IPEN Intervention on Risk Reduction Activities

17 December, 2014

Thank you Mr. President.

IPEN believes the Overall Orientation and Guidance is a very useful document with many important elements. However, we feel that the OOG is imbalanced in that it is primarily focused on process objectives and does not adequately address risk reduction activities that can be carried out between now and 2020 and that can achieve actual risk reduction outcomes. We think further inclusion of risk reduction activities is important because the 2020 goal is to minimize adverse effects on human health and the environment and that is a risk reduction goal.

IPEN therefore proposes that the OOG additionally identifies gaps in risk reduction activities where substantial achievements can be made between now and 2020 with concerted effort. These would include proposals for more vigorous implementation of SAICM EPIs, selected elements of the GPA and other activities identified in the Overarching Policy Strategy such as:

- the implementation of the business plan of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint;
- the adoption and initial implementation of a Global Alliance to phase-out highly hazardous pesticides
- robust implementation of Chemicals in Products programme
- the implementation of the Recommendations on Hazardous Substances within the Lifecycle of Electrical and Electronic Products adopted at the Vienna workshop held in March 2011
- publicly available list of EDCs, monitoring studies, and case studies on the possible presence of EDCs in pesticides, textiles, children’s products, building products, and electrical and electronic products; identify gaps in existing regulatory policies, and highlight best available practices for the substitution of EDCs
- promoting the ratification and implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury (GPA Executive Summary par 8b)
• promoting the remediation of contaminated areas (GPA Executive Summary par 81)
• protect workers from asbestosis and other occupational diseases (GPA item 20)
• and others as appropriate.

We would like to provide a written submission with several more details if it would be acceptable.

Thank you Mr. President.