergents, lubricating oils, automotive plastics, plastic clothing and personal care products. Phthalates accounted for 65 per cent of global consumption of plasticizers in 2017.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Phthalates](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs))*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:



Phthalates are a large family of semi-volatile organic compounds. They are a group of plasticizers with softening and elastic effects, and they are produced in high volumes to be used in products such as vinyl flooring, adhesives, detergents, lubricating oils, automotive plastics, plastic clothing and personal care products. Phthalates accounted for 65 per cent of global consumption of plasticizers in 2017.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Phthalates](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. only coordinated international action can address the issues in sound management of chemicals

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Legally binding
- Soft law
- Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives
- No international actions are needed
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures

- ✓ *Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers)*
- Options / guidance for economic instruments*
- ✓ *Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)*
- ✓ *Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

*MoH was implemented in the WHO project aimed at endocrine-disrupting chemicals (including bisphenol A) into the frame of SAICM QUICK start program financed project (2017-2018). As project results population awareness was raised, a review of the primary incidence of some endocrine diseases was performed, gaps and problems were identified, strategies to minimize the negative impact of hazardous chemicals on the human health of the endocrine system were indicated. There is a gap in legislation for endocrine-disrupting chemicals (including bisphenol A) management. Nevertheless monitoring of containing the some endocrine-disrupting chemicals (including bisphenol A) in products, raw materials and waste during sanitary-epidemiological surveillance is conducted but the findings are fragmented, making it difficult to conduct a comprehensive risk assessment for public health and the environment. More over there is a lack of HBM.*

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

- ✓ *Lack of technical capacity*
- Lack of scientific knowledge*
- ✓ *Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*
- Difficulty with resource mobilisation*
- ✓ *Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives*
- Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?*
- None, there are no factors preventing action or progress*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

*During the WHO project (2017-2018) public awareness was raised, a review of the primary incidence of some endocrine diseases was performed, gaps and problems were identified, strategies to minimize the negative impact of hazardous chemicals on the human health of the endocrine system were indicated.*

*There is a gap in legislation of the Republic of Belarus hazardous chemicals and products related to ER or containing ER, as well as requirements for:*

*In the there is no legal basis for the regulation of*

- *assessment of the hazard and risk to health and the environment of hazardous chemicals; classification and labeling;*

- ensuring the safety of the use of chemicals informing those working in industry and agriculture;
- establishing the manufacturer's responsibility for safety chemical substances;
- information support for those interested in the circulation of chemicals;
- control of the content of priority ER in consumer products and food products.

Content regulations are not updated with international requirements ER in cosmetics, personal care products, foam detergents:

- bisphenol A in containers and packaging intended for contact with food, groceries, tin cans, goods for children (bottles for feeding, nipples, teething rings, etc.);
- antipyrines in light industry products, floor carpets, textile products;
- nonylphenols, organotin compounds, perfluorooctanesulfonic acids in light industry products.

In the Republic of Belarus, monitoring and control of hazardous chemicals in consumer products, raw materials and waste is carried out within the framework of sanitary and epidemiological surveillance. However, information about ER is fragmented, which makes it difficult to conduct a comprehensive risk assessment for public health and the environment.

There is no human biomonitoring program.

Chemical safety issues are not fully reflected in the curricula of basic and postgraduate medical education, educational and information materials for educational work among the population.

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

*In Belarus TECHNICAL CODE OF ESTABLISHED PRACTICE «RULES FOR HANDLING UNSUITABLE PESTICIDES» TKP 17.11-09-2014 is in force. This Technical Code of Established Practice establishes the rules for handling unsuitable pesticides on the territory of the Republic of Belarus:*

- expired pesticides;
- pesticides that have become unusable under other circumstances;
- pesticides prohibited for use;
- pesticides that do not have a state registration certificate in accordance with.

*Pesticides assessment performed at the regional level.*

*It is necessary to implement a control system and the exchange of information and knowledge.*

*Let's offer a knowledge exchange Network*

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Phthalates](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response).*

- Agriculture and food production*
- Construction*
- Electronics*
- Energy*

- ✓ *Health*
- ✓ *Labour*
- Pharmaceuticals*
- Public, private, blended finance*
- ✓ *Retail*
- Textiles*
- Transportation*
- ✓ *Waste*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? (*Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...*).

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? (*Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

- Agriculture and Food*
- Biodiversity*
- Climate Change*
- ✓ *Health*
- Human Rights*
- ✓ *Sustainable Consumption and Production*
- ✓ *World of Work*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high*
- High*
- Medium*
- Low*
- Very low*

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

*Regulation within Eurasian Economic Union (The Eurasian Economic Union consists of five member states: Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Armenia) – including ED into the Technical Regulations TR 041/2017 "On Safety of Chemical Production".*

*TR 005/2011 " On Safety of packing".*

*TR 007 "On Safety of toys"*

*TR 017/2011 safety OF "On Safety of Textile products»*

*Phthalates content in construction materials / products are not restricted yet.*

*We encourage to Outline goals:*

- *To forbid the use of phthalates in medical products*
- *To restrict the use of phthalates in cosmetics TR 009/2011 " On Safety of cosmetics"*
- *To forbid the use of phthalates in construction materials*

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

*To establish a regional ED knowledge sharing network including phthalates*

## 10. Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

### *Screening Question - Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)*

Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) are a class of more than 100 organic compounds. They occur naturally in coal and crude oil, but are also formed as a by-product during the incomplete combustion from both natural (e.g. volcanic eruptions, burning of coal, oil and gas) or anthropogenic (e.g. vehicle emissions, industrial processes, food preparation) sources. PAHs may also be present in consumer products (e.g. plastic components, footwear); however, they are never intentionally added during manufacturing. Plant-based foods may contain PAHs as a result of pollutant deposition before harvest.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Triclosan)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:

## Technical Questions - Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) are a class of more than 100 organic compounds. They occur naturally in coal and crude oil, but are also formed as a by-product during the incomplete combustion from both natural (e.g. volcanic eruptions, burning of coal, oil and gas) or anthropogenic (e.g. vehicle emissions, industrial processes, food preparation) sources. PAHs may also be present in consumer products (e.g. plastic components, footwear); however, they are never intentionally added during manufacturing. Plant-based foods may contain PAHs as a result of pollutant deposition before harvest.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes  
 No  
 Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. only coordinated international action can address the issues in sound management of chemicals

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions prepared by UNEP for more information on available options](#)).*

- Legally binding  
 Soft law  
 Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives  
 No international actions are needed  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to*

the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).

