



for a toxics-free future

IPEN Views of SAICM IP3

September 2019

Additional policy papers relevant to the Beyond 2020 process can be found here: <https://ipen.org/conferences/oewg3>
<https://ipen.org/documents/ipen-beyond-2020-perspectives> <https://ipen.org/conferences/SAICM-IP3>

Process considerations

- IP3 should include discussion of a higher-level enabling framework in addition to SAICM2.0.
- Current emerging policy issues and issues of concern should be carried forward into SAICM2.0 so as not to lose momentum on progress.
- The SAICM Global Plan of Action minus timeframes should be carried forward into the new agreement, so as not to lose extensive work and a helpful series of work areas and activities for countries and stakeholders to advance chemical safety.

Enabling framework

- IP3 should trigger an intersessional process to further develop modalities on the enabling framework for consideration at IP4, working by electronic means with one developed country co-chair and one developing or transition country co-chair.
- The enabling framework should include all existing¹ and future chemicals-related multilateral agreements under one high-level umbrella, respecting the legal autonomy of each agreement and allowing for the possibility of future legally binding agreements, including on agreed issues of concern.
- Key features should include:
 - Greater coherence among objectives, implementation, and reporting;
 - High-level political ownership and visibility;
 - Full implementation of the chemical safety contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
 - Links to funded obligatory national action plans for agreements in the framework;
 - Open, inclusive and transparent multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder participation.
- The Beyond 2020 process should recommend holding a multi-sectoral ministerial meeting during, or back to back with, ICCM5 and produce a ministerial declaration that endorses elements of the enabling framework.
- The Beyond 2020 process should recommend transmitting the ministerial declaration to the UN General Assembly for a resolution that also requests UN agencies and multilateral environmental agreements to participate and commit to the enabling framework within their respective mandates.

SAICM2.0 Targets, indicators and milestones

- Each indicator should be accompanied by a specific measurable milestone and relevant SDG(s) to fulfill the Beyond 2020 obligation to “develop recommendations regarding measurable objectives in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.”

¹ Relevant agreements in the enabling framework should include, but are not limited to, Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm, and Minamata Conventions; SAICM; FAO Code of Conduct; relevant ILO Conventions, and the International Health Regulations.

- Indicators and milestones should include items that reflect key measures from SAICM emerging policy issues and issues of concern.
- Objectives, targets and indicators should track closely with the framework's goals and its timeless vision and not lack ambition due to arbitrary determinations of what is achievable or realistic.
- Please see the [detailed IPEN thought starter](#) on this topic.

SAICM2.0 Governance and institutional arrangements

- Governance and institutional arrangements of SAICM should not be reinvented, but built on SAICM elements with a functional track record. This includes the international conference, secretariat, bureau and the rules of procedure.
- Governance aspects of the enabling framework should be part of the modalities discussed by the working group on this topic.

SAICM2.0 Mechanisms to support implementation

- **Engagement of IOMC organizations**
 - Significantly strengthened engagement of IOMC organizations is needed through a detailed plan of actions on chemical safety contributions to Agenda 2030 targets.
- **Subsidiary or ad hoc expert scientific body**
 - For a possible subsidiary body to be useful, it would have to be a multidisciplinary body (extending beyond toxicology / ecotoxicology) to ensure that it includes adequate representation and consideration of the full spectrum of scientific and public health disciplines related to chemical safety.
 - A possible scientific subsidiary body should not duplicate the work of other chemical safety scientific bodies such as the POPs Review Committee or the Chemical Review Committee.
 - Precise terms of reference of a subsidiary body would be needed to ensure that all SAICM stakeholder groups fully participate and that strict conflict of interest policies are implemented.
 - Extensive consideration on sustainable, adequate funding of such a body should be given before a decision on a subsidiary body is adopted to ensure an adequate balance between funds to explore new areas of science and prioritization of funding for risk reduction activities on the ground.
- **Taking stock of progress**
 - A mandatory periodic review system for reporting should be implemented. It would report on actions in the National Action Plan and others including comments from stakeholders. An expert panel would review the reports and propose recommendations and countries could come up for review every three years. These reports could form the basis of SAICM2.0 effectiveness evaluation along with assessment of financing, capacity building and other important elements of the agreement.
- **Capacity building**
 - Tangible mechanisms should be developed including: 1) Capacity building and technical cooperation needs assessment; 2) Facilitating access to non-polluting and clean technology by developing and transition countries²; 3) Access to free information on chemicals and wastes, including in national languages; 4) Training and awareness-raising activities to build government capacity on women and chemical safety and for stakeholders, including women and communities, to improve their knowledge and understanding of the technical issues related to sound chemicals and waste management; and 5) Country-driven requests for personalized or small group assistance on specific chemical safety issues to increase

² Techniques and technologies that are banned, outdated, raise scientific or public concerns or are otherwise rejected should not be transferred to developing and transition countries.

