



adelphi



Enhancing Governance for the Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste

UNITAR Stakeholder workshop on strengthening SMCW governance beyond 2020 – 9th & 10th September 2019

Alf Wills, Summit Outcomes

Background and Purpose



- The ICCM 4 mandated an inter-sessional process (IP) to prepare recommendations on both SAICM and SMCW beyond 2020:
 - To date the IP has focused primarily on the SAICM aspect of this mandate;
 - Germany commissioned papers to elaborate on the SMCW aspect of the mandate.
- Discussion of the initial paper (INF/27) at OEWG3, revealed a wide range of views on proposals for an “enabling framework” for SMCW.
- This discussion informed the further, more concrete, proposals in this paper, which makes a case for a comprehensive package of IP recommendations, including:
 - On workable measures for broader SMCW. in addition to a revitalized SAICM; and
 - That “builds on existing” as opposed to “creating new and/or additional”; and
 - Takes advantage of the fact that the SDGs integrate an agreed 2030 vision for SMCW.
- The paper proposes that the SMCW aspect be enhanced and strengthened by a broadened and appropriately mandated ICCM; and an enhanced and strengthened IOMC.

Key functions needed to enhance SMCW



The OEWG3 debate surfaced **six core functional recommendations** needed to ensure SMCW as reflected in Agenda 2030. Specifically:

1. To focus public and political attention on SMCW and to prioritise up-scaled action in line with a commonly agreed SDG-based vision, goals and targets;
2. To improve coherence, coordination, synergy and efficiency of internationally agreed chemicals and waste policies and action;
3. For a system or process that builds capacities, coordinates and mobilises accessible resources to meet the SDG-based common vision, goals and targets;
4. For a science-policy interface system or process that produces authoritative assessments, fosters academia-policy decision-maker dialogue, with strong communication;
5. For a review and follow-up procedure that measures whether SMCW-related SDGs are achieved or not in order to inform coherent shifts in focus or approach by actors;
6. To determine modalities or processes to achieve the above elements.

1. Shared vision, priority, ambitious goals and targets (I)



- GCO-II: fragmented chemicals and waste landscape contributes to the reasons why the 2020 goal will not be met;
 - A shared vision for SMCW is important to **create global momentum** that raises profile, ownership and priority across all sectors and at all levels;
 - **In fact**, the international community has already adopted, at the highest level, a SMCW shared vision, goals and targets in the 2030 Agenda and SDGs;
 - However, it is not clearly self evident in the 17 SDGs, that SMCW is a key contributor to sustainable development (as cross-cutting issues often appear)
 - **Furthermore**, current IP work on vision, objectives and milestone **are SDG-based** and intended to define guidance for all SMCW sectors and actors;
 - However, some criticism of this work includes concerns that:
 - Not all sectors and stakeholders have participated and may not have ownership;
 - Any effort to mobilize such inclusiveness could delay or confuse the IP; and
 - A direct link to the 2030 Agenda could be interpreted as “short-termism”.
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1. Proposals - Shared vision (II)



Therefore, it is recommended that:

- This IP vision technical work should not be duplicated; and
- To retrospectively include all sector IGOs, MEAs and others, this vision work should form the basis for an inclusive ICCM5 HLS Ministerial Declaration;
- This declaration should be framed in a manner that:
 - Highlights the importance of SMCW to each SDGs; as well as,
 - Clearly linking each SDG to the objectives, goals and targets of all SMCW related IGOs, MEAs and others.
- The 2030 timeline be framed as an immediate short-term milestone, and
 - Stress that the SMCW is timeless; and
 - That, beyond 2030 the future vision goals and targets will be based on the successor to the current SDGs.

2. Improving policy coherence, synergies and efficiency



- IOMC: from administrative cooperation/coordination to strategic planning
 - Enhance the IOMC by including other entities such as the Secretariats of the BRS, Minamata Convention, Montreal Protocol, IMO, ICAO etc.
 - Enable strategic planning by enriching the IOMC with intergovernmental representation from IGO (and MEA) governing bodies to directly consider implications of policy as barriers to coherent, synergistic and efficient delivery

2. Improving policy coherence, synergies and efficiency



- ICCM:
 - Enable inter-governmentally approved guidance of policy, planning and resourcing decisions that need to be taken by legally autonomous governing bodies of the enhanced IOMC;
 - The ICCM must act in close cooperation with the enhanced IOMC on these;
 - Therefore, the ICCM should be integrated as part of the HLPF institutional architecture to guide and coordinate the international effort
 - Facilitate and incentivise enhanced partnerships and cooperation through a web-based platform sharing voluntary commitments to act
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3. Building capacity and mobilising resources



- There is a persistent lack of capacity in many countries (mostly developing)
 - Fundamental to solving this, is providing access to and promoting financial investment in technology, technical skill, regulatory systems and institutional infrastructure resources – in the public, civil society and private sectors
 - Need investment in SMCW across multiple sectors and from all sources to;
 - Strengthen and coordinate existing finance, technology and capacity; and
 - Mobilize adequate public finance to leverage private sector investment
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3. Proposal - Building capacity and mobilising resources



