



Thank you Mr. President

IPEN believes that the issue of information on chemicals in products is critical for stakeholders inside and outside the supply chain. As a member of the CiP Steering Group, IPEN would like to thank UNEP and Sweden for support and effective work on this important project. The draft Chemicals in Products Programme contains many useful elements and provides good guidance to stakeholders involved in generating, sharing and using information on chemicals in products throughout the value chain and the entire product lifecycle.

IPEN would like to note that a key principle of chemicals management is public right-to-know. In the CiP Programme the role of consumers in disclosure of information on chemicals in products beyond regulatory requirements should be highlighted, as they are demanding more sustainable products, they are more informed than before, and their expectations are higher. CiP information tailored to purchasing decisions will make consumers a driving force for cleaner products.

At yesterday's side event interesting information was presented that also raised some questions and concerns. If regulations are the focus when determining which chemicals to target, in developing countries with weak or no proper legislation in place companies will delay in taking actions until compelled by government actions. The proactive management of chemicals in products and supply chains that creates long-term value by staying ahead of regulatory and market demands is important. Companies should start moving beyond regulatory compliance by identifying and disclosing chemicals of concern in their products and supply chains.

We would also like to remind delegates of the consensus agreement among governments, private sector and NGOs regarding confidential business information. In both the Dubai Declaration and the Overarching Policy Strategy there is clear agreement that information on chemicals relating to the health and safety of humans and the environment should not be regarded as confidential. Confidential business information should not be



claimed for chemicals of high concern, meaning that all chemicals of high concern must be reported. Besides, CBI claims hinder the collection of critical product content and may result in significant costs for businesses for not being transparent about the hazardous chemicals in their products.

By 2020 governments can be encouraged to use economic instruments to motivate information disclosure. For example, a non-disclosure tax on companies that do not participate in the CiP programme, in accordance with the polluter pays principle, could be introduced.

Financial support for broad CiP Programme implementation in developing and EiT countries should be provided so that by 2020 the implementation process of the CiP programme could start in several SAICM regions and countries. Stakeholders inside and outside the supply chain should be part of the process as recommended by the CiP Programme.

Thank you, Mr. President.