Introduction to the IOMC Toolbox for Decision-Making in Chemicals Management

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Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals

Established in 1995

Objective: “To strengthen international cooperation in the field of chemicals and to increase the effectiveness of the organisations’ international chemicals programmes”
IOMC Toolbox: The Challenge

- IOMC Participating Organizations have developed hundreds of tools and guidance documents that are relevant for countries in their efforts to implement SAICM.

- However, finding the most appropriate tool or guidance document to address specific national issues can be a challenge!
IOMC Toolbox: The Solution

• The internet-based IOMC Toolbox enables countries to identify the most relevant and efficient national chemicals management actions.

• The Toolbox takes into account the resources available and guides users towards cost-effective solutions adapted to the country.

• At each implementation step, the Toolbox presents the relevant IOMC resources, guidance documents, and training material, all available online and free of charge.
IOMC Toolbox: The Schemes

- The IOMC Toolbox focuses on seven schemes for chemicals management:

  1. National management scheme for **pesticides**
  2. Occupational **health and safety** system
  3. **Chemical accidents** prevention, preparedness, and response system for major hazards
IOMC Toolbox: The Schemes

4. Industrial chemicals management system

5. Classification and labeling system (GHS)

6. System to support health authorities which have a role in the public health management of chemicals

7. Pollutant release and transfer registers (PRTRs)
The National Management Scheme for Pesticides provides guidance on:

- Product registration infrastructure
- Application
- Surveillance of pesticide poisoning
- Public education
- Formulation and repackaging
- Storage and transport
- Distribution
- Disposal
- Monitoring and surveillance
- Monitoring pesticide resistance
- Quality control
- Capacity building
- Information exchange
- Licensing
- Procurement
IOMC Toolbox: The Scope

• The IOMC Toolbox also provides links to five new online toolkits:
  – OECD Environmental Risk Assessment Toolkit
  – WHO Human Health Risk Assessment Toolkit
  – FAO Toolkit for Pesticides Registration Decision Making
  – UNIDO Toolkit on Innovative, Safe and Resource Efficient Application of Chemicals in Industry
  – UNIDO Toolkit on Chemical Leasing

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Classification and Labelling System Scheme

Limited Resources

Determining classification and hazard communication requirements

The GHS affects four key sectors, namely, industrial workplaces, agriculture, transport, and consumer products. Countries may decide to prioritize GHS implementation for a particular sector or sectors, depending on the needs of the country.

Prepare a detailed plan on how the GHS will be implemented in the sector. Based on the GHS, decide which GHS elements will be adopted for the sector. The needs of a sector can vary depending on the needs of the target audience. For example, the transport of dangerous goods sector focuses on acute health hazards, physical hazards, and environmental hazards. Chronic hazards are not covered given the exposures anticipated in that sector. On the other hand, the consumer sector may not need to know some specific physical hazards given the use they have for a particular consumer product. In addition, consideration can be given to how other countries have implemented the GHS.

Determining classification and hazard communication requirements can include the following sub-elements:

- Identifying hazard classes to be included
- Identifying who will do the classification
- Identifying the labelling and safety data sheet requirements
- Identifying who will assess the hazard communication elements

Below is a list of tools relevant for implementing this topic:

- UNECE, Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS, Rev.5), (Geneva: United Nations, 2013), ST/SG/AC.10/30/Rev.5
IOMC Toolbox: A Platform for Collaboration

• The new version of the IOMC Toolbox provides a set of interactive features allowing governments to use it as a platform for collaboration among ministries, agencies, and other stakeholders such as industry

• Users can save their information, add comments, and share and discuss issues with colleagues and partners
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Visit the IOMC Toolbox http://iomctoolbox.oecd.org

The project is implemented by IOMC