



**Second meeting of the intersessional process to consider the Strategic Approach
and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020**

Stockholm, Sweden, 13-15 March 2018

Item 2(b) of the provisional agenda*

Organizational matters: Organization of work

**Scenario note for the second meeting of the intersessional
process to consider the Strategic Approach and the sound
management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020**

Note by the ICCM5 Bureau

I. Introduction

1. The present scenario note, developed by the Bureau of the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, sets out the proposed plan and general expectations for the second meeting of the intersessional process to consider the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.
2. The present scenario note aims to assist Strategic Approach stakeholders in preparing for the second meeting of the intersessional process. The mandate for considering the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 is set out in resolution IV/4 of the International Conference on Chemicals management. The task of the intersessional process is to provide recommendations to the Conference at its fifth session to enable the Conference to take an informed decision on future arrangements for the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.
3. The intersessional process is open for participation of all stakeholders.

II. Timing and organization

4. The meeting will open at 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 13 March 2018 and will close at 6.00 p.m. on Thursday, 15 March 2018.

*SAICM/IP.2/1 (Note: this document is not formally edited)

5. The work of the meeting will be conducted in plenary sessions with small working-group sessions organized to support the work of the plenary.
6. The rules of procedure of the International Conference on Chemicals Management will apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to the work and proceedings of this meeting. The meeting will be conducted in English only.
7. A number of papers have been prepared to support the discussions during the meeting. These papers were made available in advance of the Strategic Approach regional meetings.

III. Issues of key importance

8. The Co-Chairs of the intersessional process have developed the 'Co-Chairs' Overview Paper' to support the preparations for and discussions at the second meeting of the intersessional process. The 'Co-Chairs' Overview Paper' elaborates on the Co-Chairs' summary developed at the first intersessional meeting and the subsequent input received from Strategic Approach stakeholders.
9. There is a significant task in front of the second meeting. The Co-Chairs propose to structure the discussions at the second intersessional meeting along the following themes:
 - a) What will be addressed beyond 2020, including the need for a statement of the overall vision, policy principles and a list of objectives with related milestones and possible targets;
 - b) How to identify key stakeholders and how they will work together to tackle these issues, including the need for implementation and governance arrangements;
 - c) How to obtain the necessary expression of high-level political commitment to underpin the process.
10. At this second meeting, emphasis will be placed on developing the overall vision and policy principles, as well as measurable objectives and milestones, for consideration by the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group. The meeting will also discuss means of implementation, including financial support, technical assistance, technology transfer, governance and high-level political engagement, with the understanding that it is not possible to be definitive on those aspects pending agreement by the ICCM to the objectives, and its consideration of the outcome of the independent evaluation.
11. Discussions linked to paragraph 9 (a) will be held in both plenary and in small working-groups.
12. It is expected that the majority of the discussions linked to paragraph 9 (b), implementation and governance, as well as paragraph 9 (c), high-level political commitment, will take place in plenary. Some related issues may be discussed in small working-groups, as appropriate.

(A) What will be addressed beyond 2020

13. As stated above, at the second meeting, we must articulate a draft overall vision, policy principles as well as measurable objectives and milestones, for consideration by the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group.

(i) Vision

14. The overall vision will set the direction and inspire action on the way forward for the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020. The vision needs to be flexible enough to be adapted to anticipated and unanticipated future needs.
15. There is a vision set out in resolution 1/5 of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), which was referred to in resolution IV/4 of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, namely, "to achieve the sound management of chemicals throughout their life

cycle and of hazardous wastes in ways that lead to the prevention or minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment, as an essential contribution to the three dimensions of sustainable development”.

16. There is also a vision set out in goal 12.4 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) which states, “By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their lifecycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water, and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.”

17. With that in mind, stakeholders might consider the following::

- i. What is the future vision beyond 2020? What elements of the UNEA resolution 1/5 and the SDG goal 12.4 should be incorporated into a vision for the future?
- ii. Do you have proposals for a simple slogan for the future that could support the vision?
- iii. How will the future platform incorporate and address waste? Which waste streams or waste related issues should be included in the scope regarding waste while recognizing efforts and avoiding overlap with related work in other fora (for example the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal)?

(ii) Policy Principles

18. The development of clear principles and policy elements will guide stakeholder efforts in achieving the vision for chemicals and waste management beyond 2020.

19. As a starting point, stakeholders may wish to reflect upon what policy guidance would facilitate implementation of a programme of activities beyond 2020. Stakeholders may wish to consider the current Dubai Declaration, Overarching Policy Strategy, the list of “fundamental and basic elements annexed to decision UNEA 1/5” and the 11 basic elements identified in the Overall Orientation and Guidance.

20. Stakeholders may also wish to consider the following:

- i. How can the precautionary and polluter-pays principles be incorporated?
- ii. How should life cycle, green and sustainable chemistry and circular economy principles be incorporated?

(iii) Objectives and milestones

21. The SAICM secretariat has been requested to develop a proposal for objectives in support of the 2030 Agenda and related milestones. This document is a starting point for stakeholders to consider.

