

## UNITAR answer status 25 July 2023

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

#### Introduction

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 The names and contact details of the respondents will not be published on the UNEP website.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

We highly recommend coordinating responses within your stakeholder affiliation/ government. Please complete this form for collecting written inputs by **15/08/2023** COB Central European time (CET).

For those using this MS word version, kindly return the completed word version of the call for written inputs. Please remember to save your work often, due to the addition of ActiveX controls below (such as option buttons and checkboxes), the autosave feature is not available on this form.

Please enter your email details.

Email:

#### 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	SAICM Issues
1) <a href="#">Arsenic</a>	1) <a href="#">Chemicals in products (CiP)</a>
2) <a href="#">Bisphenol A (BPA)</a>	2) <a href="#">Endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs)</a>
3) <a href="#">Cadmium</a>	3) <a href="#">Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants (EPPPs)</a>
4) <a href="#">Glyphosate</a>	4) <a href="#">Hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products (HSLEEP)</a>
5) <a href="#">Lead</a>	5) <a href="#">Highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs)</a>
6) <a href="#">Microplastics</a>	6) <a href="#">Lead in paint</a>
7) <a href="#">Neonicotinoids</a>	7) <a href="#">Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials</a>
8) <a href="#">Organotins</a>	8) <a href="#">Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) and the transition to safer alternatives</a>
9) <a href="#">Phthalates</a>	
10) <a href="#">Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)</a>	
11) <a href="#">Triclosan</a>	

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:**

**UNITAR**

**Type of Institution:** *(Government| Intergovernmental Organization| Civil Society Organization| Business/Private Sector| Academia| Other)*

**Intergovernmental Organization**

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

**Country: Switzerland**

## Questions

### 1. Arsenic

**Proposal: National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments**

#### *Screening Question - 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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, e.g. Bisphenol A (BPA))*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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

#### *Technical Questions - 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

Do not know

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

**Arsenic is classified as toxic and carcinogenic**

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*.

**International Code of Conduct,  
multisectoral national action plans**

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

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

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:

Some countries and regions have **regulated Arsenic in products** such as anti-foulings, wood preservatives, fertilizers, animal feeds, toys, packaging material, perfume and cosmetics, and/or foodstuffs.

b. Internationally harmonized **emission values into the air** should be established including coal burning, waste incineration and mining.

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

- Lack of technical capacity
- Lack of scientific knowledge

- Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors
- Difficulty with resource mobilisation
- 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: \_\_\_\_\_

a. 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? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*
- a. WHO has established a provisional **guideline value for arsenic in drinking water** (10 µg/L).
  - b. **Arsenic-containing wastes** are listed as hazardous wastes under the **Basel Convention**.
6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. 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, blended finance
- Retail
- Textiles
- Transportation
- Waste
- Other:

*Coal burning, mining, extracting groundwater from rock strata with arsenic*

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...)*

**SAICM, IOMC, Basel Convention**

- a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. 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: Drinking water production*

- b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. 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 this issue 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).



## 2. Bisphenol A (BPA)

**Proposal: National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments**

### *Screening Question - 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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Cadmium)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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

*Technical Questions - 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.

**Please answer the questions below that are relevant to your organization/ country/ region:**

- a. 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  
 Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*  
**The EU has recognized BPA as a “substance of very high concern” due to its reproducing toxicity and endocrine-disrupting properties.**

- b. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.*

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*  
**Legally binding instrument on the national and regional level: removing BPA from baby bottles.**
- b. **Legally binding instrument on the national and regional level: removing BPA from food containers.**

c. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:

**Further studies need and actions taken to determine and manage the health risks of BPA analogues in light of existing scientific evidence of potential adverse effects.**

d. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

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

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:

Action has been taken only at the national and regional but not on the global level.

e. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

- a. **Legally binding instrument on the national and regional level: removing BPA from baby bottles.**
- b. **Legally binding instrument on the national and regional level: removing BPA from food containers.**

f. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. 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, blended finance
- Retail
- Textiles
- Transportation
- Waste
- ✓ Other: - **Plastic industry producing baby bottles and food containers**

g. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

**- Stockholm Convention: Annex D “Information requirements and screening criteria”,  
(d) Potential for long-range environmental transport:  
introduction of a new paragraph acknowledging “International trade” as a screening criterion  
for long range transport.**

