

Chemicals and Waste Management Community of Practice (CoP) Discussion 1 Guide

Title	Integrated Chemicals and Waste Management in the Lead Up to ICCM5: National systems, industry action and SDG implementation
Date & Time	12 April 2023, 14:00 – 15:30 (UTC+2)
Registration link	https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/3816800523917/WN_b76ffHnQEqZXB8UaOZNYg

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As a contribution to [the intersessional process](#) on the Strategic Approach and sound chemicals and waste management beyond 2020, the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) submitted a paper on “Strengthening integrated chemicals and waste management” to IP.4 in Bucharest, Romania in 2022 ([SAICM/IP.4/INF/18](#)). The concept dates back to ICCM 1 and the adoption of SAICM in 2006 and some progress in implementation has been made. However, further discussions and action are needed to strengthen the concept and foster its implementation, taking into account developments such as the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The IOMC paper proposes three dimensions of integrated chemicals and waste management. They include: 1. Developing basic national chemical management systems and capacities in all countries; 2. Integrating chemicals management in key industry sectors and product value chains; and 3. Integrating chemicals management with sustainable development issues and initiatives. As a follow-up to the launch of the paper in 2022, a number of suggestions made in the paper have been taken up in the intersessional process.

Discussion Questions

Q1

The development of basic national chemicals management systems and capacities in all countries has been on the international agenda for a long time. Yet, only limited progress has been made to date. What are the key determinants why progress has been slow? How can key challenges be overcome, including securing innovative and sustainable financing to operate national systems?

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Q2	Scaling-up engagement and action of downstream industries (e.g. the textile, electronic, and construction industries) is critical in achieving chemicals and waste management globally. Yet, downstream industries have only played a limited role in SAICM and negotiating the Strategic Approach and chemicals and waste management beyond 2020. What incentive can be created to engage these actors more actively in the “Beyond 2020” process?
Q3	The implementation of several SDGs (e.g. those addressing climate change, biodiversity, the world of work, innovation, etc.) depends on the sound management of chemicals and waste. Yet, relevant international fora do not pay full attention to these linkages. What are the most important relevant SDGs and what needs to be done to integrate chemicals and waste management considerations in relevant bodies and fora?

Presenter



Achim Alexander Halpaap, Former Head of the Chemicals and Health Branch, UN Environment Programme

Achim Halpaap has more than twenty-five years of leadership experience in international environment and sustainable development research, capacity development, policymaking and management in public, academic, private, and non-governmental organizations. Achim's areas of expertise include green and circular economy, chemicals and waste management, environmental governance, and capacity development.

At UNEP, Achim served until October 2017 as Head of the Chemicals and Health Branch. Prior roles include Senior Manager, Environment and Green Development, and Associate Director of Training at the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). From 2017-2019 he led the development of UNEP’s second [Global Chemicals Outlook \(GCO-II\)](#) launched at UNEA 4 in 2019. Academic experiences include research and teaching appointments at the University of Cape Town (South Africa), Yale University and the University of Oregon. Achim’s professional career commenced in the private sector at the Bayer Corporation, Germany working on chemicals and waste management legislation and regulation in the early 90’s.

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Facilitator



Pierre Quiblier, Officer in Charge, SAICM Secretariat, Chemical and Health Branch, UN Environment Programme

Pierre Quiblier is SAICM Secretariat Coordinator OiC at the Chemical and Health Branch of the United Nations Environment Programme since January 2023. As such he led the organization of the resumed 4th meeting of intersessional process for Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 (IP4.2) held in Nairobi on 27 February - 3 March 2023.

Within the UNEP Chemicals and Health Branch as Programme Officer, he developed in 2006 the UNEP-UNDP Partnership Initiative on the mainstreaming of sound management of chemicals into development plans and policies. He managed and coordinated the UNEP global publication of the Global Chemicals Outlook: Towards Sound Management of chemicals. He also ensures liaison with WHO and undertake related environment and health functions in view of strengthening the cooperation in areas of common interest. He led the development and organization, of the first inter-Ministerial Health and Environment Conference in Africa held in Libreville, Gabon, 2008 and the 2nd Conference held in Luanda, Angola, 2010, as well as the 3rd Conference held in Libreville Gabon, 2018. He developed and contributed to the implementation of the GEF financed ChemObs project. A prototype in nine African countries of national integrated health and environment observatories to provide timely and evidence-based information to better predict, prevent and reduce chemicals risk to human health and the environment. Pierre Quiblier graduated with a Master of Business Administration degree from Fordham University, New York. He also post-graduated with a DEA in political studies and graduated with a Master's degree and post-graduation degree in Political Sciences from the University of Grenoble, France.

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