

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

UNEP is undertaking a consultation on priorities for further work and potential further international on 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 will be taken on 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 The names and contact details of the respondents will not be published on the UNEP website.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](#).

After completing the form and clicking “*submit*”, your responses will be saved. An email will be sent to the email address you register below with a summary of your responses and a link to edit your submitted form. **It is therefore possible to return and edit your responses before the deadline by clicking “*submit*” again at the end of the same form.**

We highly recommend coordinating responses within your stakeholder affiliation/ government. The form for collecting written inputs will be available until **15/08/2023** COB

Central European time (CET) .

Please enter your email details below to be notified once your form is submitted and to receive the URL to revisit and edit your form.

## 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

1. [Arsenic](#)
2. [Bisphenol A \(BPA\)](#)
3. [Cadmium](#)
4. [Glyphosate](#)
5. [Lead](#)
6. [Microplastics](#)
7. [Neonicotinoids](#)
8. [Organotins](#)
9. [Phthalates](#)
10. [Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons \(PAHs\)](#)
11. [Triclosan](#)

### SAICM issues

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

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

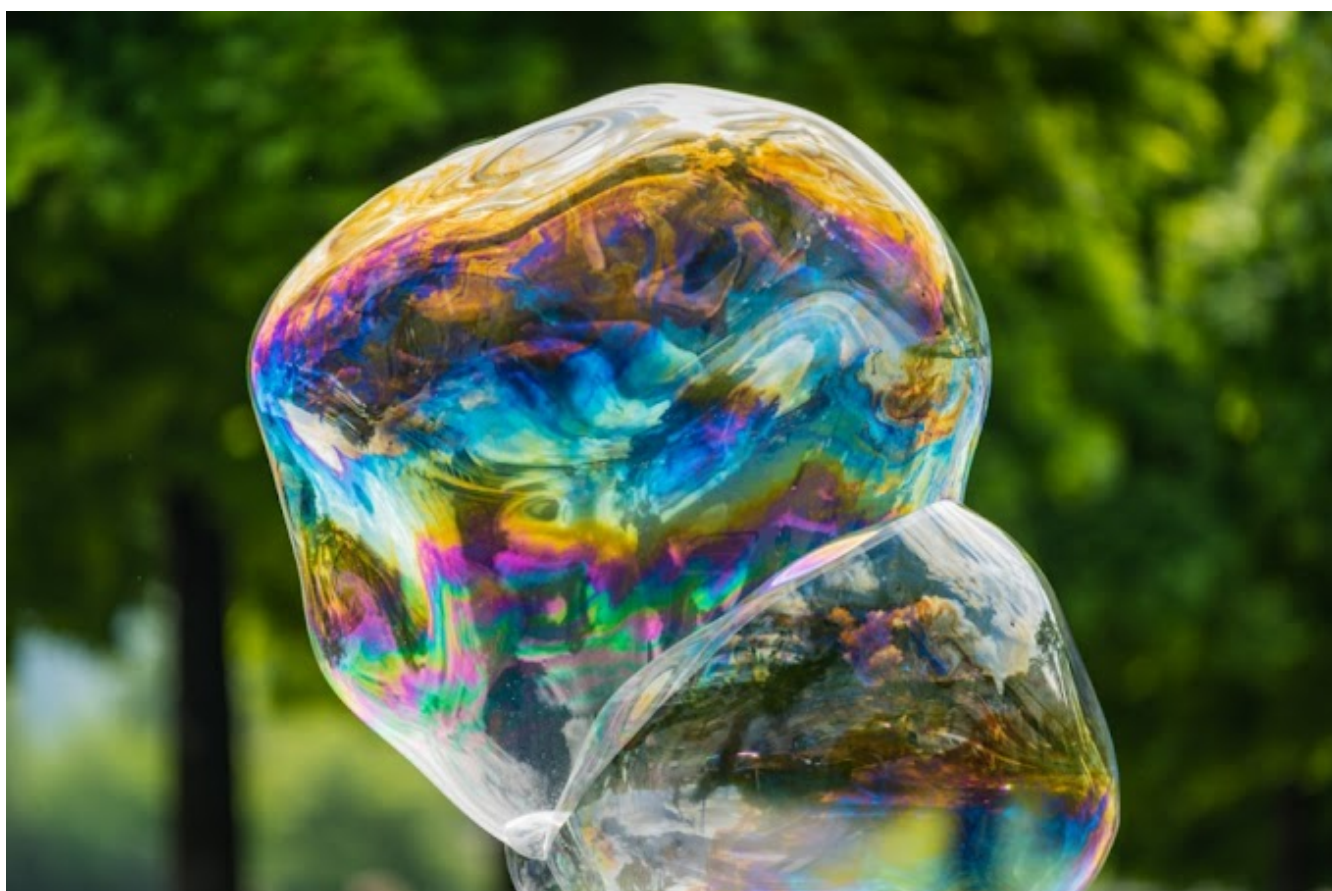
All 19 issues of concern will be covered in this call for written inputs. A recording from an information webinar held on 27 April 2023, on the Assessment Report on Issues of Concern is [available here](#) for your reference. Further background information can be found below:

- 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 \*

VinylPlus

Type of Institution \*

- Government
- Intergovernmental Organization
- Civil Society Organization
- Business/Private Sector
- Academia
- Other: .....

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

PVC value chain - Europe

Country \*

Belgium

## 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.

Would you like to provide responses on Arsenic? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the next issue of concern, Bisphenol A (BPA).



Yes



No, I do not know enough about Arsenic



No, Arsenic is not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

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**Please answer as many questions below as you can on 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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

.....

2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

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3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address Arsenic at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: 

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3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

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4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing Arsenic in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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: .....

4a) 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?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

.....

6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 or 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 Arsenic?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

.....

7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with Arsenic?

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: .....

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with Arsenic, including examples if possible.

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 Arsenic 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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

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10) Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

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Please select one of the options below \*

- Proceed to the next issue of concern - Bisphenol A (BPA)
- Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

## **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.

Would you like to provide responses on Bisphenol A? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the next issue of concern, Cadmium.



Yes



No, I do not know enough about Bisphenol A



No, Bisphenol A is not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

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**Please answer as many questions below as you can on Bisphenol A**

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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

.....

2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

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3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address Bisphenol A at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: 

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3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

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4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing Bisphenol A in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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: .....

4a) 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?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

.....



6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 or 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 Bisphenol A?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

.....

7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with Bisphenol A?

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: .....

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with Bisphenol A, including examples if possible.

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 Bisphenol A 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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

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10) Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

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Please select one of the options below \*

- Proceed to the next issue of concern - Cadmium
- Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

## 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.

Would you like to provide responses on Cadmium? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the next issue of concern, Glyphosate.



Yes



No, I do not know enough about Cadmium



No, Cadmium is not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

.....

**Please answer as many questions below as you can on 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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

Yes and No is given as the answer because this is a diverse list of complex issues and actions have already been taken at local, national, regional and international level. As discussed during the 2-day UNEP consultation meeting on July 11 and 12, 2023, prioritization criteria should be developed and applied to identify the top issues.

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2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

As noted above it depends upon the specific issue but for the large part information sharing, awareness and voluntary initiatives are appropriate for this wide range of complex topics. Action at international level should only be where it is really needed and can have added value, and where coherence with existing national/regional initiatives can be ensured.

For legally binding instruments and regulations these are more appropriately developed at national or regional level

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3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address Cadmium at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: 

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3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

In our region (European Union) Cadmium stabilisers for PVC have been phased out in the early to mid 2000s and replaced by other safer stabilisers (re: Calcium and Calcium/Zinc; organotin stabilisers and Mixed metal (e.g. Ba/Zn) stabilisers. The European stabiliser producers have also taken major actions including investment to support the replacement of Cadmium stabilisers outside the EU. Cadmium based pigments have also been phased out from use in PVC and other polymers in the EU.

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4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing Cadmium in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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: See above PVC stabilisers and pigments phased out under EU regulations

4a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

Robust weight of evidence scientific assessments are critical for providing some degree of regulatory predictability to industry to support investment in existing and new substances and polymers. Robust weight of evidence scientific assessments require an assessment of the quality and reliability of the studies on the substance, and then a expert balanced judgement made on the substance, with a full and reasoned explanation for the conclusions, and why certain studies were chosen,

5) Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

Information sharing from the EU (European Commission and trade associations relevant to plastics and plastics additives - as to how cadmium stabilisers and pigments were phased out and what substitutes have and are being used. Also information sharing on how cadmium levels in waste plastics are monitored such that safe and sustainable recycling of waste PVC is occurring. Regulation is then best put in place at national level were needed.