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern?  
*(Multiple answers based on list below. 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: **Stockholm Convention**

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

h. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

Very high

- High
- Medium
- Low
- Very low

- i. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)
  - *Legally binding instrument on the national level: removing BPA from baby bottles.*
  - *Legally binding instrument on the national level: removing BPA from food containers.*
  
- j. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*)
  - *Legally binding instrument on the regional level: removing BPA from baby bottles.*
  - *Legally binding instrument on the regional level: removing BPA from food containers.*

## Cadmium

### Proposal: Cadmium Convention as a new Annex to the Minamata Convention

#### *Screening Question - 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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Glyphosate)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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

## Technical Questions - 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  
 Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*  
**identified as one of the 10 chemicals of major public health concern by WHO, classified as carcinogenic to humans.**

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.*

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*.  
**Cadmium Convention as a new Annex to the Minamata Convention**

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to*

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

- ✓ *Regulatory control measures*
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:

**Cadmium Convention as a new Annex to the Minamata Convention**

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization (*Multiple answers based on list below*)?

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

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:

**Global sound management of Cadmium is complex;  
Much can be learned from the Minamata Convention.**

5. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? (*Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available*).

*In national regulations there are limit values (by mass) of Cadmium to place on the market for*

- *paints and varnishes,*
- *phosphate fertilizers,*
- *electrical and electronic equipment and cables,*
- *wood based materials;*
- *zinc plated articles,*
- *brazing fillers,*
- *polymers such as PVC,*
- *emission limit values into the air during fossil fuel and coal combustion, mining and smelting of metals.*



**Switzerland:**

**Swiss Chemical Risk Reduction Ordinance, ORRChem Annex 2.16 page 162ff.**

<https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2005/478/en>

**Special provisions relating to metals**

**Swiss Chemical Risk Reduction Ordinance, ORRChem Annex 2.6 page 120ff.**

<https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2005/478/en>

**Fertilisers**

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? (*Multi-choice. 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, blended finance*
- Retail*
- Textiles*
- Transportation*
- Waste*
- Other: **Metal industry***

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? (*Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...*).

**UNEA, INC for a Cadmium Convention as a new Annex to the Minamata Convention**

- a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? (*Multiple answers based on list below. 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: **Basel Convention***

- b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. 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 this issue 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

### 3. Glyphosate

**Proposal: National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments**

#### *Screening Question - 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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Lead)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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

## Technical Questions - 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
- Do not know

a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. \_\_\_\_\_

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*.

**International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management**

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*
- ✓ *Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:

**International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management**

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)*?

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

a. 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? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

**ECHA Glyphosate InfoCard**

**Danger!** According to the harmonised classification and labelling (CLP00) approved by the European Union, this substance is toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects and causes serious eye damage

**REACH Annex III Criteria:** Substances predicted as likely to meet criteria for category 1A or 1B carcinogenicity, mutagenicity, or reproductive toxicity, or with dispersive or diffuse use(s) where predicted likely to meet any classification criterion for health or environmental hazards, or where there is a nanoform soluble in biological and environmental media.

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. 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, 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 this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

**FAO, WHO**

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. 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: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. 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 this issue 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\*? *(Open space to elaborate. 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\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

#### 4. Lead

### Proposal: Lead Convention as a new Annex to the Minamata Convention

#### Screening Question - 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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Microplastics)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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



## Technical Questions - 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  
 Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*.

**Lead has been identified as one of the 10 chemicals of major public health concern by the WHO. Exposure to lead can cause chronic and debilitating health impacts and children are particularly vulnerable to its neurotoxic effects.**

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*.

**Lead Convention as a new Annex to the Minamata Convention**

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures

- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and 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: \_\_\_\_\_

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible  
**Lead Convention as a new Annex to the Minamata Convention.**

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization  
*(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

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

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

#### European Union:

##### EU ECHA Substance Info Card for Lead:

**Danger!** According to the classification provided by companies to ECHA in REACH registrations this substance may damage fertility or the unborn child, causes damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure, is very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects, may cause cancer and may cause harm to breast-fed children.

Substance of very high concern (SVHC) and included in the candidate list for authorisation.

Some uses of this substance are restricted under Annex XVII of REACH.

