



WECF



Women in Europe for a Common Future

www.wecf.org

What is SAICM?

- Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)
- Under auspices of UNEP
- International Framework for Chemicals Management
- Adopted at the International Conference on Chemicals Management in Dubai/2006

About SAICM

- Comprised of 3 main texts:
 - Ministerial Declaration
 - Overarching Policy Objectives (OPS)
 - Global Plan of Action/ GPA

Scope of SAICM

- Agricultural and industrial chemicals
- Chemicals at all stages of their life_cycle, including in products.
- All aspects of chemical safety: health, environment, labor, social & economic

SAICM & governance

- Ratification and implementation of all relevant chemicals MEAs
- Strengthen coordination & cooperation among institutions responsible for the implementation of MEAs
- Strengthen synergies between chemicals and waste conventions
- Capacity building of NGOs and developing countries in order to facilitate their active participation

SAICM Foundation

WSSD Johannesburg Declaration/ Chemicals goal :

“ ...to achieve by 2020 that chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment.”

SAICM Content

Ministerial Declaration/ Dubai Declaration on International Chemicals Management

General manifestation of political commitment to SAICM

- Para 1: Sound chemicals management necessary to eradicate poverty and disease, improve human health & environment
- Para 24: protect children and unborn life from chemical exposure
- Para 5: Progress in chemicals management not sufficient
- Para 20: Industry responsibility to provide data on chemicals and their health & environment effects

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Overarching Policy

Strategy (OPS)

- Statement of Needs: existing chemicals frameworks not completely adequate
- Risk reduction for children, pregnant women, fertile populations etc. needed
- Product Life-Cycle approach to reduce risks

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Overarching Policy

Strategy (OPS)

Key objectives

- Objective 14d)
 - Give priority to PBT, vPvB, CMRs, EDCs chemicals, POPs, other high-volume chemicals, particular chemicals on national level
- Objective 14 e)
 - Apply precautionary approach
- Objective 15 a)
 - Ensure sufficient information so that chemicals can be adequately managed throughout their life cycle
- Objective 15 h)
 - Ensure EQUAL participation of women in decision making of chem. policy and management

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Global Plan of Action (GPA)

5 areas for action

- risk reduction
- knowledge and information
- governance
- capacity-building and technical assistance
- illegal international traffic

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Global Plan of Action (GPA)

Work areas and related activities (relevant examples)

- Develop national profiles to identify gaps and prioritize actions
- Develop guidance materials to prepare national assessments for children's health & chemical safety
- Pesticides: Implementation of FAO code of conduct, national pesticide registries, control systems, management systems to regulate use of pesticides
- Promotion of substitution of high concern chemicals (PBTs, vPvBs, CMRs, EDCs)

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Global Plan of Action (GPA)

Work areas and related activities (relevant examples)

- Consideration for children, pregnant women in risk assessment
- National action plans for waste minimization
- Identify and dispose of obsolete pesticide stockpiles

BUT: Former table C and related actions taken out of GPA (opposition from US, Industry , etc.)

SAICM : Financial aspects

- Quick Start Programme (QSP)

“...to support activities to enable initial capacity_building and implementation in developing countries, least developed countries, small island developing States and countries with economies in transition.”

SAICM: Financial aspects

- SAICM Trust Fund officially established on 1 December 2006
- QSP Trust Fund in 2006: \$5,968,000 from 15 governments
- QSP Trust Fund by 1 June 2007: \$589,000 from 6 governments

Why work on SAICM ?

1. A political process that addresses all issues relating to chemicals management and waste/ see GPA

Why work on SAICM?

2. Positive mechanism especially for countries that have little or no national chemicals legislation and management systems

Why work on SAICM?

3. Gives countries a means to focus on issues not covered by existing chemicals conventions
 - priority chemicals (PBT, CMRs, EDCs)
 - Generation of health and environmental information on chemicals
 - Women and vulnerable groups

Why work on SAICM?

4. Foresees an explicit role for women in decision making on chemicals policy and also chemicals management/OPS

Implementation of SAICM

Political process

- Implementation on country or regional level
- Regional meetings prepare for ICCM- takes place every 3 years (2009, 2012, 2015, 2020)
- Regional meetings to kick-off implementation, discuss progress and unresolved/new issues
- ICCM 2: May 2009

Policy Issues for ICCM 2

- SAICM as a voluntary agreement
- Long-term financing of SAICM and related activities
- Inclusion of old and emerging issues (table C)
- Reporting on Implementation
- National action

Advocacy on National Level

- Find out what your national chemicals legislation looks like!
- Find out about your government's position on SAICM
- Ask them to take up issues outlined in the GPA (and former table C)

Advocacy on National Level

- Join forces national NGOs (environmental, labor, health) working on chemicals
- Join forces with women's groups on national level
- Produce awareness materials for national level
- Find out more from about SAICM and join WECF's work via Safe Chemicals listserv



Thank you!



Implementation of SAICM *WECF & Political process*

- Follows regional implementation in EU- via EU-JUSSCANNZ regional meetings/ Daniela Rosche/ WECF secretariat
- Follows regional implementation in CEE- via CEE regional meeting/ Elena Manvelian/ AWHHE
- Daniela and Elena official NGO focal points