6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 or 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 Cadmium?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

Logically this should be addressed within SAICM as part of the strategic management of chemicals re: information sharing on best practices for regulation, alternatives, facilitation of recycling of plastics by monitoring levels of cadmium in waste (PVC is used in long lasting applications in construction and hence PVC waste can be up to 50 years old and even older e.g. PVC pipes, PVC wire and cable).

.....



7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with Cadmium?

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:

Example: safe and affordable housing - plastics including PVC are used in construction - pipes and fittings for safe drinking water and sanitation; wire and cable for safe electrical supply; roofing membranes for protection from the environment and insulation (CO2 benefits); hygienic flooring and wallcovering for hospitals, public buildings and affordable housing

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7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with Cadmium, including examples if possible.

For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)

Global Plastics Treaty

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8) What priority level do you attach to Cadmium 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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

Sharing of information and best practices from the EU and US taking into account that regulation in the EU has led to the complete phase-out of cadmium stabilisers for PVC and cadmium pigments for plastics and paints in the early 2000s.

VinylPlus has developed and is using the Additives Sustainability Footprint to support the safe and sustainable use of additives:

<https://www.vinylplus.eu/sustainability/our-contribution-to-sustainability/additive-sustainability-footprint/>

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10) Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

Successful story of replacement of cadmium stabilisers (and cadmium pigments) in the EU with complete phase-out, and replacement by alternatives such as calcium and calcium zinc based stabilisers. Also facilitation of recycling of waste PVC through monitoring cadmium levels and meeting stringent EU levels, thus allowing continued recycling and resource recovery.

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Please select one of the options below \*

- Proceed to the next issue of concern - Glyphosate
- Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

## 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.

Would you like to provide responses on Glyphosate? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the next issue of concern, Lead.



Yes



No, I do not know enough about Glyphosate



No, Glyphosate is not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

Choose



**Please answer as many questions below as you can on 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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

.....

2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address Glyphosate at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: .....

3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing Glyphosate in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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: .....

4a) 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?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

.....

6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 or blended finance

Retail

Textiles

Transportation

Waste

Other: .....

7) Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action Glyphosate?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

.....



7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with Glyphosate?

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: .....

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with Glyphosate, including examples if possible.

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 Glyphosate 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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

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10) Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

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Please select one of the options below \*

- Proceed to the next issue of concern - Lead
- Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

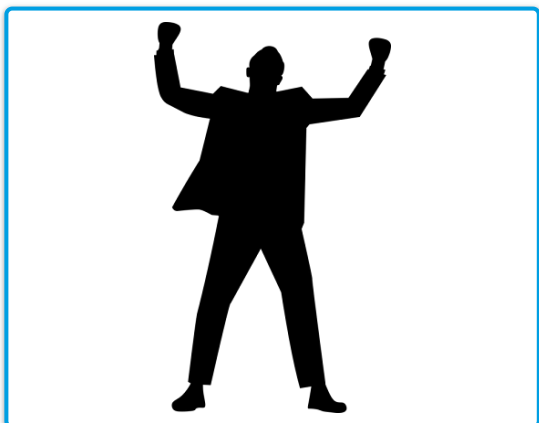
## Lead

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.

Would you like to provide responses on Lead? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the next issue of concern, Microplastics.



Yes



No, I do not know enough about Lead



No, Lead is not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

.....

**Please answer as many questions below as you can on 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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

Yes and No is given as the answer because this is a diverse list of complex issues and actions have already been taken at local, national, regional and international level. As discussed during the 2-day UNEP consultation meeting on July 11 and 12, 2023, prioritization criteria should be developed and applied to identify the top issues.

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2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

As noted above it depends upon the specific issue but for the large part information sharing, awareness and voluntary initiatives are appropriate for this wide range of complex topics. Action at international level should only be where it is really needed and can have added value, and where coherence with existing national/regional initiatives can be ensured

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3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address Lead at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: .....

3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

Information sharing and guidelines based on best practice. In the EU, lead based stabilisers have been phased out as of 2015. This was driven by a major substitution program by stabiliser producers starting in earnest in 2000 and completed by 2015. EU regulations have also contributed to this phase out, and regulations allow higher levels in recycle than in virgin material for specified periods (years). This was based on a robust scientific assessment by ECHA (European Chemicals Agency).