**C\*:** Some data submitters indicate they consider this substance as Carcinogenic

**R:** Toxic to Reproduction

#### Switzerland:

Swiss Chemical Risk Reduction Ordinance, ORRChem Annex 2.16 page 162ff.

<https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2005/478/en>

Special provisions relating to metals

#### Other national regulations:

In national regulations there are limit values (by mass) of Lead to place on the market for

- paints and varnishes,
- packaging materials
- wood based materials,
- electrical and electronic equipment and cables,
- products for the public,
- emission limit values into the air during fossil fuel and coal combustion, mining and smelting of metals.

5. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. 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, blended finance
- Retail
- Textiles
- Transportation
- ✓ Waste
- ✓ Other: Metal and machine industry

6. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

#### **UNEA, INC for a Lead Convention as a new Annex to the Minamata Convention**

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. 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: **Basel Convention**

- b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)*):

7. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high*
- High*
- Medium*
- Low*
- Very low*

8. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

9. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available*).

## 5. Microplastics

### Screening Question - Microplastics

#### Proposal: Plastic Convention

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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Neonicotinoids)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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

## Technical Questions - 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  
 Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*.  
**It is ubiquitous in the environment.**

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.*

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*.  
**Plastic Convention for rinse-off products.**

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

4. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:

**Plastic Convention for rinse-off products.**

5. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)*?

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

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available)*

7. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. 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, blended finance*
- Retail*
- Textiles*
- Transportation*

- Waste
- ✓ Other: Detergent industry

8. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

**Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment**

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. 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:

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

9. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Very low

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

11. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*



## 6. Neonicotinoids

### *Screening Question - 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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Organotins)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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

### Technical Questions - 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
- Do not know

a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. \_\_\_\_\_

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

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

a. 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? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. 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, 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 this issue? (*Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...*).

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? (*Multiple answers based on list below. 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:* \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. 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 this issue 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. 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\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

## 7. Organotins

Proposal: National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments

Screening Question - 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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Phthalates)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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

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  
 Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*.  
**Organotins have endocrine disrupting activities.**

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*.  
**National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments e.g. action plans.**

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

4. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:

**National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law measures, e.g. action plans,**

5. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

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

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Can you point to existing initiatives that could be replicated or scaled up at the international level? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

**Swiss Chemical Risk Reduction Ordinance, ORRChem Annex 1.14 page 62ff.**

<https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2005/478/en>

**e.g. Antifouling paints for boats and other applications**

7. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. 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, blended finance
- Retail
- Textiles
- Transportation
- Waste
- Other: Antifouling paints for boats

8. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

#### SAICM, IOMC

- a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. 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: \_\_\_\_\_

- b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

9. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

- Very high
- High
- Medium

Low

Very low

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

11. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

## 8. Phthalates

Proposal: National or regional legally binding instrument combined with voluntary measures

### Screening Question - 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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs))*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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

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  
 Do not know

Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*.

**The EU identified 17 phthalates or phthalate mixtures as Substances of Very High Concern due to toxicity for reproduction, endocrine disrupting properties to human health and endocrine-disrupting properties to the environment.**

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*

**National or regional legally binding instrument combined with voluntary measures**

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*
- ✓ *Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:

**National or regional legally binding instrument combined with voluntary measures**

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

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

a. 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? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. 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, 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 this issue? (*Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...*).

SAICM, Basel Convention, IOMC

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? (*Multiple answers based on list below. 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:* \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. 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 this issue 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. 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\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

## 9. Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

**Proposal: National or regional legally binding instrument combined with voluntary measures**

### *Screening Question - 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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Triclosan)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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



## Technical Questions - 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.

**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  
 Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*.  
**Many PAHs are genotoxic carcinogens**

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*.  
**Proposal: National or regional legally binding instrument combined with voluntary measures**

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:

**Proposal: National or regional legally binding instrument combined with voluntary measures**

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

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

a. 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? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

6. **Swiss Chemical Risk Reduction Ordinance, ORRChem Annex 1.15 page 65ff. on tars**  
<https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2005/478/en>

7. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. 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, blended finance*
- Retail*
- Textiles*
- Transportation*
- Waste*
- Other:* \_\_\_\_\_

8. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

SAICM, IOMC

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. 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:* \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. For more information, please see the [UNEP assessment paper on linkages with other clusters related to chemicals and waste](#)):*

9. What priority level do you attach to this issue for international action?

*Very high*

- High
- Medium
- Low
- Very low

10. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the national level\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

11. Is there any priority further work you would like to suggest at the regional level\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

## 10. Triclosan

Proposal: National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments

### Screening Question - 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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Chemicals in Products (CIP))*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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

## Technical Questions - 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  
 Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*.