- Regulatory control measures*
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers)*
- Options / guidance for economic instruments*
- Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)*
- Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization (*Multiple answers based on list below*)?

- Lack of technical capacity*
- Lack of scientific knowledge*
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*
- Difficulty with resource mobilisation*
- Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives*
- Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?*
- None, there are no factors preventing action or progress*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? (*Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available*).

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? (*Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response*).

- Agriculture and food production*
- Construction*
- Electronics*
- Energy*
- Health*



- Labour
- Pharmaceuticals
- Public, private, blended finance
- Retail
- Textiles
- Transportation
- Waste
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

- Agriculture and Food
- Biodiversity
- Climate Change
- Health
- Human Rights
- Sustainable Consumption and Production
- World of Work
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Very low

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

*BaP controlled in food products according the technical regulation within Eurasian Economic Union*

*PAH standards are established in atmospheric and working area air*

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

*To establish a regional knowledge sharing Network*

## 11. Triclosan

### Screening Question - Triclosan

Triclosan is a synthetic, broad-spectrum antibacterial chemical used as an additive in thousands of consumer and medical antibacterial products and plastics. It has been used commercially across the globe since the 1970s. Major global use is in cosmetics and personal care products (68%, particularly deodorants) followed by disinfection and medical use (16%) and lower amounts in paints (8%), and in plastic materials, toys and appliances (8%).

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Triclosan](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Chemicals in Products (CIP))*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:

Triclosan is a synthetic, broad-spectrum antibacterial chemical used as an additive in thousands of consumer and medical antibacterial products and plastics. It has been used commercially across the globe since the 1970s. Major global use is in cosmetics and personal care products (68%, particularly deodorants) followed by disinfection and medical use (16%) and lower amounts in paints (8%), and in plastic materials, toys and appliances (8%).

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Triclosan](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. only coordinated international action can address the issues in sound management of chemicals

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Legally binding
- Soft law
- Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives
- No international actions are needed
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures

- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers)*
- Options / guidance for economic instruments*
- Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)*
- Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

- Lack of technical capacity*
- Lack of scientific knowledge*
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*
- Difficulty with resource mobilisation*
- Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives*
- Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?*
- None, there are no factors preventing action or progress*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Triclosan](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response).*

- Agriculture and food production*
- Construction*
- Electronics*
- Energy*
- Health*
- Labour*
- Pharmaceuticals*
- Public, private, blended finance*
- Retail*
- Textiles*
- Transportation*
- Waste*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? (*Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...*).

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? (*Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

- Agriculture and Food*
- Biodiversity*
- Climate Change*
- Health*
- Human Rights*
- Sustainable Consumption and Production*
- World of Work*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high*
- High*
- Medium*
- Low*
- Very low*

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

*To conduct the HBM of triclosan for prioritising hazardous chemicals substances management in Belarus*

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

*To establish a regional knowledge sharing Network*

## 12. Chemicals in products (CiP)

### *Screening Question - Chemicals in products (CiP)*

Chemicals may be released at any stage of a product's life cycle (including production, use, recycling or reuse, end-of-life disposal), resulting in potential exposures for humans and the environment. Information exchange in the value chain is fundamental for manufacturers, brands, retailers, end-consumers, waste managers and regulators in identifying and soundly managing any chemicals of technical, environmental or human health concerns in products.

CiP was identified as an issue of concern under SAICM at ICCM2 in 2009, "with a view of taking appropriate cooperative actions, to consider the need to improve the availability of and access to information on chemicals in products in the supply chain and throughout their life cycle". SAICM stakeholders also identified four priority sectors: textiles, toys, building products and electronics.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Chemicals in Products](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs))*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:

### Technical Questions - Chemicals in products (CiP)

Chemicals may be released at any stage of a product's life cycle (including production, use, recycling or reuse, end-of-life disposal), resulting in potential exposures for humans and the environment. Information exchange in the value chain is fundamental for manufacturers, brands, retailers, end-consumers, waste managers and regulators in identifying and soundly managing any chemicals of technical, environmental or human health concerns in products.

CiP was identified as an issue of concern under SAICM at ICCM2 in 2009, "with a view of taking appropriate cooperative actions, to consider the need to improve the availability of and access to information on chemicals in products in the supply chain and throughout their life cycle". SAICM stakeholders also identified four priority sectors: textiles, toys, building products and electronics.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Chemicals in Products](#) for more information on the topic.

#### Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes  
 No  
 Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. only coordinated international action can address the issues in sound management of chemicals

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Legally binding  
 Soft law  
 Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives  
 No international actions are needed  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. \_\_\_\_\_



3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers))*
- Options / guidance for economic instruments*
- Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)*
- Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

- Lack of technical capacity*
- Lack of scientific knowledge*
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*
- Difficulty with resource mobilisation*
- Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives*
- Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?*
- None, there are no factors preventing action or progress*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Chemicals in Products](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response).*

- Agriculture and food production*
- Construction*
- Electronics*

- Energy
- Health
- Labour
- Pharmaceuticals
- Public, private, blended finance
- Retail
- Textiles
- Transportation
- Waste
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

- Agriculture and Food
- Biodiversity
- Climate Change
- Health
- Human Rights
- Sustainable Consumption and Production
- World of Work
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Very low

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

*Subregional project on risk assessment of chemicals for vulnerable groups of populations*

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

*There is a need to establish a knowledge exchange Network*

### 13. Endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs)

#### *Screening Question - Endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs)*

An EDC is an exogenous substance or mixture that alters the function(s) of the endocrine system and consequently causes adverse health effects in an intact organism, or its progeny, or (sub)populations. Substantial efforts have been made over the past two decades to develop a better scientific understanding of EDCs and their characteristics, to test and identify EDCs, and to develop scientific approaches in order to support risk management measures.