---

4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing Lead in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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:  
See above - phased out of lead based stabilisers by producers with replacment by Calcium and Calcium /Zinc stabilisers

4a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

Robust weight of evidence scientific assessments are critical for providing some degree of regulatory predictability to industry to support investment in existing and new substances and polymers. ECHA conducted such an assessment for lead in waste PVC and concluded that the best risk management option is allow recycling of higher levels of lead in PVC - upto 1.5wt% (compared to the usual limit of 0.1wt% for new PVC articles). This derogation for recycled PVC is for 10 years.

5) Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

EU approach to restricting lead based stabilisers for PVC, the alternatives used and the approach taken for recycled PVC (derogation for a higher limit based on a scientific assessment by ECHA). Information sharing at international level can lead to regulation where needed at national level, taking into account the local situation.

<https://www.vinylplus.eu/sustainability/our-contribution-to-sustainability/additive-sustainability-footprint/>

6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 or 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 Lead?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

Logically this should be addressed within SAICM as part of the strategic management of chemicals. Regulation can then be adopted at national level where needed.

.....

7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with Lead?

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: Global Plastics Treaty

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with Lead, including examples if possible.

For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)

Over 25 years of intensive work by the industry in the EU have led to better, safer and more sustainable alternatives replacing SVHC substances. While the industry was proactive in replacing additives, regulations also clearly played an important role, with the involvement and cooperation of all stakeholders. In addition to the complete phase out of lead and cadmium, the use of organotin compounds has been reduced, and the remaining uses are in compliance with stringent EU regulations.



8) What priority level do you attach to Lead 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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

Regulation can be adopted where relevant and adapted to the local situation - as decided by the national government.

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10) Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

Best practice and information sharing

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Please select one of the options below \*

- Proceed to the next issue of concern - Microplastics
- Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

## **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.

Would you like to provide responses on Microplastics? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the next issue of concern, Neonicotinoids.



Yes



No, I do not know enough about Microplastics



No, Microplastics are not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

.....

## Please answer as many questions below as you can on 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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

---

2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address Microplastics at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: .....

3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing Microplastics in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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: .....

4a) 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?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

.....

6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 or 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 Microplastics?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

.....

7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with Microplastics?

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: .....

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with Microplastics, including examples if possible.

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 Microplastics 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? \*

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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

---

Please select one of the options below \*

- Proceed to the next issue of concern - Neonicotinoids
- Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

## 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.



Would you like to provide responses on Neonicotinoids? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the next issue of concern, Organotins.



Yes



No, I do not know enough about Neonicotinoids



No, Neonicotinoids are not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

.....

**Please answer as many questions below as you can on 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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

.....

2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address Neonicotinoids issue at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: .....

3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing Neonicotinoids in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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: .....

4a) 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?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

.....

6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 or 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 Neonicotinoids?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

.....

7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with Neonicotinoids?

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: .....

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with Neonicotinoids, including examples if possible.

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 Neonicotinoids 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? \*

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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

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Please select one of the options below \*

- Proceed to the next issue of concern - Organotins
- Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

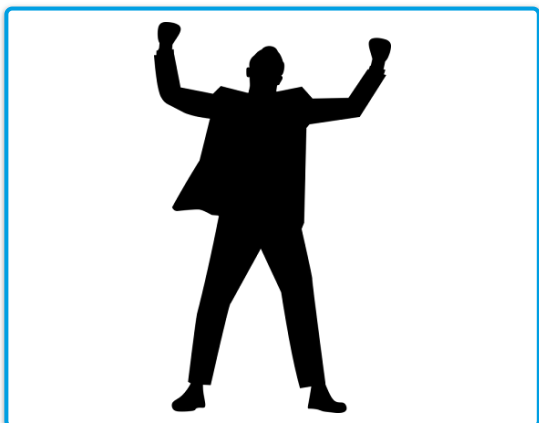
## Organotins

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.

Would you like to provide responses on Organotins? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the next issue of concern, Phthalates.



Yes



No, I do not know enough about Organotins



No, Organotins are not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

.....