**ECHA: Triclosan is very toxic to the aquatic life. It is under assessment as PBT Persistent, Bioaccumulative and Toxic and under assessment as ED Endocrine Disrupting.**

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*

**National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments**

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

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

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:  
**National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments**

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

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

a. 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? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

**ECHA REACH Annex III: Substances predicted as likely to meet criteria for category 1A or 1B carcinogenicity, mutagenicity, or reproductive toxicity.**

**Substances undergoing an Endocrine Disruptor assessment.**

**Substances undergoing a PBT/vPvB assessment.**

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. 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

- Electronics*
- Energy*
- Health*
- Labour*
- Pharmaceuticals*
- Public, private, blended finance*
- Retail*
- Textiles*
- Transportation*
- Waste*
- Other: cosmetics and personal care products*

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. 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 this issue 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\*? *(Open space to elaborate. 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\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*

## 11. Chemicals in products (CiP)

**Proposal: National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international voluntary initiatives**

### *Screening Question - 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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs))*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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

## Technical Questions - 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  
 Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*. \_\_\_\_\_

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*.

**National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international voluntary initiatives**

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

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

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:

**National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international voluntary initiatives**

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

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

a. 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? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

**SAICM Emerging Policy Issue**

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. 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, 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 this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

#### **SAICM post 2020, IOMC**

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. 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: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. 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 this issue 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

## 12. Endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs)

**Proposal: National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments**

### *Screening Question - 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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants (EPPPs))*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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

## Technical Questions - 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.

**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
- Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*.  
**Endocrine disruption is a serious problem to human health and the environment. Therefore, standardized criteria, guidance and tools for testing and assessment, and screening programmes under respective legal frameworks have been developed to identify EDCs.**

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.*



a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*.

**National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments**

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

*Regulatory control measures*

*Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:

**National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments**

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

*Lack of technical capacity*

*Lack of scientific knowledge*

*Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*

*Difficulty with resource mobilisation*

*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: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. 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? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

**SAICM, IOMC**

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. 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
- Electronics
- Energy
- Health
- Labour
- Pharmaceuticals
- Public, private, blended finance
- Retail
- Textiles
- Transportation
- Waste
- Other: **Chemical Industry**

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

#### SAICHM, IOMC

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. 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: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. 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 this issue 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

### 13. Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants (EPPPs)

Proposal: National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments

#### *Screening Question - 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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move 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 this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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

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  
 Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*.  
**Persistent micropollutants are a problem for the aquatic environment.**

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*.

**National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments**

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*  
 *Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:

**National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments**

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

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

- a. 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? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

**EMA European Medicines Agency: Guideline on the environmental risk assessment of medicinal products for human use**

[Guideline on the environmental risk assessment of medicinal products for human use \(europa.eu\)](https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/medicines/human/EPAR/guideline-on-the-environmental-risk-assessment-of-medicinal-products-for-human-use/guideline-on-the-environmental-risk-assessment-of-medicinal-products-for-human-use)

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? (*Multi-choice. 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
- Electronics
- Energy
- Health
- Labour
- Pharmaceuticals
- Public, private, blended finance
- Retail
- Textiles
- Transportation
- Waste
- Other: **National Water Protection Agencies**

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? (*Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...*).

#### **SAICM post 2020, IOMC, National and Regional Medicine Agencies**

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? (*Multiple answers based on list below. 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: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. 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 this issue 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\*? *(Open space to elaborate. 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\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*



14. Hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products  
(HSLEEP)

National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments

*Screening Question - 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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs))*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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

*Technical Questions - 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  
 Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*.  
Illegal export and dumping of hazardous electrical and electronic waste is a global problem.

