



## IPEN Quick Views of SAICM OEWG

November 2011

### Financial and technical resources

- To date, the Secretariat has been severely under-resourced and this has impeded effective SAICM implementation; a fully resourced Secretariat is essential
- OEWG should recommend that financial commitments to the QSP are permitted at least until November 2013 and that disbursement continue until portfolio activities are completed
- The QSP should be sufficiently financed and extended until a more permanent long-term mechanism is established
- SAICM needs a long-term, substantial global financial mechanism to support sound chemicals management and the achievement of its objective.
- The chemicals focal area on sound chemicals management established under GEF5 should be further elaborated and significantly expanded for GEF6
- Other mechanisms identified by the consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes should also be explored including mainstreaming; industry involvement including economic instruments; a new trust fund; and GEF-related mechanisms such as safe chemicals and wastes management as a new focal area, expanding the existing POPs focal area, or establishing a new trust fund under the GEF

### Lead in paint

- The pace of establishing and implementing the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint has been inadequate due to a lack of government involvement, secretariat resources, and financial support
- Little if any data on lead in paint exists for most countries; comprehensive testing and market data is urgently needed
- OEWG should recommend adoption of the draft resolution on lead in paint by ICCM3 including a request for more government involvement, financial resources, and an invitation to report on further results at ICCM4
- OEWG should approve a proposal to ICCM3 for an international lead poisoning prevention day of action, with an initial focus on the elimination of lead in paints

### Chemicals in products

- An international framework should be developed to facilitate and guide provision, availability, and access to information on chemicals in products among all stakeholders
- Framework elements should be broadened to facilitate consumer awareness<sup>1</sup> along with guidelines for recycling and disposal and extended producer responsibility
- Work should include broad public awareness-raising of the issue to raise the demand for cleaner products including use of the clearinghouse and a broad international consumer campaign to increase understanding and create a driving force for safer products

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<sup>1</sup> These might include: a publicly available database of aggregated information on chemicals in products, collated list of recalled products, and technical requirements for new information exchange methods including best policy practices and best technical practices, and a living list of chemicals of concern and their health and environmental effects.



## **Electronics**

- OEWG should support the addition of a new work area and associated activities to the Global Plan of Action pertaining to hazardous substances in the life cycle of electrical and electronic products
- Further work in this area is necessary to create an international set of best practices and further implement the outcomes of the international workshop held in Vienna
- OEWG should support the recommendations in the draft resolution including the invitations for participation by WHO and ILO
- The Key Messages adopted by the International Workshop on Hazardous Substances within the Life-cycle of Electrical and Electronic Products held in Vienna in 2011 should be added as an annex to the resolution

## **Nanotechnology and nanomaterials**

- OEWG should support the addition of a new work area and associated activities to the Global Plan of Action pertaining to nanotechnology and nanomaterials
- OEWG should propose a resolution for ICCM3 outlining further intersessional activities on nano with a report back to ICCM4
- Intersessional activities should include development of life cycle approaches, product and material registers, awareness raising and capacity building, and integrated measures to address any worker health and safety concerns
- The Secretariat should accept and incorporate comments on *Nanomaterials: applications, implications and safety management in the SAICM context* in advance of ICCM3

## **Endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDC)**

- OEWG should recommend EDC for the agenda of ICCM3 as an emerging policy issue
- UNEP's proposed EDC project should fully involve all stakeholders including endocrinology experts and other health professionals, NGOs, trade unions, and the private sector
- Actions under the project should include: establishment of a global watch list of EDCs and information on uses and safer alternatives; use of monitoring information; prioritizing elimination of the effects of EDCs on the most vulnerable; improving how the characteristics of EDCs are addressed; and generating information on how to avoid exposure to the most vulnerable; and public awareness-raising
- The definition of EDC in the 2002 IPCS assessment report is overly prescriptive; an appropriate definition is: *EDCs are chemicals and mixtures that interfere with hormone signaling*. More work is needed in developing criteria for use in establishing regulatory EDC control measures.

## **Environmentally persistent pharmaceutical pollutants (EPPP)**

- OEWG should recommend EPPP for the agenda of ICCM3 as an emerging policy issue
- Cooperative actions should include 1) development of a global data base of EPPPs including information on toxicity and persistence; and 2) establishment of an international multi-stakeholder network to further develop this issue



- Further work on EPPPs should include monitoring and assessment including impacts on vulnerable groups and development of a knowledge-based inventory including the burdens EPPPs may present to human health or the environment
- Work on EPPPs should be synergistic with the health sector strategy

### **Health sector strategy**

- Case studies should be developed to illustrate how the health sector can contribute to SACIM implementation
- Awareness-raising within the health sector on issues relating to environmental health and chemicals should be conducted with special emphasis on prevention
- Specific targets and indicators of progress for the engagement of the health sector should be established in the implementation of the Strategic Approach as part of an action plan for the upcoming intersessional period

### **Rio + 20**

- The global chemicals agenda was launched at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992 with the adoption of Chapter 19 of Agenda 21, leading to the formation of the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety (IFCS); subsequently the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) updated the global chemicals agenda in 2002 leading to the formation of SAICM
- SAICM's link to sustainable development occurs both through the Dubai Declaration and through its links to WSSD and the Rio Earth Summit
- The OEWG should call on UNEP to take steps aimed at ensuring that Rio + 20 addresses and reaffirms the global chemicals agenda including the receipt on progress since 1992 including the Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention, Stockholm Convention, and SAICM
- Rio + 20 should take stock of progress and reinvigorate the goals of Chapter 19 of Agenda 21 and the WSSD
- Avoiding injury to ecosystems and future generations caused by chemical exposure throughout the lifecycle of chemicals should be addressed in the Rio+20 outcomes
- Chemical safety and chemical policy reform should occupy a place at the core of the economic and development policy agenda
- Rio+20 outcomes should relate avoidance of harm from chemical exposure as a basic human right