**Please answer as many questions below as you can on 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.

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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

Yes and No is given as the answer because this is a diverse list of complex issues and actions have already been taken at local, national, regional and international level. As discussed during the 2-day UNEP consultation meeting on July 11 and 12, 2023, prioritization criteria should be developed and applied to identify the top issues

---

2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: \_\_\_\_\_

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

As noted above it depends upon the specific issue but for the large part information sharing, awareness and voluntary initiatives are appropriate for this wide range of complex topics. Regulations can then be decided upon as needed by national governments, and adapted to local conditions.

3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address Organotins at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: .....

3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

Sharing of best practices and information from the EU. Extensive risk assessments have been conducted in the EU on organotin based PVC stabilisers, with certain uses having been restricted and others permitted based on whether a potential risk was identified or not. Critical uses are in rigid packaging for pharmaceuticals for example, as well as critical uses for pipes and fittings (sustainable supply of drinking water and sanitation), and construction applications in window profiles and roofing.

4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing Organotins in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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:  
Risk assessments have been conducted in the EU with restriction on some uses and other uses permitted - see above.

4a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

Robust weight of evidence scientific assessments are critical for providing some degree of regulatory predictability to industry to support investment in existing and new substances and polymers re: EU Risk assessments on organotin compounds

5) Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

EU approach on risk assessment of organotin compounds can be used - restricting some uses and other critical uses being allowed - see above. Organotin based stabilisers for PVC are also allowed in rigid PVC food contact applications in the EU based on risk assessments by the European Food Standards Agency.

[https://ec.europa.eu/health/ph\\_risk/committees/04\\_scher/docs/scher\\_o\\_047.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_risk/committees/04_scher/docs/scher_o_047.pdf)

6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 or 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 Organotins?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

Logically this should be addressed within SAICM as part of the strategic management of chemicals. Regulations at national level can then be decided upon by national governments, adapted to local conditions.

.....

7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with Organotins?

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: Stabilisers for Rigid film for food packaging (EU permitted uses)

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with Organotins, including examples if possible.

For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)

Over 25 years of intensive work by the industry have led to better, safer and more sustainable alternatives replacing SVHC substances. While the industry was proactive in replacing additives, regulations also clearly played an important role, with the involvement and cooperation of all stakeholders. In addition to the complete phase out of lead and cadmium, the use of organotin compounds has been reduced, and the remaining uses are in compliance with stringent EU regulations.

8) What priority level do you attach to Organotins 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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

Following information sharing at international level, national governments can decide upon regulation as appropriate.

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10) Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

Best practice and information sharing.

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Please select one of the options below \*

- Proceed to the next issue of concern - Phthalates
- Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

## Phthalates

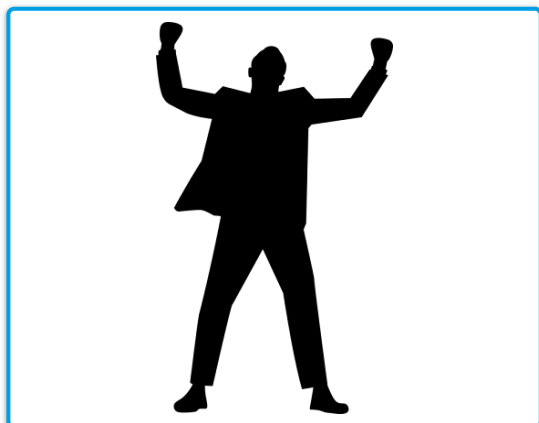
Phthalates are a large family of semi-volatile organic compounds. They are a group of plasticizers with softening and elastic effects, and they are produced in high volumes to be used in products such as vinyl

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.

Would you like to provide responses on Phthalates? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the next issue of concern, Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs).



Yes



No, I do not know enough about Phthalates



No, Phthalates are not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

.....

Please answer as many questions below as you can on 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.

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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

Yes and No is given as the answer because this is a diverse list of complex issues and actions have already been taken at local, national, regional and international level. As discussed during the 2-day UNEP consultation meeting on July 11 and 12, 2023, prioritization criteria should be developed and applied to identify the top issues. Phthalates are also a diverse group of substances with some being non-volatile, and low phthalates being GHS Category 1B repro agents and high phthalates not.

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2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

As noted above it depends upon the specific issue but for the large part information sharing, awareness and voluntary initiatives are appropriate for this wide range of complex topics, and in the case of phthalates the wide array of substances and different status in different parts of the world.

.....

3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address Phthalates at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: .....

