

## EU/MS comments on Implementation of the Chemicals and Waste subprogramme

### Key Messages:

- EU/MS emphasise that the 2020 goal for the sound management of chemicals and waste in SDG target 12.4 is one of the earliest targets to be met under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- We would like to underline that the sound management of chemical and waste is also a crosscutting element which is essential to sustainable development and meeting many targets in the 2030 Agenda.
- This is an area that has been addressed in depth in previous UNEA resolutions and UNEP GC decisions. Thus, the focus at UNEA3 should be mainly on continued implementation of those resolutions and decisions, as these are essential to meet this target. Efforts to this end have to be strengthened and prioritised, in particular support in implementation of SAICM's Overall Orientation and Guidance to achieve the 2020 goal.
- In this context, while it will probably not be necessary to adopt a new detailed resolution on this matter (as a report on implementation may be enough), there will be a need to ensure that its importance is adequately reflected in the context of the UNEA3 theme on pollution, as the sound management of chemicals and waste is necessary to address pollution in practically all its forms and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
- Preventive policies and actions on the sound management of chemicals and waste are also essential to reduce pollution and should be taken into account in the work concerning the theme of UNEA3.
- Regarding the implementation of the sub-programme, we express concern about the apparent delays in meeting the sub-programme targets and would like to ask UNEP to provide further details into why some sectors lacked financing and why some of the targets were not realistic. While acknowledging that some of the targets were actually primarily the responsibility of the countries, what does UNEP envisage to do in 2017 to address some of the targets that were not fulfilled in 2016?
- EU/MS would like to recall the importance of a synergistic approach to the implementation of the chemical and waste subprogram of UNEP to ensure full coherence and integration of chemicals and waste issues.
- Regarding the report on the Implementation of the Resolutions of the Second Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, EU/MS believe that there may be a few typo's that the Secretariat may wish to take care of, when updating the documents before us:
  - We believe the 2nd sentence on page 22 should read: "The resolution recognizes that sound management of **chemicals AND waste** is one of the key requirements for achieving the 2030 Agenda", rather than referring to **chemicals wastes**. We hope that this understanding can be confirmed by the Secretariat.
  - On the same page, we understand that the invitation should be directed to all stakeholders with experience on **SUSTAINABLE CHEMISTRY**, so the sentence should read: "On chemicals, the Assembly invites all stakeholders with experience **on sustainable**