In 2012, at ICCM3, EDCs were identified as an issue of concern under SAICM, and SAICM stakeholders decided “to implement cooperative actions on endocrine-disrupting chemicals with the overall objective of increasing awareness and understanding among policymakers and other stakeholders” and invited IOMC organisations to lead and facilitate a series of cooperative actions on EDCs, which was renewed in a Resolution at ICCM4.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants (EPPPs))*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- b. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:

*Technical Questions - Endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs)*

An EDC is an exogenous substance or mixture that alters the function(s) of the endocrine system and consequently causes adverse health effects in an intact organism, or its progeny, or (sub)populations. Substantial efforts have been made over the past two decades to develop a better scientific understanding of EDCs and their characteristics, to test and identify EDCs, and to develop scientific approaches in order to support risk management measures.

In 2012, at ICCM3, EDCs were identified as an issue of concern under SAICM, and SAICM stakeholders decided “to implement cooperative actions on endocrine-disrupting chemicals with the overall objective of increasing awareness and understanding among policymakers and other stakeholders” and invited IOMC organisations to lead and facilitate a series of cooperative actions on EDCs, which was renewed in a Resolution at ICCM4.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes  
 No  
 Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. only coordinated international action can address the issues in sound management of chemicals

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions prepared by UNEP for more information on available options](#)).*

- Legally binding  
 Soft law  
 Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives  
 No international actions are needed  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers)*
- Options / guidance for economic instruments*
- Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)*
- Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

*MoH was implemented in the WHO project aimed at endocrine-disrupting chemicals (including bisphenol A) into the frame of SAICM QUICK start program financed project (2017-2018). As project results population awareness was raised, a review of the primary incidence of some endocrine diseases was performed, gaps and problems were identified, strategies to minimize the negative impact of hazardous chemicals on the human health of the endocrine system were indicated. There is a gap in legislation for endocrine-disrupting chemicals (including bisphenol A) management. Nevertheless monitoring of containing the some endocrine-disrupting chemicals (including bisphenol A) in products, raw materials and waste during sanitary-epidemiological surveillance is conducted but the findings are fragmented, making it difficult to conduct a comprehensive risk assessment for public health and the environment. More over there is a lack of HBM.*

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

- Lack of technical capacity*
- Lack of scientific knowledge*
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*
- Difficulty with resource mobilisation*
- Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives*
- Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?*
- None, there are no factors preventing action or progress*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

*During the WHO project (2017-2018) public awareness was raised, a review of the primary incidence of some endocrine diseases was performed, gaps and problems were identified, strategies to minimize the negative impact of hazardous chemicals on the human health of the endocrine system were indicated.*

*There is a gap in legislation of the Republic of Belarus hazardous chemicals and products related to ER or containing ER, as well as requirements for:*

*In the there is no legal basis for the regulation of*

- *assessment of the hazard and risk to health and the environment of hazardous chemicals; classification and labeling;*
- *ensuring the safety of the use of chemicals informing those working in industry and agriculture;*
- *establishing the manufacturer's responsibility for safety chemical substances;*
- *information support for those interested in the circulation of chemicals;*
- *control of the content of priority ER in consumer products and*
- *food products.*

*Content regulations are not updated with international requirements ER in cosmetics, personal care products, foam detergents:*

- *bisphenol A in containers and packaging intended for contact with food, groceries, tin cans, goods for children (bottles for feeding, nipples, teethers, etc.);*
- *antipyrines in light industry products, floor carpets, textile products;*
- *nonylphenols, organotin compounds, perfluorooctanesulfonic acids in light industry products.*

*In the Republic of Belarus, monitoring and control of hazardous chemicals in consumer products, raw materials and waste is carried out within the framework of sanitary and epidemiological surveillance. However, information about ER is fragmented, which makes it difficult to conduct a comprehensive risk assessment for public health and the environment.*

*There is no human biomonitoring program.*

*Chemical safety issues are not fully reflected in the curricula of basic and postgraduate medical education, educational and information materials for educational work among the population.*

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

*In Belarus TECHNICAL CODE OF ESTABLISHED PRACTICE «RULES FOR HANDLING UNSUITABLE PESTICIDES» TKP 17.11-09-2014 is in force. This Technical Code of Established Practice establishes the rules for handling unsuitable pesticides on the territory of the Republic of Belarus:*

- *expired pesticides;*
- *pesticides that have become unusable under other circumstances;*
- *pesticides prohibited for use;*
- *pesticides that do not have a state registration certificate in accordance with.*

*Pesticides assessment performed at the regional level.*

*It is necessary to implement a control system and the exchange of information and knowledge.*

There is a need to establish a knowledge exchange Network

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response).*

- Agriculture and food production
- Construction
- Electronics
- Energy
- Health
- Labour
- Pharmaceuticals
- Public, private, blended finance
- Retail
- Textiles
- Transportation
- Waste
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

- a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

- Agriculture and Food
- Biodiversity
- Climate Change
- Health
- Human Rights
- Sustainable Consumption and Production
- World of Work
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

- b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*



8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high*
- High*
- Medium*
- Low*
- Very low*

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

1. *Let's propose the continuation of described above WHO project - the continuation of the initiatives AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL*
2. *In order to increase the evidence base there is a need for the development of HBM. MoH of the Republic of Belarus officially joined the EHP Partnership for HBM.*
3. *To establish a subregional network on knowledge sharing*

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

*To establish a regional ED knowledge sharing Network*

#### 14. Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants (EPPPs)

##### *Screening Question - Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants (EPPPs)*

Pharmaceuticals, including antibiotics, and their metabolites can enter the environment through a variety of pathways, including wastewater and solid waste from pharmaceutical manufacturing, consumption and excretion, improper disposal of unused or expired products, animal husbandry and aquafarming. Their presence in the environment may result in different adverse effects on wildlife and ecosystems; some well-known cases include endangerment of some vulture species, reproductive failures in fish, and the development of antimicrobial resistance.

