

IOMC



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INTER-ORGANIZATION PROGRAMME FOR THE SOUND MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS

A cooperative agreement among **FAO, ILO, UNEP, UNIDO, UNITAR, WHO and OECD**

**The Inter-Organization
Programme for the Sound
Management of Chemicals:
*Cooperation and coordination
towards SAICM's 2020 goal***

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Overview of Presentation

- What is the IOMC?
- Objectives of the IOMC
- The IOCC – The team and how it operates
- Activities of the IOMC
- Why the IOMC works well?
- Incentives for IGOs to participate in the IOMC
- Benefits for the IOMC outside partners

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What is the IOMC?

- **9 Organizations** active on chemical safety issues
 - Current membership:
UNEP, ILO, FAO, WHO, UNIDO, UNITAR, OECD
 - Observing organizations: World Bank and UNDP
- Established in **1995**, *in response to the Rio Summit*
- MOU signed by the Executive Heads of each organization
- Convenes as a committee comprising programme heads of each Participating Organization

Objectives of the IOMC

- ➔ **To achieve the sound management of chemicals in relation to human health and the environment**
- By strengthening international **cooperation** in the field of chemicals
 - By increasing the **effectiveness** of the programmes of the 9 organizations
 - By promoting **coordination** of policies and activities, pursued jointly or separately

The IOMC Vision Statement

The Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) is the pre-eminent mechanism for initiating, facilitating and coordinating international action to achieve the WSSD 2020 goal for sound management of chemicals.

IOMC – the Team

Representatives of the 9 organizations

- **UNEP** – **Per M. Bakken**, Head, UNEP Chemicals Branch
- **ILO** – **Seiji Machida**
Director, SafeWork Programme
- **FAO** - **Peter E. Kenmore**, Chief, Plant Protection Service
- **WHO** – **Roberto Bertollini**, Coordinator of Evidence and Policy on Environmental Health, Public Health and Environment
- **UNIDO** – **Heinz Leuenberger**, Director, Energy and Cleaner Production Branch
- **UNITAR** – **Craig Boljkovac**, Manager, Chemicals and Waste Management (CWM)
- **OECD** - **Robert Visser**, Director, Environment Directorate
- **UNDP** - **Suely Carvalho**, Chief, Montreal Protocol Unit
- **World Bank** - **Steve Gorman**, GEF Executive Coordinator
- Secretariat: **Carolyn Vickers**, WHO & **Beatrice Grenier**, consultant

How does the IOMC operate?

- Coordinating Committee: representatives of the 9 organizations
- Two regular meetings per year (+ ad hoc meetings + teleconferences)
- Rotating Chair: UNITAR presently
- Administration and Secretariat: WHO presently
- Roles
 - to coordinate (planning, funding, implementation, monitoring)
 - to identify gaps or overlaps in international activities
 - to recommend common policies

Activities of the IOMC

- ➔ Scope of activities: **key areas of chemical safety** as described in Agenda 21, Chapter 19 and SAICM Global Plan of Action
 - Exchange of information on international activities
 - IOMC Inventory of Activities
 - IOMC Calendar of Meetings
 - Selected publications (IOMC source guide for SAICM implementation, IOMC Guide for Developing a Capacity Assessment for the Sound Management of Chemicals and National SAICM Implementation)
 - Joint activities (GHS, ASP, PIC, PRTRs, POPs)
 - Joint information papers (e.g. for SAICM ICCM meetings)

IOMC and SAICM

- IOMC was a co-convenor of the SAICM negotiation process
- The governing bodies of all IOMC Participating Organizations have formally endorsed SAICM
- SAICM acts as the primary reference and as an organizing mechanism for IOMC coordination
- IOMC POs comprise the Implementation Committee for the SAICM Quick Start Programme Trust Fund



Case Study: SAICM Emerging Issues and IOMC Coordination

- Lead in paint (UNEP, WHO)
- Chemicals in products (UNEP)
- Hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products (“E-waste”) (UNIDO, SBC)
- Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials (UNITAR, OECD)
- Managing perfluorinated chemicals and the transition to safer alternatives (OECD)



IOMC SAICM Capacity Building Strategy

- Announced at ICCM-2
- Focuses on coordination of capacity building activities
- Comprises eight key actions for strengthening the approach of Participating Organizations to capacity building under the framework of SAICM
- Commitment to reexamine and update the strategy in light of the decisions of the Bali ExCOP



Actions of the IOMC under the Strategy

- Promote SAICM in national activities (e.g. in their relevant sectors)
- Update the governing bodies of IOMC POs regarding progress made with SAICM implementation
- Identify, in collaboration with countries and other partners and building upon existing frameworks such as SAICM, defined goals as part of the strategy



Actions of the IOMC under the Strategy (2)

- Ensure improved use of existing capacity-building activities to advance and implement the strategy in order to achieve poverty reduction, sustainable development and the protection of human health and the environment
- Promote the uptake and use of IOMC products and tools by countries



Actions of the IOMC under the Strategy (3)

- Review existing guidance and training materials for consistency, gaps, etc. and update as necessary
- Identify “One U.N.” pilot countries to collaborate with in the context of developing QSP projects that would be linked to their UNDAF (or PRSP, etc.) as a catalyst.



Actions of the IOMC under the Strategy (4)

- Ensure that materials and tools to be developed from the ongoing mainstreaming pilot projects are made available and incorporated into other QSP projects.

Why the IOMC works well?

1. Formalized membership & institutional commitment (MOU)
2. Joint ownership and management (i.e. membership fee)
 1. Shared responsibilities
 - Rotating chair
 - Lead organizations take on specific assignments
 2. Scope of work clearly defined
 3. Continuity and commitment of its members

Incentives for international organizations to participate in the IOMC

- Requests for coherent approaches and coordination (e.g. COPs, SAICM, IFCS)
- Benefits of participation in the IOMC
 - Potential leverage of initiatives and policies of individual organizations and opportunity to identify opportunities early, e.g. for emerging issues/new activities.
 - Membership increases prestige and credibility (use of IOMC logo)
 - Issues can be resolved internally



Benefits for the IOMC outside partners

- One stop-shop for addressing requests

- Optimal coordination of activities and efficiency of decision-making process through:
 - Full consultation and permanent contacts
 - Joint planning
 - Avoidance of duplication among agencies

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Thank you for your attention!

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- IOMC Brochure
- Public reports of meetings