22. Stakeholders may wish to review the proposed objectives and milestones and consider if those objectives would support a programme of work beyond 2020 that will deliver the overall vision that will be developed by the present meeting.

23. Stakeholders may also wish to reflect upon an effective process for undertaking reviews and performance measurement. In doing so, stakeholders may wish to consider:

- i. Whether a review mechanism should be established, that could involve voluntary national and stakeholder reporting and the sharing of best practices?
- ii. How reporting could be coordinated with efforts under relevant international agreements in order to support the overall sound management of chemicals and waste and to contribute towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda?

(B) How will stakeholders work together to tackle these issues

24. It is not possible to be definitive about implementation and governance aspects beyond 2020 pending agreement on the objectives by the Conference, and its consideration of the outcome of the independent evaluation. It is expected that there will be considerable progress on the objectives at the present meeting, and participants will also have the benefit of a report by the independent evaluator on the preliminary results of the independent evaluation.
25. The final results of the independent evaluation will be made available to the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group.
26. Nevertheless, the meeting agenda provides opportunities to discuss implementation and governance arrangements beyond 2020, recognizing these areas will be revisited in more detail once progress is achieved on what will be addressed beyond 2020.

(i) Implementation arrangements

27. It is expected that regions will come well-prepared for this meeting. One issue to clarify at this early stage is whether regional meetings and other opportunities for cooperation have been used to their full advantage.
28. Regions may also wish to reflect on the advantages and disadvantages of developing national action plans and regional action plans as a method to support the implementation of the sound management of chemicals and waste. The merit of “mentoring” programmes should be considered to support developing countries in establishing and implementing national actions.
29. For new and emerging policy issues and other issues of concern, stakeholders may wish to consider the current list of Strategic Approach emerging policy issues and reflect upon whether these are still important and relevant to address, what gaps and/or challenges may exist, and whether there are new issues to address or alternative approaches to addressing already identified issues.
30. With respect to financing, the secretariat paper is intended to help to inform the discussions.
31. In addition, stakeholders may wish to consider:
- i. What obstacles have affected implementation to date, and what has facilitated implementation? What elements would facilitate implementation of the sound management of chemicals and waste approach beyond 2020?
 - ii. How will the future approach support developing countries and countries with economies in transition to implement actions? What alternatives for financing implementation could be presented?
 - iii. How can a ‘beyond 2020 framework’ best leverage the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) organizations and relevant international agreements?
 - iv. How can the role of the private sector be further enhanced?
 - v. How can sustainability be ensured to allow all interested stakeholders to continue to work on key topics?

(ii) Governance

32. Once the objectives are drafted and the independent evaluation is available, it will be possible to reflect on and consider the desired form of the future governance arrangements in greater detail.

33. Meanwhile, stakeholders have expressed the view that, functionally, the design for an approach beyond 2020 should promote broader participation in general and encourage wider sectoral participation at all levels (national, regional and global) as an essential means of promoting impact, effectiveness, accountability, involvement and commitment. During the meeting, stakeholders may wish to reflect on modalities for elevating political priority, linking to Agenda 2030 as well as identifying key stakeholders and enhancing their participation in moving forward.

34. In addition, stakeholders may wish to reflect upon the following:

- i. Does the International Conference on Chemicals Management need to evolve to address the challenges ahead? Do we need a different body? What elements of the International Conference on Chemicals Management governance could be adapted beyond 2020 and how?
- ii. How can issues of concern be defined? What criteria should be used? How can issues of concern be linked to measurable objectives and milestones?

(C) High-level political commitment and visibility

35. Similar to issues related to governance and implementation, it will be possible to consider how to pursue the necessary high-level political commitment and visibility required as an underpinning to the process once the objectives are articulated and the future direction is better established. The independent evaluation will also offer insight in moving forward in this area.

36. For discussion:

- i. Stakeholders may wish to consider how, in their own context, they could mobilize political commitment. What is needed to facilitate awareness and enable that commitment?
- ii. More broadly how could the approach for beyond 2020 leverage international attention linked to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and engagement for chemicals and waste management? Are there other initiatives, instruments and/or fora that could be leveraged to enhance the political relevance beyond 2020?

IV. Conclusion

37. By the end of the meeting, participants should agree on a proposed draft overall vision, policy principles and measurable objectives in support of Agenda 2030 and milestones for consideration by the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group.

38. With respect to other issues raised at the meeting, particularly related to implementation and governance arrangements, as well as high-level political commitment, the views of the participants will be collected, and the co-chairs will summarize them in the lead up to the Open-ended Working Group.

39. Commitment, cooperation, awareness and ownership among all stakeholders will be key to achieving global sound management of chemicals and waste. This is critical as we move towards 2020 but also relevant in setting and achieving goals and commitments beyond 2020.

40. We, in our capacity as the Bureau for the fifth session of the Conference, intend to continue to promote collaborative and constructive engagement for the intersessional process and support the Co-Chairs during the deliberations. We urge all participants to prepare themselves to conduct their work in such a spirit. We believe that it is up to all Strategic Approach participants and stakeholders to help shape the approach for beyond 2020.

unedited