Internationally, EPPPs were recognized as an issue of concern under SAICM at ICCM4 in 2015. The same resolution “considers that information dissemination and awareness-raising on EPPP are particularly relevant and that improving the availability of and access to information on such chemicals is a priority”, “recognizes the current knowledge gaps on exposure to and the effects of EPPP”, “decides to implement cooperative actions on EPPP with the overall objective of increasing awareness and understanding among policymakers and other stakeholders”, and “requests all interested stakeholders and organizations to provide support, including expertise, financial and in-kind resources, on a voluntary basis, for such cooperative action, including by participating in developing and making available relevant information and guidance”

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products (HSLEEP))*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:

Pharmaceuticals, including antibiotics, and their metabolites can enter the environment through a variety of pathways, including wastewater and solid waste from pharmaceutical manufacturing, consumption and excretion, improper disposal of unused or expired products, animal husbandry and aquafarming. Their presence in the environment may result in different adverse effects on wildlife and ecosystems; some well-known cases include endangerment of some vulture species, reproductive failures in fish, and the development of antimicrobial resistance.

Internationally, EPPPs were recognized as an issue of concern under SAICM at ICCM4 in 2015. The same resolution “considers that information dissemination and awareness-raising on EPPP are particularly relevant and that improving the availability of and access to information on such chemicals is a priority”, “recognizes the current knowledge gaps on exposure to and the effects of EPPP”, “decides to implement cooperative actions on EPPP with the overall objective of increasing awareness and understanding among policymakers and other stakeholders”, and “requests all interested stakeholders and organizations to provide support, including expertise, financial and in-kind resources, on a voluntary basis, for such cooperative action, including by participating in developing and making available relevant information and guidance”

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes  
 No  
 Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. only coordinated international action can address the issues in sound management of chemicals

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Legally binding  
 Soft law  
 Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives  
 No international actions are needed  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers))*
- Options / guidance for economic instruments*
- Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)*
- Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

- Lack of technical capacity*
- Lack of scientific knowledge*
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*
- Difficulty with resource mobilisation*
- Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives*
- Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?*
- None, there are no factors preventing action or progress*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

*SAICM, the Strategic Approach to Sound Chemicals Management, is a policy framework to promote chemical safety around the world. Since 2006, it has led to substantial progress in regulating chemicals. To accelerate further work towards non-toxic environment, the decision to*

develop the new Beyond 2020 framework for management of chemicals was taken at ICCM4. This new framework, developed through the intersessional process involving Member States and stakeholders, is expected to be adopted at ICCM5.

MoH have implemented the Survey of Antimicrobial Resistance – Eurobarometer 2022:

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? (*Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response.*)

- Agriculture and food production
- Construction
- Electronics
- Energy
- Health
- Labour
- Pharmaceuticals
- Public, private, blended finance
- Retail
- Textiles
- Transportation
- Waste
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? (*Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...*).

- a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? (*Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

- Agriculture and Food
- Biodiversity
- Climate Change
- Health
- Human Rights
- Sustainable Consumption and Production
- World of Work
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

- b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high*  
 *High*  
 *Medium*  
 *Low*  
 *Very low*

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

*Monitoring studies of wastewater content EPPS to define the gaps and issues for Belarus*

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

*To establish a regional knowledge sharing Network*

15. Hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products  
(HSLEEP)

*Screening Question - Hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products  
(HSLEEP)*

Electrical and electronic products (EEP), also referred to as electronic and electrical equipment (EEE), include any device with a circuit, battery or plug. They can contain many chemical additives for certain properties such as flame retardancy. Some chemical additives may be hazardous, including heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants (POPs), and may be released during production, use, transport, and end-of-life treatment (disposal or recycling), leading to environmental and human exposures and possible adverse effects.

HSLEEP was adopted as an EPI at ICCM2 in 2009. Conscious that actions are needed up-, mid- and downstream, a life cycle approach was endorsed. Despite valuable efforts made at all levels, significant challenges remain in regard to identifying, disseminating and implementing best practices at all stages of the life cycle, including design, recycling and disposal.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Hazardous Substances within the Life cycle of Electrical and Electronic Products](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs))*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:

*Technical Questions - Hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products (HSLEEP)*

Electrical and electronic products (EEP), also referred to as electronic and electrical equipment (EEE), include any device with a circuit, battery or plug. They can contain many chemical additives for certain properties such as flame retardancy. Some chemical additives may be hazardous, including heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants (POPs), and may be released during production, use, transport, and end-of-life treatment (disposal or recycling), leading to environmental and human exposures and possible adverse effects.

HSLEEP was adopted as an EPI at ICCM2 in 2009. Conscious that actions are needed up-, mid- and downstream, a life cycle approach was endorsed. Despite valuable efforts made at all levels, significant challenges remain in regard to identifying, disseminating and implementing best practices at all stages of the life cycle, including design, recycling and disposal.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Hazardous Substances within the Life cycle of Electrical and Electronic Products](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes  
 No  
 Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. only coordinated international action can address the issues in sound management of chemicals

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Legally binding  
 Soft law  
 Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives  
 No international actions are needed  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. \_\_\_\_\_



3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers))*
- Options / guidance for economic instruments*
- Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)*
- Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

- Lack of technical capacity*
- Lack of scientific knowledge*
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*
- Difficulty with resource mobilisation*
- Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives*
- Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?*
- None, there are no factors preventing action or progress*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Hazardous Substances within the Life cycle of Electrical and Electronic Products](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response).*

- Agriculture and food production
- Construction
- Electronics
- Energy
- Health
- Labour
- Pharmaceuticals
- Public, private, blended finance
- Retail
- Textiles
- Transportation
- Waste
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? (*Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...*).

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? (*Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

- Agriculture and Food
- Biodiversity
- Climate Change
- Health
- Human Rights
- Sustainable Consumption and Production
- World of Work
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high

- High*
- Medium*
- Low*
- Very low*

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

*To establish a regional knowledge sharing Network*

## 16. Highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs)

### *Screening Question - Highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs)*

The FAO and WHO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management defines HHPs as: “Pesticides that are acknowledged to present particularly high levels of acute or chronic hazards to health or environment according to internationally accepted classification systems such as the WHO or the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) or their listing in relevant binding international agreements or conventions. In addition, pesticides that appear to cause severe or irreversible harm to health or the environment under conditions of use in a country may be considered to be and treated as highly hazardous”.

