30 September, 2015

IPEN Intervention on Chemicals in Products

Thank you Mr. President

IPEN would like to thank UNEP and the Steering Group of the Chemicals in Products (CiP) Project for the effective work on the Chemicals in Products Programme and Guidance for Stakeholders. We support both documents as a good base for further work on the issue. We would like to highlight a few points for the resolution.

- 1. The resolution on the Chemicals in Products Programme should acknowledge workers as a key stakeholder group affected by chemicals during manufacture, recycle and disposal of products, and their need for full information about the chemicals they work with. IPEN recommends to further develop application of the Chemicals in Products Programme starting with the guidance for use by workers to contribute to worker safety.
- 2. The CiP programme recommends that stakeholders identify, at a minimum, regulated chemicals contained in the products in question. The CiP resolution should contain a recommendation for countries to continue advancing national legislations and ensure their enforcement, monitoring and control to effectively address chemicals in products issues.
- 3. The Resolution should urge companies to proactively move beyond a legally restricted substances list by identifying and disclosing chemicals of concern in their products and supply chains based on hazard characteristics;
- 4. We would also like to remind delegates that the driver for safer chemicals and products comes from transparency and that confidential business information should not undermine the key chemical safety principle that health and safety information should not be regarded as confidential and should not be claimed for chemicals of concern which are defined according to the Strategic Approach criteria based on hazards and targeting risk reduction.
- 5. And finally, financial support for broad CiP Programme implementation in developing and transition countries should be provided so that by 2020 the implementation process of the CiP programme could start in several SAICM regions. For these activities to be effective we support the establishment of the CiP Secretariat under SAICM.

Thank you.