- Establish an arrangement or structure on finance (vis a vis Standing Committee on Finance under the UNFCCC) in order to:
 - Develop coordinating guidance recommendations to maximize investment
 - For use by autonomous governing bodies of various financial institutions, IGOs, and governments
 - Plus need to build capacities for cooperation and communication to build effective multi-stakeholder processes and partnerships
 - It is noted that the Special Programme could be enhanced to fulfil these functions
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5. Review and follow-up



- Tracking implementation of SMCW-related SDGs requires tailored review and follow-up procedures, without adding to reporting burden
- Need to assess whether and where the international community is on track and where challenges remain, particularly to enhance cross-sector action
- Review should not be done in the work stream of existing HLPF reviews (Voluntary National Reviews; SDG Reviews; Thematic Reviews), but HLPF should request and thus mandate ICCM (or other) to do this review (as a contribution to its' SDG reviews and Thematic reviews??)

5. Proposals - Review and follow-up



- Pragmatically, an enhanced IOMC could be asked by HLPF to further elaborate their overview of SMCW-related elements of the SDGs for review
- ICCM could establish an open-ended expert group, supported by IOMC organisations, to outline where there is sufficient information, and where it is lacking (also remedying weaknesses in indicators for the SDGs)
- Review results to be discussed at high-level meeting (at HLPF or ICCM) to facilitate a shift in implementation efforts, if needed

4. Strengthening the science-policy interface for SMCW SDGs



- Lack of a SMCW SPI has led to shortcomings:
 - Gaps in availability of policy-relevant and policy–usable knowledge
 - Fragmented expert community, not always focused on overarching priorities
 - No authoritative voice and lack of efforts to communicate science
 - This SMCW SPI platform needs to fulfil four core functions:
 1. Synthesise chemical production and use info; outline costs of inaction on pollution
 2. Assess response options; outline benefits of action
 3. Provide comprehensive early warning assessments of potential issues of concern
 4. Engage in communication and outreach to disseminate findings
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4. Proposals - science-policy interface for SMCW SDGs



- Best practice indicates a need for an independent SPI
- Preferably, with an independent governing body tasked as an SDG specific SPI
- In keeping with “build on existing” concept
 - An enhanced IOMC could be requested to develop a model assessment process cutting across all sectors and linked to the preparation of GCO-III
 - Also possibly consider the OEWG3 proposal for a technical subsidiary body

6. The enabling framework within the UN system (I)



Contextual overarching, enabling elements of the ICCM5 (or other) ministerial declaration – that go beyond the scope of a multi-stakeholder SAICM successor.

- Elements that require intergovernmental agreement and cross-sector SDG related action. The declaration should be adopted by the HLPF because:
 - The HLPF's primary function is the governance of the SDGs across multiple sectors and that involves actions of a myriad of stakeholders
 - It lifts the overarching global effort to achieve the Agenda 2030 vision of SMCW across multiple sectors into the correctly mandated multilateral forum
 - Recommend that HLPF integrate the ICCM as part of its institutional architecture with a specific mandate to guide, facilitate, mobilise support for and coordinate the coherent international effort to achieve its 2030 Vision for SMCW as reflected in the SDGs, while upholding respective legal mandates
 - HLPF should forward these recommendations to the UNGA for endorsement, to gain highest level political authority and broadest possible ownership
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6. The enabling framework within the UN system (II)



Substantive elements of a Ministerial Declaration to be taken at the ICCM5 High Level Segment (or another multi-sector Ministerial) include:

