

Chemicals: Options for Addressing Barriers to Sustainable Development

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Societal evolution – Towards Sound Management





Core ICCA Initiatives

- Global Product Strategy To increase public and stakeholder awareness and confidence that chemicals in commerce are safely managed throughout their lifecycle.
- Responsible Care[®] Commitment to improve health, safety and environmental performance, to advance sustainable development, and to communicate with stakeholders.
- High production Volume Chemicals Global, voluntary cooperative effort by industry to provide data and hazard assessments for approximately 1,000 HPV chemicals.
- Long-range Research Initiative To enable industry, regulators and society as a whole to make informed decisions about chemicals based on high quality scientific information.



Challenges Remain...

- Secretary-General's Report on Chemicals for CSD-19 highlights that significant barriers and challenges to sustainable chemicals management remain.
- Globalized product flows mean that problems related to product safety are no longer restricted to their country of origin.
- As a response the chemical industry has expanded and intensified its programs for demonstrating responsible handling and marketing of all chemical substances.
- ICCA's firm view is that a balanced combination of transparent, science-based and cost effective regulations and industry-led initiatives such as Responsible Care[®] and the Global Product Strategy is the best way to achieve safe management of chemicals.



ICCA Response – By 2020, ICCA will have:

- Established a base set of hazard and exposure information adequate to conduct safety assessments for chemicals in commerce.
- Improved global capacity to implement best practices in risk assessment and chemicals management, especially in developing countries.
- Shared relevant product safety information with co-producers, governments and the public.
- Worked across the value chain so that suppliers and customers can effectively evaluate risks and enhance their performance across the product lifecycle.



Example: ICCA GPS Information Portal

- Launched October 2010 with product safety summaries for over 1,200 high production chemicals.
- Now over 1,400 summaries available, with more being added all the time.
- Available at <u>www.icca-chem.org</u> under the Global Product Strategy tab.
- Goal is to complete safety summaries for all chemicals in commerce by 2018.







Policy Options to Address Constraints & Barriers

- Further strengthening of SAICM as an innovative model of how multistakeholder frameworks can help advance sustainable development objectives.
- Public-private partnerships to supplement inter-governmental activities and act as a catalyst for improved implementation.
 - » e.g. UNEP Senior Experts Resource Group under SAICM.
- Ensuring that chemical regulatory frameworks adopted as part of efforts to integrate chemicals management into national development plans:
 - Promote science and risk-based decision making, and leverage existing information to reduce animal testing.
 - Promote transparency in ensuring that relevant product safety information is shared with producers, suppliers and end-users.
 - Emphasize shared responsibility across the supply chain to build public confidence that chemicals are managed safely throughout their lifecycle.



Policy Options to Address Constraints & Barriers

 Ensure that policy frameworks facilitate rather than hinder the deployment of products and technologies that contribute to sustainable and innovative solutions to current challenges.

>> This includes enabling technologies that promote greener outcomes.

- Enhance capacity building and technical cooperation to address the lack of capacity in parts of the developing world to effectively manage chemicals.
 - Since 2008, ICCA has held over 30 capacity building workshops to assist industry (and SMEs in particular) with implementing best practices in chemicals management.
 - ICCA is also working with UNEP under the ICCA-UNEP MOU on plans for new capacity building initiatives targeted at areas of greatest need.



Conclusion

- ICCA remains committed to achieving the 2020 goal for safer chemicals management, and supports the further strengthening of SAICM to achieve this objective.
- Responsible Care[®] and the Global Product Strategy will remain the cornerstone of the industry's efforts.
- ICCA continues to pursue opportunities for collaboration with other stakeholders to promote sustainable development though sound management of chemicals.
- The global chemical industry has a critical contribution to make in enhancing sustainability and sustainable development worldwide through reducing emissions, conserving energy, and developing sustainable materials, technologies and business practices.