At ICCM4 in 2015, HHPs were identified as an issue of concern. In addition, among other actions, governments and other stakeholders supported “concerted action to address HHPs in the context of SAICM” and encouraged “relevant stakeholders to undertake concerted efforts to implement the strategy at the local, national, regional and international levels, with emphasis on promoting agroecologically-based alternatives and strengthening national regulatory capacity to conduct risk assessment and risk management, including the availability of necessary information, mindful of the responsibility of national and multinational enterprises”, and welcomed “the offer of the FAO, UNEP and WHO to develop modalities for international coordination in the context of the IOMC”

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Highly Hazardous Pesticides](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Lead in Paint)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:

The FAO and WHO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management defines HHPs as: “Pesticides that are acknowledged to present particularly high levels of acute or chronic hazards to health or environment according to internationally accepted classification systems such as the WHO or the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) or their listing in relevant binding international agreements or conventions. In addition, pesticides that appear to cause severe or irreversible harm to health or the environment under conditions of use in a country may be considered to be and treated as highly hazardous”.

At ICCM4 in 2015, HHPs were identified as an issue of concern. In addition, among other actions, governments and other stakeholders supported “concerted action to address HHPs in the context of SAICM” and encouraged “relevant stakeholders to undertake concerted efforts to implement the strategy at the local, national, regional and international levels, with emphasis on promoting agroecologically-based alternatives and strengthening national regulatory capacity to conduct risk assessment and risk management, including the availability of necessary information, mindful of the responsibility of national and multinational enterprises”, and welcomed “the offer of the FAO, UNEP and WHO to develop modalities for international coordination in the context of the IOMC”

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Highly Hazardous Pesticides](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. only coordinated international action can address the issues in sound management of chemicals

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Legally binding
- Soft law
- Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives
- No international actions are needed
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

*Regulatory control measures*

*Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers)*

*Options / guidance for economic instruments*

*Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)*

*Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research*

*Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

*Lack of technical capacity*

*Lack of scientific knowledge*

*Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*

*Difficulty with resource mobilisation*

*Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives*

*Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?*

*None, there are no factors preventing action or progress*

*Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Highly Hazardous Pesticides](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response).*

- Agriculture and food production*
- Construction*
- Electronics*
- Energy*
- Health*
- Labour*
- Pharmaceuticals*
- Public, private, blended finance*
- Retail*
- Textiles*
- Transportation*
- Waste*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

- Agriculture and Food*
- Biodiversity*
- Climate Change*
- Health*
- Human Rights*
- Sustainable Consumption and Production*
- World of Work*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high*
- High*
- Medium*
- Low*
- Very low*

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

*Strengthening national regulatory capacity to conduct risk assessment and risk management, including the availability of necessary information, mindful of the responsibility of national and multinational enterprises*

*There are currently gaps in legislation in Belarus, the use of highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs) continues in the country and we aim to implement the FAO/WHO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management.*

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

*To establish a regional knowledge sharing Network*



## 17. Lead in paint

### *Screening Question - Lead in paint*

Lead is a multi-system toxicant for which no safe level of exposure has been identified. Exposure to lead can cause chronic and debilitating health impacts in all age groups, and children are particularly vulnerable to its neurotoxic effects. The widespread use of lead has caused extensive environmental and human exposure across the globe. One major source of exposure, particularly for children, is through “lead paint”, or paint to which lead compounds have been added as pigments, drying agents or anti-corrosives.

Among others, “Lead in Paint” was recognized as an issue of concern under the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM2) in 2009. The ICCM2 also endorsed the establishment of an international partnership, the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (GAELP), to assist in phasing out lead paint worldwide. The GAELP aims to have all countries adopt “legally binding laws, regulations, standards and/or procedures to control the production, import, sale and use of lead paints with special attention to the elimination of lead decorative paints and lead paints for other applications most likely to contribute to childhood lead exposure” and to have all paint manufacturers eliminate “the use of added lead compounds in priority areas” by 2020.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Lead in Paint](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:

Lead is a multi-system toxicant for which no safe level of exposure has been identified. Exposure to lead can cause chronic and debilitating health impacts in all age groups, and children are particularly vulnerable to its neurotoxic effects. The widespread use of lead has caused extensive environmental and human exposure across the globe. One major source of exposure, particularly for children, is through “lead paint”, or paint to which lead compounds have been added as pigments, drying agents or anti-corrosives.

Among others, “Lead in Paint” was recognized as an issue of concern under the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM2) in 2009. The ICCM2 also endorsed the establishment of an international partnership, the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (GAELP), to assist in phasing out lead paint worldwide. The GAELP aims to have all countries adopt “legally binding laws, regulations, standards and/or procedures to control the production, import, sale and use of lead paints with special attention to the elimination of lead decorative paints and lead paints for other applications most likely to contribute to childhood lead exposure” and to have all paint manufacturers eliminate “the use of added lead compounds in priority areas” by 2020.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Lead in Paint](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes  
 No  
 Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. only coordinated international action can address the issues in sound management of chemicals

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Legally binding  
 Soft law  
 Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives  
 No international actions are needed  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*
- Regulatory control measures
  - Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers))
  - Options / guidance for economic instruments
  - Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)
  - Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_
4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*
- Lack of technical capacity
  - Lack of scientific knowledge
  - Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
  - Difficulty with resource mobilisation
  - Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives
  - Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?
  - None, there are no factors preventing action or progress
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

*Every each year our center (SPCH of the MoH) have participated in the International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (ILPPW) takes place on last decade of October. This week of action is an initiative of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (the Lead Paint Alliance), which is jointly led by the UN Environment Programme and WHO.*

