



Knowledge-Sharing Meeting on Stakeholder Implementation of the SAICM Chemicals in Products Programme

10 February 2017, Brasilia, Brazil

Draft Concept note

1. This note presents an overview of a one-day “Knowledge-Sharing Meeting on Implementation of the Chemicals in Products Programme” to be held 10 February 2017 in Brasilia, Brazil.
2. The meeting has been scheduled to encourage participants in the “1st meeting of the intersessional process on the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020” (to be held 7-9 February 2017 in the same venue) to stay for the Knowledge-Sharing Meeting and contribute to the discussions. Those who wish to participate in the Knowledge-Sharing Meeting should **notify UN Environment by 20 January 2017** at risks.chemicals@unep.org, as space is limited. Participants are as well requested to **notify UNEP if a confirmation letter is required** (e.g. for visa purposes).
3. The one day meeting will be followed by a Meeting of the Steering Group for the SAICM Chemicals in Product Programme, 11 February 2017.
4. Documents and practical information for the meeting will be made available to all registered participants and through the CiP Programme web site¹.

Background and context

5. The SAICM CiP Programme was welcomed in 2015. Since then SAICM stakeholders have continued their efforts and progress within a number of manufactured product sectors to plan and implement a wide range of actions with the goal of scaling up information-

¹ Accessed through URL: web.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste

sharing and managing of chemicals in final products. The automotive, textiles, electronics and other sectors, for example, have developed advanced systems for exchanging information about the chemical content of their products. The information made available through these systems has brought major benefits to manufacturers and to the consumers of the final products².

6. The global chemicals-policy community, through SAICM, has long recognized the critical importance of knowledge on the chemicals placed into products towards achieving the 2020 goal of SAICM. It developed the CiP Programme as a means for stakeholders, globally and throughout the life cycle of products, to collaborate on this important issue. In 2018, a global report will be prepared to summarize progress made in Programme implementation and identify challenges encountered.
7. The SAICM CiP Programme is facilitated by UN Environment through its Chemicals and Waste Branch, Economy Division. In this context UN Environment will convene a meeting on 10 February 2017 in Brasilia to review activities to date under the Programme, to take stock and to identify lessons learned relevant for the effective implementation of the CiP Programme.

Overall Goal and Objectives of the Meeting

8. The overall goal of the meeting is to share information, coordinate efforts and build momentum among multiple stakeholder groups to advance the exchange of CiP information and active participation in the SAICM CiP Programme.
9. Specific objectives of the meeting include the following:
 - Identify a diverse range of actions undertaken by stakeholders related to the objectives of the SAICM CiP Programme
 - Explore opportunities and challenges to showcase innovative actions globally through the CiP Programme
 - Develop innovative ideas of how to broadly reach out and engage stakeholder groups in the SAICM CiP Programme.
10. The outcomes of the meeting will feed into the meeting of the CiP Programme Steering Group on 11 February and the report on the SAICM CiP Programme for the third meeting of the SAICM Open-ended Working Group in 2018.

Participants

² See the meeting document on selected CiP information exchange systems for examples.

11. The meeting will be composed of the CiP Programme Steering Group members and participants in the SAICM intersessional process meeting from governments, international organizations, the private sector, and civil society organizations with experience or strong interest in the CiP Programme or the chemicals in products issue.
12. Participants in the SAICM intersessional process meeting who wish to extend their stay to participate in the Knowledge-Sharing Meeting should **notify UN Environment by 20 January 2017** at risks.chemicals@unep.org, as space is limited. Participants are as well requested to **notify UNEP if a confirmation letter is required** (e.g. for visa purposes).

Methods and approach

13. The method applied in the meeting will be to present and analyze selected stakeholder initiatives, from a variety of stakeholder groups, which have a strong central element of obtaining and/or using CiP information. After an initial plenary discussion, smaller groups will work on the analysis and meeting output document.

Policy background

14. The governing body to the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) is the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM). This conference met at its second session (ICCM2) in 2009 and through its Resolution II/4 (C) invited UN Environment to work on the priority chemicals-policy issue of chemicals in products. Specifically UN Environment was invited to review existing information systems pertaining to chemicals in (manufactured) products, to assess access to that information against the needs of relevant stakeholders, to identify gaps in information access and to develop specific recommendations for actions to promote implementation of SAICM with regards to information on chemicals in products (CiP information). ICCM2 also invited UN Environment to constitute a Steering Group to advise it on this activity, and requested members of the SAICM Bureau to each nominate one expert to the Steering Group.
15. In 2012, the third session of ICCM decided to develop an international voluntary programme for CiP information along the supply chain and throughout the life cycle, the CiP Programme, with the aim of facilitating and guiding the provision and availability of, and access to, relevant information on chemicals in products among all stakeholder groups. Between 2012 and 2015 UN Environment developed the *Chemicals in Products Programme* and the *Guidance for stakeholders on exchanging chemicals in products information*, both of which were welcomed by ICCM at its fourth session in 2015 (ICCM4). Both the third and fourth sessions of ICCM renewed the mandate of the Steering Group, with ICCM3 recommending the inclusion in the Group of experts representing final

product manufacturers and the waste sector and ICCM4 suggesting that the recycling sector be included in the Group.

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