

## **IPEN Intervention on Implementation Activities, given by Bjorn Beeler, IPEN Secretariat**

Thank you Mr. President,

IPEN would like to share with the delegates our efforts among our global network of over 700 NGOs in 100 countries to elevate the profile of sound chemicals management and the need for national policy progress and the need to change the reality on the ground of toxic exposure and hazards.

From 2008 through 2010 IPEN conducted a *Global SAICM Outreach Campaign* with international NGOs from the Health, Labor, Women's, Environment and Indigenous Peoples' sectors.

In addition, IPEN produced educational materials including NGO guides on SAICM, POPS, hazardous pesticides & now mercury, available in all UN languages. These guides highlight how NGOs can utilize international chemical agreements and policies to address their local and/or national concerns.

The outcomes from the Outreach Campaign included over 1,000 NGO and CSO groups who endorsed the SAICM Common Statement and committed their organizations to work on SAICM and sound chemicals management.

Thereafter in 2010 IPEN launched the International SAICM implementation Project (ISIP) to provide small grants at the local and national level to implement specific *Global Plan of Action Items* or *Emerging Issues-related activities*.

IPEN ISIP activities related to the *GPA* or *Emerging issues* included:

Pesticides, waste, chemicals in products, contaminated sites, heavy metals, and public participation to promote an enabling environment for the development of national policies that promote SAICM implementation.

To date IPEN has completed 54 projects in 37 countries, and we look forward to working with donor agencies to elevate and expand these activities.

One example I would like to highlight includes an activity completed in Ethiopia, by an NGO, PAN Ethiopia, who conducted an activity to assess E-waste stockpiles in three cities. The results of the study were presented to the government, which catalyzed a national task force which over the next 2 years, with funding now committed from both national and international sources, will aim to develop a national e-waste policy.

IPEN would like to thank the donors, including the European Commission, Development Aid Agencies, including the Swedish Government, and several private foundations and partners who supported IPEN via the SAICM Quick Start Program framework.

Thank you Mr. President