*Last year (2022) we were encouraged to perform the activities in the framework of UNEP/WHO project on prohibiting lead in Paints during the ILPPW. Morey detailed available at <https://www.who.int/europe/publications/m/item/case-study-belarus-prohibiting-lead-in-paints>*

*Objective: - to develop and agree with stakeholders the legal requirements to prohibiting lead paints incl. establishment of a legal limit of 90 ppm lead in paints.*

*Specific tasks:*

- to strengthen the national capacity in all stakeholders and in particular in public health sector;*
- to develop a consolidated position with industry on lead paints;*
- to raise awareness and share knowledge for manufacturers on non-lead alternatives;*
- to increase awareness about lead in paints and educate children and their parents on lead, its health impacts and how to avoid it.*

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Lead in Paint](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response).*

- Agriculture and food production*
- Construction*
- Electronics*
- Energy*
- Health*
- Labour*
- Pharmaceuticals*
- Public, private, blended finance*
- Retail*
- Textiles*
- Transportation*
- Waste*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

- Agriculture and Food*
- Biodiversity*
- Climate Change*

- Health*
- Human Rights*
- Sustainable Consumption and Production*
- World of Work*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

- b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high*
- High*
- Medium*
- Low*
- Very low*

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

*In order to increase the evidence base there is a need for the development of HBM. MoH of the Republic of Belarus strongly supported 4 partnership initiatives at the Seventh Ministerial Conference Belarus and joined the EHP Partnership for HBM (letter of intention to the EHP Partnership for HBM signed by the Minister of Health of the Republic of Belarus – Dr. D.Pinevich). Designated national coordinator for participation in this Partnership is SPCH.*

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

*To establish a regional knowledge sharing network  
To provide technical support of the EHP partnership*

## 18. Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials

### *Screening Question - Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials*

While no definition has been internationally agreed upon, nanomaterials are commonly defined as materials having at least one external or internal dimension between 1 and 100 nm.

Nanotechnology, i.e. the manipulation of matter at the nanometre scale, has rapidly developed in the past few decades and led to the widespread presence of nanomaterials in consumer products and industrial applications.

Despite multiple benefits associated with the technology, concerns have emerged regarding potential risks posed by manufactured nanomaterials to human health and the environment. In light of these concerns “Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials” was designated an emerging policy issue at the second session of the ICCM in 2009. Stakeholders stressed the need to close knowledge gaps; to understand, avoid, reduce and manage risks; and to review the methods used for testing and assessing safety.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs))*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:

While no definition has been internationally agreed upon, nanomaterials are commonly defined as materials having at least one external or internal dimension between 1 and 100 nm.

Nanotechnology, i.e. the manipulation of matter at the nanometre scale, has rapidly developed in the past few decades and led to the widespread presence of nanomaterials in consumer products and industrial applications.

Despite multiple benefits associated with the technology, concerns have emerged regarding potential risks posed by manufactured nanomaterials to human health and the environment. In light of these concerns “Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials” was designated an emerging policy issue at the second session of the ICCM in 2009. Stakeholders stressed the need to close knowledge gaps; to understand, avoid, reduce and manage risks; and to review the methods used for testing and assessing safety.

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. only coordinated international action can address the issues in sound management of chemicals

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Legally binding
- Soft law
- Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives
- No international actions are needed
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers))*
- Options / guidance for economic instruments*
- Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)*
- Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

- Lack of technical capacity*
- Lack of scientific knowledge*
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*
- Difficulty with resource mobilisation*
- Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives*
- Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?*
- None, there are no factors preventing action or progress*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Nanotechnology and Manufactured Nanomaterials](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response).*

- Agriculture and food production*
- Construction*



- Electronics*
- Energy*
- Health*
- Labour*
- Pharmaceuticals*
- Public, private, blended finance*
- Retail*
- Textiles*
- Transportation*
- Waste*
- Other:* \_\_\_\_\_

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? (*Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...*).

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? (*Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

- Agriculture and Food*
- Biodiversity*
- Climate Change*
- Health*
- Human Rights*
- Sustainable Consumption and Production*
- World of Work*
- Other:* \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high*
- High*
- Medium*
- Low*

*Very low*

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

*To establish a regional knowledge sharing network*

## 19. Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs)

### *Screening Question - Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs)*

The PFAS family is composed of thousands of synthetic organic chemicals that contain at least one perfluorocarbon moiety (e.g. –CF<sub>2</sub>–) in their molecular structures. These substances have been widely used in numerous commercial and consumer applications since the late 1940s.

Since the late 1990s and early 2000s, studies have been conducted to assess some “long-chain” PFASs. Their findings resulted in the listing of perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) and its precursors under the Stockholm Convention in 2009. That same year, at ICCM2, SAICM stakeholders identified “managing PFASs and the transition to safer alternatives” as an issue of concern. A resolution by ICCM2 further invited intergovernmental organisations, governments and other stakeholders “to consider the development, facilitation and promotion in an open, transparent and inclusive manner of national and international stewardship programmes and regulatory approaches to reduce emissions and the content of relevant perfluorinated chemicals of concern in products and to work toward global elimination, where appropriate and technically feasible”

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances \(PFASs\) and the transition to safer alternatives](#) for more information on the topic.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the Conclusion page)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

- a. If you selected "No, other" in the previous question, please elaborate here:

The PFAS family is composed of thousands of synthetic organic chemicals that contain at least one perfluorocarbon moiety (e.g. –CF<sub>2</sub>–) in their molecular structures. These substances have been widely used in numerous commercial and consumer applications since the late 1940s.

Since the late 1990s and early 2000s, studies have been conducted to assess some “long-chain” PFASs. Their findings resulted in the listing of perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) and its precursors under the Stockholm Convention in 2009. That same year, at ICCM2, SAICM stakeholders identified “managing PFASs and the transition to safer alternatives” as an issue of concern. A resolution by ICCM2 further invited intergovernmental organisations, governments and other stakeholders “to consider the development, facilitation and promotion in an open, transparent and inclusive manner of national and international stewardship programmes and regulatory approaches to reduce emissions and the content of relevant perfluorinated chemicals of concern in products and to work toward global elimination, where appropriate and technically feasible”

Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances \(PFASs\) and the transition to safer alternatives](#) for more information on the topic.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

1. Do you agree with the assessment report that further international action is necessary\*? *(If you select "No", you are welcome to answer the questions below or you may proceed directly to question 9)*

- Yes  
 No  
 Do not know

Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. \_\_\_ only coordinated international action can address the issues in sound management of chemicals

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Legally binding  
 Soft law  
 Information sharing and awareness/ Voluntary initiatives  
 No international actions are needed  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to*

the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).