3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

Information sharing and guidelines based on best practice in the developed regions. In the EU the plasticiser producers have invested over 6 billion EUR over 25+ years to transition from GHS Cat 1B repro classified low molecular weight (LMW) phthalates to GHS non-classified high molecular weight (HMW) phthalates. This major transition took place in conjunction with extensive toxicology testing and EU regulatory evaluations (EU Commission and ECHA) showing the clear differences in tox.

4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing Phthalates in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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:

In the EU supported by regulatory evaluations and regulations on LMW phthalates (DEHP, DBP, DIBP, BBP) these products have been phased out and replaced by non-classified HMW phthalates and other plasticisers (over 50 REACH registered plasticisers)

4a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

Robust weight of evidence scientific assessments are critical for providing some degree of regulatory predictability to industry to support investment in existing and new substances and polymers. Robust weight of evidence scientific assessments require an assessment of the quality and reliability of the studies on the substance, and then a expert balanced judgement made on the substance, with a full and reasoned explanation for the conclusions. This has occurred in the EU for phthalates.

5) Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

Information and best practice sharing on how the transition from Category 1B repro GHS LMW phthalates to GHS non-classified HMW phthalates and other plasticisers has occurred. Robust scientific regulatory risk assessments carried out by ECHA and the European Commission were critical in this respect, and are available on the internet. Given the importance of these products and the large volumes involved this process took over 25 years. LMW Phthalates are still widely used outside the EU.

6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 or 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 Phthalates?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

Logically this should be addressed within SAICM as part of the strategic management of chemicals. National regulation can then be adopted by national governments as relevant. Already done for use of LMW phthalates in all toys and childcare articles by several countries.

7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with Phthalates?

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: Global Plastics Treaty

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with Phthalates, including examples if possible.

For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)

1. Not all phthalates are the same – key toxicological differences between LMW (Low Molecular Weight) phthalates and HMW (High Molecular Weight) phthalates – LMW phthalates are Category 1B reproductive agents (EU CLP and GHS) – HMW phthalates are NOT Category 1B reproductive agents (EU CLP and GHS). These differences have been demonstrated by robust scientific data and evaluations conducted by regulators. An important linkage is with the Global Plastics Treaty.

8) What priority level do you attach to Phthalates 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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

Best practice and information sharing on how to transition a major product group from GHS classified substances to non-GHS classified substances. This process took over 25 years and over 6 billion EUR of investment by the European Plasticisers industry, and via EU processes for hazard and risk assessment and regulation all stakeholders were involved in the process - overall an EU success story from which others may be able to learn.

---

10) Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

Best practice and information sharing. Relevant robust scientific assessments are:  
EU Regulatory Risk Assessments under pre-REACH regulations (2006) - EU Risk Assessment Report (europa.eu); Information from the Existing Substances Regulation (ESR) - ECHA (europa.eu); ECHA Evaluation of New Data on DINP and DIDP (2013) - Microsoft Word - 20130816\_ECHA review DINP and DIDP\_clean.doc (europa.eu); ECHA RAC Opinion of March 2018 concluding no class-56980740-fcb6-6755-d7bb-bfe797c36ee7 (europa.eu)

---

Please select one of the options below \*

- Proceed to the next issue of concern - Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)
- Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

### 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.

Would you like to provide responses on Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the next issue of concern, Triclosan.



Yes



No, I do not know enough about PAHs



No, PAHs are not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

---

**Please answer as many questions below as you can on Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons**

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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

.....

2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....



2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address PAHs at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: .....

3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing PAHs in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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: .....

4a) 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?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

.....

6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 or 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 polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

.....

7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with PAHs?

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: .....

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with PAHs, including examples if possible.

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 PAHs 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? \*

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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

---

Please select one of the options below \*

- Proceed to the next issue of concern - Triclosan
- Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

## 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.

Would you like to provide responses on Triclosan? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the next issue of concern, Chemicals in Products (CiP).



Yes



No, I do not know enough about Triclosan



No, Triclosan is not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

.....

**Please answer as many questions below as you can on 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.

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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

.....

2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address Triclosan at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: .....

3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....



4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing Triclosan in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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: .....

4a) 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?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

.....

6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 and Building

Electronics

Energy

Healthcare

Labour

Pharmaceuticals

Public, private or 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 Triclosan?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

.....

7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with Triclosan?

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: .....