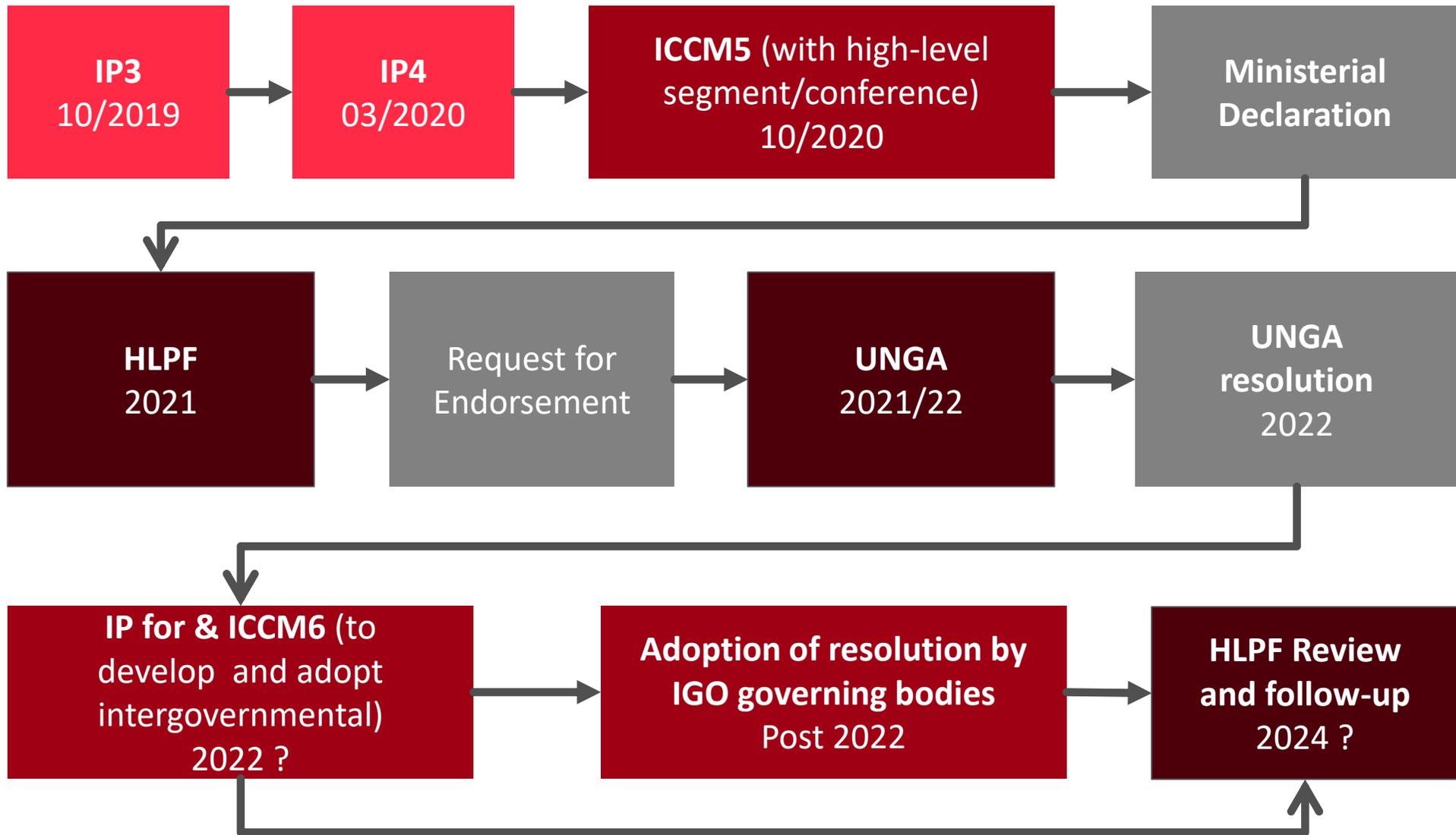
- A clear outline of an overarching SMCW vision, goals and targets (SDG-based and encompassing others);
 - A call for enlargement and improvement of the IOMC to enable strategic planning and intergovernmental participation in addition to the existing;
 - A broaden the mandate for the ICCM to include intergovernmental guidance;
 - Establishment of a permanent committee to develop coordinating guidance recommendations with a view to maximise investment flows from all sources;
 - Strengthening the science-policy interface: to enable the review & assessment of the global chemicals and waste cluster and make recommendations;
 - Develop meaningful indicators to track progress towards the common vision (SDGs)
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6. The enabling framework within the UN system III



- The Ministerial declaration could be introduced to the HLPF for endorsement and mandate by any country or group of countries. This submission should also recommend that the HLPF forward the same to the UNGA for endorsement.
 - The resultant high-level HLPF initiating resolution should include:
 - At least reference to the additional intergovernmental functions, other measures and the mandate related aspects, as agreed upon in the ministerial declaration;
 - A request to the governing bodies of IGOs, MEAs and initiatives within the UN system to fully participate in the work and commit to its clear expression of the SDG shared vision, goals and purpose, within their respective mandates;
 - A call for multi-sector governmental participation and an invitation for multi-stakeholder participation in the process.
 - If adopted by the HLPF (and possibly the UNGA), ICCM6 (or other forum) would then have the mandate to initiate the process of building an intergovernmental component to implement these additional functions.
 - It is suggested that this would necessitate an IP process for ICCM6
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TIMELINE / GRAPH



	2019	2020	2021
SAICM		IP3 10/19	IP4 03/20 ICCM5 10/20
UNGA		74 th Session 09/19 – 08/20	
HLPF	HLPF 07/19	HLPF (UNGA) 09/19	HLPF 07/20
FAO	41 st Conference 06/19	FAO Council meets twice per year	
ILO			109 th Conference 06/20
OECD			Ministerial-level Council 05/20
UNDP	UNDP Executive Board meets twice per year in Regular Sessions, and once in an Annual Session		
UNEP			UNEA5 02/21
UNIDO		18 th General Conference 11/19	
UNITAR		60 th Board Session 11/19	
WHO			73 rd Assembly 05/20 74 th Assembly 05/21
World Bank			Annual Meeting 10/20
GEF		GEF Council meets twice per year (May/Jun and Nov/Dec)	
BRS			BRS COPs 04/21
Minamata		COP3 11/19	
Montreal		MOP31 11/19	

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