- Regulatory control measures*
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and guidelines, Guidelines and tools for enforcement, Awareness tools (including of consumers))*
- Options / guidance for economic instruments*
- Voluntary measures and approaches: (such as Guidelines, principles and strategies)*
- Measures supporting science-based knowledge and research*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization (Multiple answers based on list below)?

- Lack of technical capacity*
- Lack of scientific knowledge*
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*
- Difficulty with resource mobilisation*
- Lack of economically feasible green and sustainable alternatives*
- Only coordinated international action can address the issue (e.g., due to transboundary effects, or prevalence of chemicals in international trade)?*
- None, there are no factors preventing action or progress*
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? (Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? (Multi-choice. Please visit the two-page factsheet on [Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances \(PFASs\)](#) for more information on the topic. If you select "Other", please elaborate your response).

- Agriculture and food production*
- Construction*
- Electronics*
- Energy*
- Health*
- Labour*
- Pharmaceuticals*
- Public, private, blended finance*
- Retail*
- Textiles*

- Transportation*
- ✓ *Waste*
- Other:* \_\_\_\_\_

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? (*Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...*).

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? (*Multiple answers based on list below. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

- Agriculture and Food*
- Biodiversity*
- Climate Change*
- ✓ *Health*
- ✓ *Human Rights*
- ✓ *Sustainable Consumption and Production*
- ✓ *World of Work*
- Other:* \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

8. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high*
- High*
- Medium*
- Low*
- Very low*

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

*To establish a regional knowledge sharing network*

## Conclusion:

Thank you for having reached this point in the form. You are now on the last page. Below are a final set of questions covering all 19 issues of concern.

### GCO-II issues:

[Arsenic](#) | [Cadmium](#) | [Glyphosate](#) | [Lead](#) | [Microplastics](#) | [Neonicotinoids](#) | [Organotins](#) | [Phthalates](#) | [Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons \(PAHs\)](#) | [Triclosan](#) | [Bisphenol A \(BPA\)](#)

### List of SAICM issues:

[Chemicals in products \(CiP\)](#) | [Endocrine-disrupting chemicals \(EDCs\)](#) | [Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants \(EPPPs\)](#) | [Hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products \(HSLEEP\)](#) | [Highly hazardous pesticides \(HHPs\)](#) | [Lead in paint](#) | [Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials](#) | [Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances \(PFASs\) and the transition to safer alternatives](#)

Please submit your completed form via email by **15/08/2023** COB Central European time (CET).

1. From the list of 19 issues, which issue(s) do you think is/are the most urgent? *(Multiple options from the list of 19 issues)*

- [Arsenic](#)
- [Bisphenol A \(BPA\)](#)
- [Cadmium](#)
- [Glyphosate](#)
- [Lead](#)
- [Microplastics](#)
- [Neonicotinoids](#)
- [Organotins](#)
- [Phthalates](#)
- [Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons \(PAHs\)](#)
- [Triclosan](#)
- [Chemicals in products \(CiP\)](#)
- [Endocrine-disrupting chemicals \(EDCs\)](#)
- [Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants \(EPPPs\)](#)
- [Hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products \(HSLEEP\)](#)
- [Highly hazardous pesticides \(HHPs\)](#)
- [Lead in paint](#)
- [Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials](#)
- [Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances \(PFASs\) and the transition to safer alternatives](#)

a. Please explain your response. *(Open space to elaborate).*

2. From the list of 19 issues, which issue(s) is/are the most actionable? (*Multiple options from the list of 19 issues*)

- Arsenic
- Bisphenol A (BPA)
- Cadmium
- Glyphosate
- Lead
- Microplastics
- Neonicotinoids
- Organotins
- Phthalates
- Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)
- Triclosan
- Chemicals in products (CiP)
- Endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs)
- Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants (EPPPs)
- Hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products (HSLEEP)
- Highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs)
- Lead in paint
- Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials
- Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) and the transition to safer alternatives

b. Please explain your response. (*Open space to elaborate*).

### *Glyphosate*

In the Republic of Belarus, glyphosate-based pesticides are currently widely used. They are used not only in agriculture, but also to protect forest plantations in parks, urban conditions, farms. In 2015, glyphosate was classified as carcinogenic by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) (category 2A). In addition, recent scientific evidence supports reproductive impairment in animals and humans at lower concentrations than previously thought and recently obtained data from in vitro and in vivo studies prove that glyphosate can affect some hormonal signaling pathways and disrupt the endocrine system.

Thus, we are concerned about the increasing use of glyphosate-containing pesticides, which may cause serious or irreversible harm to health or the environment and believe it is necessary to consider glyphosate as HHP, to introduce PIC procedures for glyphosate within the framework of the regulation of the Rotterdam Convention.

In addition, we consider it necessary to increase the level of knowledge and exchange information based on the results of modern scientific data, followed by training at the national level of representatives of regulatory government agencies, agriculture, farmers and city utilities.

### *Lead*

The main risks to the population associated with exposure to lead in the Republic of Belarus are caused by the use of lead-containing paints (in the construction sector, repair and painting work in everyday life) and the dangers associated with lead emissions during the processing of lead-accumulator batteries.



According to the content of lead in paints and varnishes, the technical regulation "On the safety of paints and varnishes" is currently being prepared for implementation, which will limit the use of lead to 50 ppm. Unsolved problems remain the release of lead into the environment during the processing of lead-accumulator batteries, repair and construction work and the disposal of the resulting waste contaminated with lead.