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.*

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*  
National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

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

a. 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? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

**EU Restriction of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (RoHS):**The RoHS Directive currently restricts the use of ten substances: lead, cadmium, mercury, hexavalent chromium, polybrominated biphenyls (PBB) and polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE), bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP), butyl benzyl phthalate (BBP), dibutyl phthalate (DBP) and diisobutyl phthalate (DIBP).

**Basel Convention:** In 2022, the Parties adopted amendments to Annexes II, VIII and IX to the Basel Convention to list both hazardous and non-hazardous e-waste in the Annexes of the Convention. Non-hazardous e-wastes are listed in Annex II with the code Y49 and hazardous e-wastes are listed under a new code in Annex VIII: A1181. Entries B1110 and B4030 were deleted and also the code A1180, which will be substituted by the new code A1181. The amendments will become effective on 1 January 2025. After this date, both hazardous and non-hazardous e-waste transboundary movements will be subject to the Prior Informed Consent Procedure (PIC) according to the Basel Convention.

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. 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, 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 this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

#### **SAICM, IOMC, Basel Convention**

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. 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 this issue 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

## 15. Highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs)

Proposal: National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments

*Screening Question - 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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Lead in Paint)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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

### Technical Questions - 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”.

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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
- Do not know

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

**At ICCM4 in 2015, HHPs were identified as an issue of concern .**

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*.  
 - **The fourth version of the FAO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management of 2013. T**  
 - **The WHO Code of Conduct of 2014 as its reference framework for international guidance on pesticide management**
3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*
- Regulatory control measures*
  - Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and 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: \_\_\_\_\_*
- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:  
**National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments**
4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*
- Lack of technical capacity*
  - Lack of scientific knowledge*
  - Difficulties in sharing knowledge and coordinating action among different stakeholders and across sectors*
  - Difficulty with resource mobilisation*
  - 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: \_\_\_\_\_*
- a. 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? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*  
**Stockholm Convention**  
**Rotterdam Convention**  
**Disposal of obsolete pesticide stocks**



6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. 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, blended finance*
- Retail*
- Textiles*
- Transportation*
- Waste*
- Other: **Disposal of obsolete pesticide stocks***

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

SAICM, IOMC, Basel Rotterdam Stockholm Convention

- a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

- b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. 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 this issue 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

## 16. Lead in paint

### Screening Question - Lead in paint

#### **Proposal: Lead Convention as a new Annex to the Minamata Convention (see also Nr 5 Lead)**

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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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

### Technical Questions - 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
- Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*.  
**Exposure to lead can cause chronic and debilitating health impacts in all age groups, and children are particularly vulnerable to its neurotoxic effects.**

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.*

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*.

**Lead Convention as a new Annex to the Minamata Convention**

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*  
 *Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:

**Lead Convention as a new Annex to the Minamata Convention**

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

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

- a. 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? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

**European Union:**

**EU ECHA Substance Info Card for Lead:**

**Danger! According to the classification provided by companies to ECHA in REACH registrations this substance may damage fertility or the unborn child, causes damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure, is very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects, may cause cancer and may cause harm to breast-fed children.**

**Substance of very high concern (SVHC) and included in the candidate list for authorisation. Some uses of this substance are restricted under Annex XVII of REACH.**

**C\*: Some data submitters indicate they consider this substance as Carcinogenic**

## R: Toxic to Reproduction

### Switzerland:

Swiss Chemical Risk Reduction Ordinance, ORRChem Annex 2.16 page 162ff.

<https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2005/478/en>

### Special provisions relating to metals

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? (*Multi-choice. 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, blended finance
- Retail
- Textiles
- Transportation
- Waste
- Other: Waste industry

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? (*Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...*).

### UNEA, INC for a Lead Convention as a new Annex to the Minamata Convention

- a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? (*Multiple answers based on list below. 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: Waste

- b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. (*Open space question. 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 this issue 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

## 17. Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials

National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international soft law instruments

### *Screening Question - 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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the next issue of concern, Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs))*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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



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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  
 Do not know

- a. Please provide a brief explanation for your response\*  
**Identification of “nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials” as an issue of concern under SAICM at ICCM2 in 2009.**

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.*

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*.  
**Political commitments such as National profiles, National action plans and other policy initiatives.**

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible:

**Technical Guidelines**

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

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

a. 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? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

**SAICM:**

**Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials” as an issue of concern under SAICM:**

**ECHA:**

<https://echa.europa.eu/en/regulations/nanomaterials>

**ECHA prepares and updates guidance documents.**

**ECHA hosts the European Union Observatory for Nanomaterials to increase transparency of information on nanomaterials.**

As of 1 January 2020, explicit legal requirements under REACH apply for companies that manufacture or import nanoforms. These reporting obligations address specific information requirements, outlined in revised annexes to the REACH regulation:

- characterisation of nanoforms or sets of nanoforms covered by the registration (Annex VI);
- chemical safety assessment (Annex I);
- registration information requirements (Annexes III and VII-XI); and
- downstream user obligations (Annex XII).

