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### *COP3 to the Bamako Convention*

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## **Third Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa**

Brazzaville, Congo

12 - 14 February 2020

### **Item 5(a)(v): Identifying opportunities for collaboration with the Secretariat of the Strategic Approach for International Chemicals Management (SAICM) to promote the agenda of SAICM beyond 2020 in Africa**

#### **Note by the Secretariat**

##### **Introduction**

1. The secretariat has the honour to circulate, in the annex to the present note, an update on the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) and considerations for SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020. The document presented in the annex has been prepared and submitted by the SAICM Secretariat and has not been formally edited.

2. During the Second Session of the Conference of the Parties to the Bamako convention the Ministers of Environment adopted the Abidjan Declaration on the Bamako Convention: A Platform for a Pollution-free Africa. This Declaration called for a review of the progress made in implementation of the convention, its effectiveness, challenges faced and its readiness to address the management of emerging and more complex hazardous wastes.

3. The review process will lead to the repositioning of the Bamako Convention and ensure that it aligns itself appropriately with relevant existing chemicals-related instruments, such as chemicals- and waste-related conventions and frameworks such as the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its third session.

##### **Proposed Action**

The Conference of the Parties may wish to take note of the information provided in the annex to this note.

## Annex

### Information note from the secretariat of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)

#### I. Introduction

1. The Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) is a global policy framework that was initiated in 2006 with the overall objective “to achieve the sound management of chemicals throughout their life-cycle so that, by 2020, chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment.” Implementation of SAICM is overseen by the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM) – a multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder forum.
2. SAICM provides a unique platform for all sectors and stakeholders to voluntarily work together to protect human health and the environment from the harmful effects of chemicals across their lifecycle.
3. SAICM exists within and supports the broader context of global sound management of chemicals across the lifecycle including legally binding multi-lateral environmental agreements (MEAs), International Health Regulations (2005), and certain International Labour Organization Conventions, amongst others.
4. The ICCM5 Bureau member for the Africa region is Mr. David Kapindula (Zambia) and the SAICM regional focal point is Mr. Kouame Georges Kouadio (Cote D'Ivoire).

#### II. The Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020

5. The fourth session of the ICCM, through Conference resolution IV/4, initiated an intersessional process to prepare recommendations regarding the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 for consideration at the fifth session of the Conference.
6. The intersessional process is open for participation by all stakeholders. Stakeholders are invited to participate in intersessional process meetings and engage in efforts to inform the process by correspondence and/or by electronic means.
7. The third meeting of the intersessional process (IP3) took place from 1 to 4 October 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand. The meeting made significant progress on the beyond 2020 instrument for SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste in each of these areas.
8. The fourth and final meeting of the intersessional process (IP4) for considering the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 will be held in Bucharest, Romania from 23-27 March 2020. Further information concerning IP4 is available at the following link:  
<http://www.saicm.org/Beyond2020/IntersessionalProcess/FourthIntersessionalmeeting/tabid/8226/language/en-US/Default.aspx>
9. In moving forward, the global chemicals and waste community has already agreed on the importance of continued work in this area in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. This time, not only focusing on chemicals, but also waste, thereby bringing circularity into the picture.

10. The fifth session of the Conference (ICCM5), where stakeholders will decide on the beyond 2020 arrangements for SAICM, will be hosted by the Government of Germany from 5-9 October 2020 in Bonn. The Conference will be presided over by the President of the International Conference, Ms. Gertrud Sahler (Germany). Further information concerning ICCM5 is available at the following link:

<http://www.saicm.org/About/ICCM/ICCM5/tabid/8207/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

11. ICCM5 will have a High-Level Segment that will provide the space to promote an ambitious outcome for chemicals and waste beyond 2020. The High-Level Segment is likely to adopt a high-level declaration for the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.
12. SAICM regional meetings will take place in August-September 2020 to prepare for ICCM5. The Africa regional meeting will take place in Nairobi, Kenya. The date is to be confirmed.

### III. Opportunities in moving forward

13. To promote the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 and to encourage collaboration between the Bamako secretariat and the SAICM secretariat, parties may wish to:
  - (a) Identify opportunities for enhancing cooperation, coordination and synergies between the Bamako secretariat and SAICM secretariat for the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.
  - (b) Engage in the intersessional process considering SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020, including the identification of key regional and sub-regional priorities and providing other relevant inputs.
  - (c) Submit a regional progress report to the SAICM secretariat on implementation of the Bamako Convention in the region for the 2017-2019 period.
  - (d) Identify national level priorities for cooperation to support capacity building as well as the provision of technical infrastructure.
  - (e) Participate in SAICM regional meetings and ICCM5.
  - (f) Identify potential multi-sectoral partnerships linked to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to effectively address specific chemicals and waste issues of international concern.
14. Furthermore, the Special Programme on institutional strengthening to facilitate and enable the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention and SAICM launched its fourth round of applications on 29 November 2019. Governments that are interested in submitting an application during the fourth round of applications are invited to prepare their project concept, ahead of the 17 April 2020 deadline, by consulting with ministries and stakeholders to identify national priorities, gaps and challenges. Further information and application procedures for the Special Programme are available at the following link:

<https://www.unenvironment.org/explore-topics/chemicals-waste/what-we-do/special-programme>

### IV. Proposed Action

15. Upon consideration of the information set out in the present note, the Conference may wish to adopt a decision to promote collaboration in moving beyond 2020, particularly

in light of key decisions that are anticipated at ICCM5 for SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.

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