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with Triclosan, including examples if possible.

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 Triclosan 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? \*

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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

---

Please select one of the options below \*

- Proceed to the next issue of concern - Chemicals in Products (CiP)
- Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

## **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.

Would you like to provide responses on Chemicals in Products (CiP)? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the next issue of concern, Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDCs).



Yes



No, I do not know enough about CiP



No, CiP is not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

.....

**Please answer as many questions below as you can on 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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

---

2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address CiP at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: .....

3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing CiP in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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: .....

4a) 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?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

.....



6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 or 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 CiP?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

.....

7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with CiP?

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: .....

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with CiP, including examples if possible.

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 CiP 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? \*

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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

---

Please select one of the options below \*

Proceed to the next issue of concern - Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDCs)

Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

### 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.

Would you like to provide responses on Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDCs)? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the next issue of concern, Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants (EPPPs).



Yes



No, I do not know enough about EDCs



No, EDCs are not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

.....

**Please answer questions as many questions below on as you can on 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.

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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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

---

2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address EDCs at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: .....

3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing EDCs in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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: .....

4a) 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?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

.....

6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 and Building

Electronics

Energy

Health

Labour

Pharmaceuticals

Public, private or 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 EDCs?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

.....



7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with EDCs?

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: .....

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with EDCs, including examples if possible.

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 EDCs 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? \*

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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

---

Please select one of the options below \*

- Proceed to the next issue of concern - Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants (EPPPs)
- Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

## 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.

Would you like to provide responses on Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants (EPPPs)? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken 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 EPPPs



No, EPPPs are not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

.....

Please answer questions as many questions below on as you can on 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.

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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

---

2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: .....

3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing EPPPs in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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: .....

4a) 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?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

.....

6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 and Building

Electronics

Energy

Health

Labour

Pharmaceuticals

Public, private or 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 EPPPs?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

.....

7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with EPPPs?

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: .....

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with EPPPs, including examples if possible.

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 EPPPs 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? \*

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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

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Please select one of the options below \*

- Proceed to the next issue of concern - Hazardous Substances within the Life cycle of Electrical and Electronic Products (HSLEEP)
- Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

### **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.

Would you like to provide responses on Hazardous Substances within the Life cycle of Electrical and Electronic Products (HSLEEP)? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the next issue of concern, Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs).



Yes



No, I do not know enough about HSLEEP



No, HSLEEP is not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

---

**Please answer questions as many questions below on as you can on 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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

---

2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address HSLEEP at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: .....

3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing HSLEEP in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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: .....

4a) 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?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

.....

6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 or 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 HSLEEP?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

.....

7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with HSLEEP?

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: .....

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with HSLEEP, including examples if possible.

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 HSLEEP 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? \*

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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

---

Please select one of the options below \*

- Proceed to the next issue of concern - Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs)
- Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

## 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.



Would you like to provide responses on Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs)? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the next issue of concern, Lead in Paint.



Yes



No, I do not know enough about HHPs



No, HHPs are not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

**Please answer questions as many questions below on as you can on 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.

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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

---

2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address HHPs at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: .....

3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing HHPs in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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: .....

4a) 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?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

.....

6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 or 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 HHPs?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

.....

7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with HHPs?

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: .....

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with HHPs, including examples if possible.

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 HHPs 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? \*

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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

---

Please select one of the options below \*

- Proceed to the next issue of concern - Lead in Paint
- Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

## 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.

Would you like to provide responses on Lead in Paint? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the next issue of concern, Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials.



Yes



No, I do not know enough about the Lead in Paint



No, Lead in Paint is not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

.....

**Please answer questions as many questions below on as you can 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.

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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

.....

2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address Lead in Paint at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: .....

3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing Lead in Paint in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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: .....

4a) 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?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

.....

6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 or 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 Lead in Paint?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

.....

7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with Lead in Paint?

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: .....

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with Lead in Paint, including examples if possible.

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 Lead in Paint 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? \*

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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

---

Please select one of the options below \*

- Proceed to the next issue of concern - Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials
- Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

## **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.

Would you like to provide responses on Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the next issue of concern, Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs).



Yes



No, I do not know enough about Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials



No, Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials are not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

.....

Please answer questions as many questions below on as you can 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.

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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

.....



2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: .....

3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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: .....

4a) 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?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

.....

6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 or 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 Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

.....

7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials?

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: .....