## OECD

International OECD regulatory activities are the OECD Working Party on Manufactured Nanomaterials or the Malta Initiative for developing test guidelines.-

Through the OECD's Sponsorship Programme for the Testing of Manufactured Nanomaterial, OECD members, together with non OECD economies and industries, agreed to pool resources and expertise to test a selected list of manufactured nanomaterials for approximately 59 endpoints (effects measurements and observations) relevant to environmental safety and human health.

6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. 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, blended finance
- Retail
- Textiles
- Transportation
- Waste
- Other: Materials sciences

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

SAICM, IOMC

- a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern?  
*(Multiple answers based on list below. 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

- b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. 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 this issue 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\*? *(Open space to elaborate. 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\*? *(Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available).*



## 18. Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs)

Proposal: National or regional legally binding instrument combined with international voluntary initiatives

### Screening Question - 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. –CF<sub>2</sub>–) 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.

1. **Entry question:** Would you like to provide responses on this issue of concern? *(Please select only 1 option below. If you select a "No" option, you may move to the Conclusion page)*

- Yes
- No, I do not know enough about this issue
- No, this issue is not relevant to my country or institution
- No, other

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

The PFAS family is composed of thousands of synthetic organic chemicals that contain at least one perfluorocarbon moiety (e.g. –CF<sub>2</sub>–) 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
- Do not know

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

**In 2009, ICCM2 identified “managing PFASs and the transition to safer alternatives” as an issue of concern.**

2. What types of international actions should be taken? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, 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: \_\_\_\_\_.*

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible\*.

**Stockholm Convention Addition of selected PFASs to the Annex**  
**SAICM Voluntary initiatives**  
**OECD Technical guidelines**

3. Which type of approach or measure would you see as appropriate to address this issue at the international level? *(Multiple answers based on the catalogue of action, Please refer to the [catalogue of international actions](#) prepared by UNEP for more information on available options).*

- Regulatory control measures*
- Information based and enforcement tools (such as Scientific and technical and 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

- a. Please explain your response, including examples if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What factors prevent action/progress on addressing the issue in your country/ organization *(Multiple answers based on list below)?*

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

- a. 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? *(Open space answer. Please share a weblink to the initiative(s) if available).*

Stockholm Convention COP decisions  
OECD Technical Guidelines



6. Which sectors/value chains need to be closely involved in developing solutions? *(Multi-choice. 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, blended finance*
- Retail*
- Textiles*
- Transportation*
- Waste*
- Other: **Chemical industry, fire fighting foam***

7. Which international forum or instrument would be best placed to take the lead on international action on this issue? *(Open space to elaborate. Please provide specific examples of e.g., intergovernmental bodies, multilateral agreements within or outside the chemicals and waste cluster, international instruments...).*

#### **Stockholm Convention, SAICM, IOMC**

a. Which international agendas have important linkages with this issue of concern? *(Multiple answers based on list below. 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: \_\_\_\_\_*

b. Please explain your response, including examples if possible. *(Open space question. 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 this issue 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. 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\*? (*Open space to elaborate. Please share a weblink to the suggestion(s) if available.*)

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

Please submit your completed form via email by **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? *(Multiple options from the list of 19 issues)*

- 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

a. Please explain your response. *(Open space to elaborate).*

**High toxicity**

**High persistence**  
**High global distribution**

2. From the list of 19 issues, which issue(s) is/are the most actionable? *(Multiple options from the list of 19 issues)*

- 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

b. Please explain your response. *(Open space to elaborate).*

**All SAICM Issues should be carried forward to the SAICM post 2020 process towards ICCM6.**

3. Are there any other observations you wish to note? *(Open space to elaborate).*

