

IPEN Intervention on Hazardous Chemicals in the Life Cycle of Electric and Electronic Products- given by Amanda Hawes, Worksafe, U.S.

Thank you Mr. President. I am from Worksafe and speak this morning on behalf of IPEN and its 700 participating organizations.

The issue of hazardous chemicals in electrical and electronic products provides a perfect example of SAICM's commitment to addressing the entire lifecycle of chemicals. The issue provides exciting opportunities to address green design, electronics worker health and safety, and end of life issues.

I had the pleasure of participating in the Vienna workshop on electrical and electronic products. The meeting participants represented countries that produce electronics, countries that receive electronic waste, industry representatives, IGOs, and public interest NGOs.

We would like to make three important points about this topic:

- 1) The Vienna workshop participants agreed on some comprehensive key messages on this topic. We believe that this hard work is useful and should be preserved for discussion at ICCM3 by adding them as an annex to any omnibus decision or resolution on this topic
- 2) Several important recommendations on the topics of both community health and worker health came from the Vienna workshop. These include invitations to ILO and WHO for work in this area. We believe that these represent important contributions to the issue and are consistent with SAICM's multi-sectoral emphasis. We believe that these aspects would also be useful to retain in any omnibus decision or resolution.
- 3) Finally, we believe that some further work in this area is necessary to create an international set of best practices. These could include elements such as green design; safer substitutes; extended producer responsibility, worker health and safety, measures to prevent the shipment of "near-end-of-life" products, and others. We believe that the private sector, governments, workers, civil society and the informal sector would benefit from this work.

Thank you