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials, including examples if possible.

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 Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials 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? \*

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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

---

Please select one of the options below \*

Proceed to the next issue of concern - Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs)

Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

### **[Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances \(PFASs\) and the transition to safer alternatives](#)**

The PFAS family is composed of thousands of synthetic organic chemicals that contain at least one perfluorocarbon moiety (e.g.  $-\text{CF}_2-$ ) 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.

Would you like to provide responses on Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs)? \*

If you select a "No" option, you will be taken to the Conclusion page.



Yes



No, I do not know enough about PFASs



No, PFASs are not relevant to my country or institution



No, other

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

**Please answer questions as many questions below on as you can on 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.  $-\text{CF}_2-$ ) 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
- Don't know

1a) Please provide a brief explanation for your response. \*

---

2) What types of international actions should be taken?

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: .....

2a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....

3) Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address PFASs at the international level?

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

- Regulatory control measures
- Information based and enforcement measures: (such as Scientific and technical 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: .....

3a) Please explain your response, including examples if possible.

.....



4) What factors prevent action/progress on addressing PFASs in your country/ organization?

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilization
- 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: .....

4a) 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?

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

.....

6) Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions?

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 or 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 PFASs?

Please provide specific examples of e.g., Intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...

.....

7a) Which international agendas have important linkages with PFASs?

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: .....

7b) Please elaborate on the important linkages with PFASs, including examples if possible.

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 PFASs 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? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

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10) Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level? \*

Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.

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Please select one of the options below \*

Proceed to the "Conclusion" section to submit form and save responses

## Navigation Panel

You may use this area to visit a specific issue of concern. These are listed below in the order that they are arranged in this survey.

Please select the section you would like to proceed to \*

- 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
- Conclusion / Submit and Save Responses

## 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 poly uoroalkyl substances \(PFASs\) and the transition to safer alternatives](#)

By clicking submit at the end of this page, it is possible to save your responses. The form for submitting written inputs will be available until **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? \*

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

1a) Please explain your response \*

Pharmaceuticals are designed for potent biological activity which can then result in health and environmental impacts at relatively low levels of exposure. One of the few cases of actual identified endocrine disruption in the environment was the effect on fish of oestrogen based human oral contraceptives being emitted to rivers from waste water treatment plants (this was in the UK), showing how pharmaceutical pollutants can have direct impacts in the environment.

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2) From the list of 19 issues, which issue(s) do you think is/are the most urgent? \*

- Arsenic
- Bisphenol A (BPA)
- Cadmium
- Glyphosate
- Lead
- Microplastics
- Neonicotinoids
- Organotins
- Phthalates
- Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)
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- Endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs)
- Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants (EPPPs)
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2a) Please explain your response \*

Highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs) have the potential for significant health and environmental effects particularly in developing countries where agricultural production is important – hence appropriate to prioritize this.

Lead in paint – while lead pigments in paint have been restricted in both developed and developing countries, there are still several countries without laws restricting the use of lead in paint and children can be a particular group which are exposed.

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3) Are there any other observations you wish to note?

Thanks for the opportunity to comment - and we are available to provide additional information on request.

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**Important notice!**

If you click "submit" at the end of this page, your form will be saved. You can still return later to edit the form as you wish, at any time before the deadline which is **15 August 2023** Central European time (CET).

You will receive an e-mail, sent to the address you registered when starting the form. This will contain a link which you can use to return to the form to edit it. You can also share this link with a colleague, who can add extra information or change what you have already written. Indeed, we would welcome coordinated responses with views from the whole of your government or organization.

The e-mail will also have a summary of the information which you have saved.

You, or any colleague who can edit the form, will have the chance each time the form is edited to say if your submission is final, by ticking the relevant box – see below. If you tick this, that will be considered to be the final edited version of the form and future edits will not be counted. Or you can say that you wish to return to the form by ticking the other box.

**Please note that all forms will be regarded as final on the closing date for the call for written inputs – 15 August COB Central European time – whether or not you have ticked the box.**

All final forms will be published (apart from personal information about the person submitting the form).

4) Is this your final submission of the form? \*

After 15 August 2023 COB Central European time, no further edits can be made to the form. After this date, all pending forms will be considered as final submissions.

- Yes. This is the FINAL submission of written responses, no further edits will be made later
- No. This is NOT the final submission, further edits will be made later.

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