

Stakeholder engagement

- UNEA2 should establish a policy that affirms the Rio+20 outcome, calling for *“the active participation of all relevant stakeholders, drawing on best practices and models from relevant multilateral institutions and exploring new mechanisms to promote transparency and the effective engagement of civil society.”*
- The proposal to establish a “no objection” principle should be rejected as it undermines the consensus agreement at Rio+20.

Sound management of chemicals and wastes (Cluster 2)

- Overall, the political priority of chemical safety is low, including at the national level. UNEA2 should request the Executive Director to support efforts to raise the political priority of chemical safety at all levels, including the national level.
- The chemicals agenda is underfunded, but the current draft resolution is weak on financing chemical safety.
 - Funds for the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) never materialized on a scale commensurate with the need.
 - Donor government delegates at SAICM preparatory meetings raised expectations that international development assistance agencies would provide substantial funding for SAICM implementation. This has not yet occurred on a significant scale and needs to be further pursued.
 - A modest and limited SAICM Quick-Start funding program was established, the program was time-limited and focused on enabling activities. No substantial and sustainable program for mobilizing the necessary implementation resources followed.
 - The integrated approach has not provided adequate financial support for SAICM implementation.
 - In GEF6, chemicals and wastes represent 12.5% of the portfolio.¹ Funding for mercury in GEF6 is \$141 million USD.² The increase in funding over GEF5 is primarily earmarked for mercury.
 - Stockholm Convention COP6 estimates of needs for 2015 – 2019 period identified in NIPs are \$1.9 billion USD.³ This estimate did not include costs associated with the new POPs. Since GEF funding remains the same there is at least a 5-fold difference between Stockholm Convention needs and funding for this period
- UNEA2 should call for a broader and increased government donor base for implementing the chemicals conventions and SAICM.
- The “private sector involvement” in the resolution should specifically include internalization of costs by the chemical industry and use of cost recovery instruments.
- UNEA2 should invite the Director General of the World Health Organization to assume a leading role in SAICM and provide appropriate staff and other resources to its secretariat, and request the Executive Director to forward this invitation to the next meeting of the Executive Board of the World Health Organization.
- Relevant civil society stakeholders should be included in all efforts to achieve the SDGs.
- “Energy recovery” should be modified to state “energy recovery with biogas”. Waste incineration undermines recycling, creates and releases an assortment of toxic pollutants, is inefficient at producing electricity, and its capital costs exceed other sources.
- The Global Waste Management Outlook should include strategies for separation of hazardous substances from waste streams before recycling.
- UNEA2 should call on Member States to adopt laws and regulations on effective extended producer responsibility and take back measures.
- Countries should be assisted in development of best available techniques for waste management as this is a broader, more comprehensive term than technologies.
- UNEA2 should invite Parties to the Basel Convention to ratify the Ban Amendment.
- An update of the Global Chemicals Outlook should overall recommendations for implementation of actions toward relevant SDG targets and include information on development and implementation of non-chemical alternatives including agroecology.

Lead and cadmium (Cluster 2 resolution on chemicals and wastes)

- Current proposals on text dealing with lead paint should be retained.

¹ \$4.43 billion USD for the GEF-6 period of which \$554 million USD is programmed under the chemicals and waste focal area (12.5%); \$1.26 billion USD for climate (28%) and \$1.3 billion for biodiversity (29%).

² Breakdown is as follows: POPs \$375 million USD; Mercury \$141 million USD; SAICM \$13 million USD; and ODS \$25 million USD; GEF6 Programming Directions; https://www.thegef.org/gef/replenishment_docs/1043/40

³ UNEP/POPS/COP.6/INF/20

- The work of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (GAELP) should be welcomed in the preamble, noting lead's dangers, existence of feasible alternatives, and need to develop laws to eliminate lead paint. The text should also welcome the development of the *GAELP Toolkit for Establishing Laws to Control the Use of Lead in Paint* and the dissemination of this toolkit at UNEP workshops in East Africa and Eastern Europe.
- The operative part of the resolution should include the following elements:
 - Encourages Governments and others to contribute to efforts by the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint aimed at phasing out lead in paint by 2020.
 - Welcomes the information provided on techniques for emission abatement and on the possibility of replacing lead and cadmium with less hazardous substances or techniques.
 - Encourage all countries to establish and enforce laws to eliminate lead paint by 2020.

Lead battery recycling (Cluster 2 resolution on chemicals and wastes)

The operative part of the resolution should include the following elements:

- Fostering dialogue with governments to help usher in more comprehensive regulatory frameworks to bring needed improvements to the industry.
- Encouraging and sponsoring technical training, including the use of peer-to-peer courses utilizing specialized staff from environmental agencies.
- Call on countries to develop mandatory extended producer responsibility and take back schemes to ensure environmentally sound recycling of lead-acid batteries.
- Encouraging international cooperation for the development of tracking systems to trace shipments of used lead batteries from generators to recycling facilities through a system that is transparent with public reporting on government websites.
- Helping to develop and promote independent third party certification for lead battery recycling plants that is based on industry-specific measures of quantifiable performance targets to encourage verifiable improvements.
- Coordinating a multi-stakeholder group to develop lending guidelines outlining minimal environmental and occupational standards for lead battery recycling facilities and then working with private and multilateral lending institutions to adopt the resulting guidelines to be incorporated into lending policies and underwriting standards.

Sustainable consumption and production (Cluster 2)

- The preamble should acknowledge the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD), and highlight the importance of supporting agroecological systems.
- The preamble should note decision IV/3 of the 4th International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM4) on highly hazardous pesticides that emphasizes promoting agroecologically based alternatives to highly hazardous pesticides due to their adverse human health and environmental effects in many countries, particularly in low- and middle-income countries.
- The preamble and operative sections should acknowledge the importance of, commit actions to, decouple economic growth from environmental degradation.
- Member States should be encouraged to ensure sustainable materials and processes throughout the entire lifecycle and the entire supply chain.
- Member States should be encouraged to ensure to make reliable sustainability information on goods and services publicly available.
- Member States should promote corporate accountability and sustainable practices including extended producer responsibility from product design to waste management.
- The operative part of the resolution should promote establishment and implementation of economic instruments to internalize environmental externalities.
- The resolution should include operative measures on sustainable agriculture including promotion of agroecology as signalled by the ICCM4 resolution on highly hazardous pesticides and the Stockholm Convention decision on endosulfan which encouraged Parties to give priority to ecosystem-based approaches to pest control.

Marine plastic debris and microplastics (Cluster 3)

- Plastic and microplastics are rapidly increasing in the marine environment where they persist, enter the food chain, have negative effects on marine life and the ecosystem with implications for fisheries and local society.
- UNEA2 should stress that prevention is key to long-term success in combating marine pollution, including waste prevention at source and transitioning to more sustainable materials than oil-based plastics. Education is key to this.
- To prevent harm to human health and the environment from pollution and avoid wasting energy input and resources, recovered plastics should be recycled, not burned.
- Plastic and microplastic removal should utilize take back for recycling and the polluter pays approach so that the plastics industry can internalize the costs of plastic production and use.
- UNEA2 should call on governments to immediately ban microplastics and call on the private sector to substitute them with safer materials as a matter of priority.