- protection of human health and the environment. If partnerships are established, they should be open and transparent and fulfill the requirements in the Partnership section below.
- Capacity building needs for developing countries should result from country-driven requests following an evaluation by the national SAICM coordination committee.
 - **Issues of concern**
 - Current emerging policy issues and issues of concern should be carried forward into SAICM2.0 so as not to lose momentum on progress to advance chemical safety.
 - Women and chemical safety should be established as an issue of concern.
 - An issue of concern should warrant concerted action and be an issue which has not yet been generally recognised or has been recognized but is insufficiently addressed.
 - Issues should be selected and prioritized by the governing body based on agreed criteria that include significant potential impact on human health or the environment; integral to the vision; how the action complements other actions; extent across regions; and the extent to which it is crosscutting.
 - Progress should be tracked through regular reporting at the International Conference and through ad hoc periodic reviews.
 - No issue of concern should be suspended without detailed review and rigorous discussion.
 - Actions on some issues should be accelerated depending on new information, increasing public concern, availability of safer alternatives, and inadequate implementation, among others.
 - Advancing issues of concern may include formation of a multi-stakeholder ad hoc working group with a defined terms of reference to review and develop recommendations for action, including the possibility of elevating the issue for consideration by a different body.
 - **Updating the instrument over time**
 - SAICM2.0 should contain a mechanism for amendment to enable adjustment as new information and challenges occur.

Financing

- SAICM is underfinanced. GEF-7 allocations have increased funding to the chemicals and waste focal area but SAICM funding remains the same at USD\$13 million for four years – 1.4% of the chemicals and waste budget and 0.2% of the GEF-7 replenishment.³
- UNEP should implement the recommendation in the UNEP [evaluation](#)² of the integrated approach to, *“make a formal request to donors to make an overt signal that chemicals and waste are a fundable component of development plans.”*
- A SAICM clearing house mechanism should publicly track development aid for sound chemicals management and report back during each International Conference.
- Private sector financing is poorly implemented in the integrated approach. The UNEP [evaluation](#)² notes that, *“The use of the integrated approach to trigger new financial and in-kind participation of industry is not strongly evidenced.”*
- An adequate, predictable and sustainable financing mechanism that includes internalization of costs of chemical producing industries at the global level should be established. A 0.1% levy on global chemical industry sales would produce USD\$5.7 billion per year for implementation of chemical safety measures and be an implementation of Rio Principle 16.
- UNEP should implement the [evaluation](#)² recommendation to, *“commission studies on market-based instruments for cost internalisation and incentives for sustainable consumption and production, particularly for green chemistry investments.”*
- The UNEP [evaluation](#)² notes that, *“Civil society has lost out from the closure of the QSP to which civil society could apply for funding.”*
- In line with the [evaluation](#), UNEP should *“propose solutions to address civil society financing.”*

³ http://www.saicm.org/Portals/12/documents/meetings/IP3/INF/SAICM_IP3_INF5_EvaluationIntegratedApproachFinancing.pdf

- A specific fund for SAICM implementation should be established using lessons learned from the SAICM QSP program that provides funding for smaller grants than GEF categories and includes funding for public interest organizations, trade unions, and health sector organizations.
- IOMC organizations and MEA secretariats should develop gender guidelines for all projects and activities on sound chemicals management including gender-disaggregated data.

Partnerships

- Partnerships are not a substitute for a functioning financial mechanism or the need to internalize costs within the chemical industry.
- Partnerships should: Have a clear mandate, goals and targets; be timebound; serve the implementation of internationally agreed goals; be coherent with national law, development plans and strategies; respect international law and be in line with agreed principles and values; be transparent and accountable; provide an added value, and complement rather than substitute commitments made by governments; have a secure funding base; and be multi-stakeholder driven, with clear roles outlined for the different partners.
- A publicly available registry of partnerships should reveal funders and funding levels; text of the agreements; periodic updates and reviews.
- Partnerships should be consistent with the [UN Secretary General's principles](#): *“Cooperation with the business sector must be transparent. Information on the nature and scope of major cooperative arrangements should be available within the concerned United Nations entity and to the public at large.”*⁴
- Partnerships should only be operating with businesses that comply with UN Guidelines and Principles including [UN Global Compact Principles](#) and the [UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#). These include relevant chemical safety principles such as, *“Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges.”* and *“Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining.”*

⁴ https://business.un.org/en/assets/b7135525-c280-4021-a849-e6a655e5065c.pdf&sa=U&ved=2ahUKewjD3fWmqdzkAhVIXKwKHdpGDhkQFjAAegQIAxAB&usg=AOvVaw1_zrcI-5ZxS-uNTfnjscbk