

# IOMC



INTER-ORGANIZATION PROGRAMME FOR THE SOUND MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS

A cooperative agreement among FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, UNITAR, WHO, World Bank and OECD

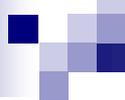
## Overview of the IOMC

Stakeholder workshop on strengthening governance  
for the sound management of chemicals  
and waste beyond 2020

Frankfurt, 14-16 January 2020

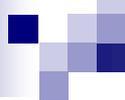
# What is the IOMC?

- The IOMC (Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals) brings together nine intergovernmental organizations actively involved in chemical safety
- FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, UNITAR, WHO, World Bank, OECD
- Established in 1995 by an MOU among the Participating Organizations, following recommendations made by the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development
- 6 original members, enlarged to 9 (as of 2019)



# MOU sets out the purpose of the IOMC

- To promote coordination of policies and activities pursued by the Participating Organizations, jointly or separately, to achieve the sound management of chemicals in relation to human health and the environment.
- Areas for coordination can be any agreed by all of the organizations.
- MOU signed by Executive Heads of all agencies

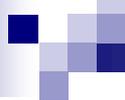


# IOMC Vision Statement

*The Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) shapes a sustainable future through coordinated global action to achieve the sound lifecycle management of chemicals and waste for healthy lives and the environment.*

# How does the IOMC operate?

- Coordinates activities through meetings twice a year, and informally throughout the year
- Chair of IOMC rotates. WHO is the “administering organization” – hosts a small secretariat (WHO covers legal and financial issues and a 50%-time contractor covers the rest).
- Observers may be invited to meetings, e.g. the BRS Secretariat regularly attends, or for specific items, e.g. Minamata Secretariat, OPCW, UN special rapporteur, etc.
- Fosters information exchange and joint planning with the aim of effective implementation without duplication



# How does the IOMC operate?

- Helps identify gaps or overlaps in international activities, and makes recommendations on common policies
- Organizes regular inter-agency meetings involving additional organizations to foster broader collaboration (5 Inter-agency meetings held to date)
- Organizations remain mandated by their governing bodies

# Supporting SAICM

- IOMC co-convened the first ICCM (and its PrepComs)
- Organizations issued a Joint Statement at ICCM-1 about their commitment and participation in SAICM implementation
- Formed a committee to review and approve projects submitted for funding by the QSP Trust Fund, and helped countries to implement the projects
- Actively contributes to preparations for and participates in SAICM meetings
- Convened an inter-agency meeting to get broader input for the 1<sup>st</sup> intersessional meeting on beyond 2020

# Implementing Emerging Policy Issues and issues of concern

Emerging Policy Issue	Lead agency(ies)
Lead in paint	UNEP, WHO
Chemicals in products	UNEP
Hazardous substance within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products	UNIDO, ILO
Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials	UNITAR, OECD
Endocrine-disrupting chemicals	UNEP, OECD, WHO
Environmentally persistent pharmaceutical pollutants	FAO, UNEP, WHO, OECD
Perfluorinated chemicals and the transition to safer alternatives	OECD, UNEP
Highly hazardous pesticides	FAO, UNEP, WHO

# Examples of successful joint activities

- Supporting countries in ratifying and implementing the Minamata Convention, e.g. through a coordinated approach to Minamata Initial Assessments and ASGM national action plans.
- Harmonizing classification and labelling by managing the development of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) and extending its use in developing countries.
- Database of activities in countries provides an overview of where individual IOMC organizations are working on chemicals issues.
- Data about IOMC “indicators of progress” now included in SAICM progress reporting.

# IOMC Toolbox for Decision Making in Chemicals Management

- One stop shop on the web for resources for countries who wish to set up or improve their chemicals management system to find answers to and ways of dealing with their specific needs and objectives.
- [iomctoolbox.oecd.org/](http://iomctoolbox.oecd.org/)



# Other IOMC products

The IOMC prepares various products to support countries, such as:

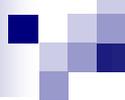
- National Implementation of SAICM: A Guide to Resource, Guidance, and Training Materials of IOMC Participating Organisations
- Guidance For Developing SAICM Implementation Plans
- IOMC: Assisting Countries with the Transition Phase for GHS Implementation
- Contributes to other reports such as GCO-II and Global Mercury Assessment

# IOMC views on additional measures to achieve multisectoral engagement (submission to Co-Chairs)

- A package of mutually supporting initiatives, with no one measure sufficient on its own to achieve multi-sectoral engagement
- In order to achieve meaningful, multi-sectoral engagement, the platform needs to be of interest to, and useful for, the work of different ministries at the country level.
- Different sectors will need to be equally supported to participate in the new platform which will need to be clearly seen as a shared space for all.

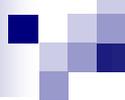
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- Visibility of key sectors (e.g. agriculture, environment, health and labour) needs to be ensured in the objectives, targets and milestones/indicators to create shared ownership and accountability, including by the development of sectoral as well as stakeholders road maps / action plans, as appropriate, to facilitate implementation of the targets.
- Custodians could be assigned to indicators and IOMC organizations can contribute the IOMC indicators of progress as well as new indicators under development by ILO and OECD.



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- IOMC POs can engage their sectoral networks in the beyond 2020 platform.
- Possibility for increased interaction between ICCM bureau and IOMC (e.g. joint meeting of Nov. 2017).
- IOMC POs be invited to associate relevant sectoral events, scientific conferences etc with the Beyond 2020 work.
- Arrangements for financing need to support balanced sectoral access and participation.



# Next Steps in the Beyond 2020 process

- Continue to coordinate and provide input for Beyond 2020 process (e.g. joint statements made at inter-sessional meetings)
- Continue to discuss IOMC approach in light of 2030 agenda and other recent developments (e.g. and as initiated at the May 2018 IOMC retreat focusing on the vision and strategic objectives of IOMC in light of the 2030 Agenda and moving beyond 2020)
- Continue to meet with other organizations in context of both IOMC and Inter-agency meetings process

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## Thank you for your attention!

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- public reports of meetings
- IOMC publications