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English only

**Second meeting of the Bureau of the
Global Framework on Chemicals –
For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste**
Tuesday, 5 December 2023, from 12:00 – 13:30 (CET)

Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda¹
Implementation of the Framework and ICCM5 Resolutions. Next steps

Focal Points of the Global Framework on Chemicals – For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste

Note by the secretariat

1. The Global Framework on Chemicals – For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste states that each Government should designate a national focal point to facilitate communication and coordination at the national, regional and international levels with respect to the Framework. The Framework also notes the importance of having in place focal points of other stakeholder groups to facilitate communication.
2. The Global Framework on Chemicals – For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste and the ICCM5 resolutions do not contain any specific deadlines for the nomination of the governmental focal points, nor any specific provision on the nomination of other stakeholders' focal points.
3. ICCM5 adopted a resolution regarding the development of guidelines for national focal points and requested the secretariat to develop draft guidelines for consideration at the first session of the Conference in 2026.
4. It is therefore expected that following a decision taken at the first Conference in relation to the above-mentioned guidelines, a comprehensive call for nomination of focal points could be launched.
5. Nevertheless, it is important to ensure continued communication with the stakeholders of the Global Framework on Chemicals – For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste in the transitional period.
6. Under the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, the Secretariat has maintained and kept publicly available a database of all nominated focal points as well as provided an oversight of the nomination procedures. The database served as a principal source of contact details for communication purposes with stakeholders.
7. The secretariat proposes below a way forward to ensure appropriate continuation of communication with all stakeholders in the transitional period.
8. The Bureau may wish to provide feedback and agree on the proposed way forward.

Next steps

9. It is therefore proposed to:

¹ GFC/IC.1/Bureau.2/1

- a. provisionally maintain and use the existing focal points database for communication purposes under the Global Framework on Chemicals – For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste;
 - b. invite the secretariat to prepare and send a letter to all stakeholders inviting them to provide information to update the existing database or submit new nominations of focal points as appropriate;
 - c. request the secretariat to update, as appropriate, the existing documents relevant for the nomination process;
 - d. request the secretariat, to inform the Bureau at its next meetings, on the status of focal points.
10. In relation to the resolution mentioned in point 3, the secretariat will develop draft guidelines for national focal points to be presented at a next bureau meeting for consideration and thereafter for consultation with all stakeholders. After the period of consultation and incorporation of comments, it is suggested to consider starting their early implementation until their adoption at the first Conference.
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