To strengthen the evidence base in solving the above-mentioned challenges and draw the attention of regulatory administrative bodies to solving issues of reducing risks for workers and the population associated with the processing of lead-accumulator batteries, the use of lead pigments in paint and varnish materials and during repair and construction work, we believe it is necessary to introduce measures into the national policy to conduct biomonitoring (regular blood testing for lead content).

MoH of the Republic of Belarus strongly supported and officially joined the EHP Partnership for HBM (at the Seventh Ministerial Conference Belarus). Designated national coordinator for participation in this Partnership is SPCH (the center which is authorized to fill in the questionnaire report).

In addition, within the framework of this initiative, we consider it necessary to introduce into national policy the development of standards for the collection, processing, assessment of emissions and safety at work proposed by UNEP, regulatory measures for land use planning in the location of secondary smelters for the processing of lead with risk assessment and subsequent biomonitoring, to develop and introduce training programs for all interested persons, operating on an ongoing basis.

To address these challenges, the country needs to provide technical assistance to improve institutional and technical capacity (techniques, standards for conducting biomonitoring of lead in blood, the development and conduct of trainings and training programs), training inspectors and staff, the purchase of laboratory equipment for measuring lead in biological samples, and the development and implementation of relevant legislative measures.

#### *Highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs)*

There are currently gaps in legislation in Belarus, the use of highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs) continues in the country and we aim to implement the FAO/WHO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management.

One of the issues on national level is using the Highly hazardous pesticides. Currently, the State Register of Permitted Pesticides includes more than 20 HHPs (d.v. and forms based on them are used). A pesticide control system has not been developed to track the passage of pesticides from customs to the field and disposal of waste and contaminated containers.

This requires to strengthen national regulatory capacity to conduct risk assessment and risk management, including the availability of necessary information, mindful of the responsibility of national and multinational enterprises.

Discussion of information within the framework of the initiative UCT Pesticide Discussion Forum would be very helpful.

#### *Endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs)*

Here are some gaps in legislative frame existing in Belarus facing at regulating chemicals related to endocrine disruptors. So, in State register of Permitted Pesticides includes few pesticides which acting as Endocrine-disrupting chemicals: 2,4-D, zineb, mankoceb, tirum, tebukanzol. There is no requirements for restricting bisphenol in products for children, child goods, polymer packaging, children's bottles, cans for packaging canned products; there is no ban for ethoxylate nonylphenol, triclosan, paraben.

Besides there is no national register of chemicals and mixtures and therefore no information on the volumes and nomenclature of industrial chemicals in circulation in Belarus.

As we mentioned above, MoH was implemented in the WHO project aimed at endocrine-disrupting chemicals into the frame of Quick Start Programme for the implementation of SAICM objectives, financed project (2017-2018). As project results population awareness was raised, a review of the primary incidence of some endocrine diseases was performed, gaps and problems were identified, strategies to minimize the negative impact of hazardous chemicals on the human health of the endocrine system were indicated.

There is a gap in legislation for endocrine-disrupting chemicals management. Nevertheless monitoring of containing the some endocrine-disrupting chemicals in products, raw materials and waste during sanitary-epidemiological surveillance is conducted but the findings are fragmented, making it difficult to conduct a comprehensive risk assessment for public health and the environment. More over there is a lack of HBM.

During the WHO project (2017-2018) public awareness was raised, a review of the primary incidence of some endocrine diseases was performed, gaps and problems were identified, strategies to minimize the negative impact of hazardous chemicals on the human health of the endocrine system were indicated.

There is a gap in legislation of the Republic of Belarus hazardous chemicals and products related to ER or containing ER, as well as requirements for:

In the there is no legal basis for the regulation of

assessment of the hazard and risk to health and the environment of hazardous chemicals; classification and labeling;

ensuring the safety of the use of chemicals informing those working in industry and agriculture;

establishing the manufacturer's responsibility for safety chemical substances;

information support for those interested in the circulation of chemicals;

control of the content of priority ER in consumer products and

food products.

Content regulations are not updated with international requirements ER in cosmetics, personal care products, foam detergents:

- bisphenol A in containers and packaging intended for contact with food, groceries, tin cans, goods for children (bottles for feeding, nipples, teethers, etc.);

antipyridines in light industry products, floor carpets, textile products;

nonylphenols, organotin compounds, perfluorooctanesulfonic acids in light industry products.

In the Republic of Belarus, monitoring and control of hazardous chemicals in consumer products, raw materials and waste is carried out within the framework of sanitary and epidemiological surveillance. However, information about ER is fragmented, which makes it difficult to conduct a comprehensive risk assessment for public health and the environment.

There is no human biomonitoring program.

Chemical safety issues are not fully reflected in the curricula of basic and postgraduate medical education, educational and information materials for educational work among the population.

There is a need to establish a knowledge exchange Network.

At the national level EDCs are regulated within Eurasian Economic Union (The Eurasian Economic Union consists of five member states: Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Armenia) – including ED into the Technical Regulations TR 041/2017 "On Safety of Chemical Production"

There is a need to continue the initiatives implemented during the QUICK STASRT PROGRAMME at the national level.

In order to increase the evidence base there is a need for the development of HBM. MoH of the Republic of Belarus officially joined the EHP Partnership for HBM.

### *Chemicals in products (CiP)*

Within the framework of Eurasian Economic Union (The Eurasian Economic Union consists of five member states: Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Armenia) the Republic of Belarus has introduced technical regulations regulating the safety of consumer goods: light industry products, cosmetic products, containers and packaging, electrical equipment and radio electronics. The technical regulations "On the safety of chemical products," "Household chemicals and synthetic detergents," "Safety of paints and varnishes," etc. are being prepared.

Significant gaps at the national and subregional levels should be noted:

- algorithm of coordinated measures in case of detection of hazardous chemicals in consumer products (by CASP analogy) has not been developed;
- reliable information on the content of chemicals in products is not published in open sources;
- technical regulations do not contain up-to-date lists for control of hazardous chemicals in products;
- vulnerable groups are not protected

Thus, we propose to launch a subregional project on risk assessment of chemicals for vulnerable groups of populations

3. Are there any other observations you wish to note? *(Open space to elaborate).*