

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH
ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

**Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals
Inter-Organization Coordinating Committee**

**Record of the Thirteenth Meeting,
22-23 June 2000, WHO, Geneva, Switzerland**

Participants:

IOMC Participating Organizations:

Mr J. Willis	UNEP (Chairperson)
Mr S. Milad	UNEP
Mr O. Pereira *	UNEP
Dr J. Takala	ILO
Mr I. Obadia	ILO
Dr N. Van der Graaff	FAO
Mr G. Wyrwal *	FAO
Dr T. Meredith	WHO
Dr J. Haines *	WHO
Dr M. Ruse *	WHO
Dr M. Younes *	WHO
Dr Z. Csizer	UNIDO
Mr A. Halpaap	UNITAR
Mr B. Turner	UNITAR
Dr D. Turnheim	OECD
Ms S. De Marcellus *	OECD

Guest:

Dr R. Trapp *	OPCW
Mr E. Mullin	Consultant

Secretariat:

Dr J. Stober	WHO
Mrs R. Kirkby	WHO

* indicates partial attendance

NOTE: AGENDA ITEMS ARE REPORTED IN NUMERICAL ORDER, NOT NECESSARILY IN THE ORDER THEY WERE TAKEN UP

DECISIONS AND AGREED ON ACTION ITEMS ARE SUMMARIZED IN ANNEX A.

Item 1. Opening of Meeting

1. The Chairman welcomed participants.

Item 2. Approval of agenda (IOMC/IOCC/00.01)

2. The proposed agenda was approved.

Item 3. Review of Draft Record of 12th Meeting (IOMC/IOCC/99.22)

3. The draft record of the 12th meeting was approved.

Item 4. IOMC Internet Site - enhancements and additions

4. Mr Ed Mullin, IOMC web consultant, guided the IOCC members and other meeting participants through a detailed review of the site. Numerous suggestions were made for updating the site. General and major decisions are listed below:
 - review of the IOMC website will be a standing IOCC meeting agenda item
 - Internet Gateway: consensus that the IOMC Gateway page will not be put on each of the organizations' sites, but the box from the Gateway page containing the logos of the Participating Organizations will link only to the IOMC home page (i.e. not link to the home pages of each PO). [Note: several PO informed the meeting of new logos for their organizations. These will be sent to the Secretariat within several days.]
 - Search facility - will not be added to the IOMC website
 - Coordinating Groups (CGs): IOCC reaffirmed that the terms of reference, list of members and designated representatives, meeting reports for each CG should be posted on the IOMC website.
 - Internet Guide:
 - ♦ the secretariat and web consultant will periodically review links;
 - ♦ each PO is responsible for informing the secretariat/consultant when new pages are added etc.
 - ♦ the Secretariat will copy the PO web masters on IOCC meeting announcements including a request for web masters to check Internet Guide links to sites;
 - ♦ Categories and Programme Areas - the Guide will be reorganized using the categories of activities used in the Inventory of Activities and Calendar of Events. Within 6 weeks, each PO will submit to the consultant a detailed listing categorizing each of the pages for their organizations website according to these groupings.

Item 5. Capacity Building for Chemicals Management

5. Mr Ralf Trapp, OPCW, provided brief information on the legal context of the convention and framework for the work of the International Cooperations Branch, OPCW. He presented an overview of the activities undertaken to support the implementation of the Convention. Each signatory government has to designate a competent authority. In most cases this is the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence or Ministry of Trade and Industry. Coordination at the national level is a main interest of OPCW.

6. Mr Trapp provided detailed information on a training workshop on laboratory facilities under preparation in collaboration with UNITAR. The aim of the workshop was to provide general guidance and a simple checklist for building laboratory capability. Input from the other IOMC PO was specifically sought. It was agreed that UNITAR will prepare an outline of the proposed workshop programme and distribute it to the PO for input. At that time the PO will decide on their interest in participating or contributing to the workshop and if so, designate a contact point.

7. During the discussion several PO noted a number of areas for collaboration: clinical toxicology, poisons information, capacity building for analytical toxicology (WHO); laboratory facilities (analytical) (UNEP); legislation (UNEP, FAO); chemical accidents. It was agreed that the technical staff of the organizations concerned will undertake follow up exploratory discussions on collaboration.

8. In view of the OPCW formal administrative structure, it was agreed that OPCW and the IOMC PO will explore areas for cooperation on a case by case basis and through the IOMC CGs "informally" rather than through a formal letter or memorandum of agreement.

Item 6. Coordinating Groups

A. IOMC Coordinating Group on Harmonized Classification Systems

9. Mr Obadia presented an overview of the status of the work to participants. A new time line for completion of the work had been agreed at the CG meeting in May. The UN CETDG Secretariat was in the process of writing to governments to request nominations for membership in the subcommittee on GHS.

B. IOMC Coordinating Group on PRTRs

10. Dr Turnheim presented an overview of the PRTR CG Status Report noting the new Chair and Vice Chair for the CG. The IOCC was requested to approve the nomination of UNECE for membership. The nomination was approved.

C. IOMC Coordinating Group on Chemical Accident Prevention, Preparedness and Response

11. Dr Turnheim presented the status report; no action by the IOCC was requested.

12. The IOCC requested the CG to review the response to the requests for assistance following the breakdown of the tailing dam at Baia Mare in Romania and the cyanide spill and the effectiveness of the CG efforts. The IOCC representative from the four organizations involved will review the report for the next IOCC meeting focusing on how the process worked.

D. IOMC Coordinating Group on the Assessment of Existing Industrial Chemicals and Pollutants

13. Dr Turnheim presented the status report. The CG met for the first time in May 2000. The issues discussed included: mutual representation on respective working groups and developing country participation. With respect to the latter, the use of newsletters, the IPCS network of participating institutions, and electronic review were proposed as means to facilitate participation. No action by the IOCC was requested.

Item 7. Proposal for an IOMC Co-ordinating Group on Unwanted Stocks of Pesticides and Other Chemicals

14. Mr Willis provided background information on the proposal. The mandates to work in this area were increasing as was the scope. Thus, the need for better coordination including the opportunity to meet regularly.

15. The IOCC agreed to the establishment of a CG on Unwanted Stocks of Pesticides and Other Chemicals. The initial membership will be limited to IOMC PO; OPCW could be invited to join at a later date. The CG will draft its TOR for approval by the IOCC. FAO (G. Vaagt) and UNEP (M. Newton) will jointly serve as the CG secretariat.

Item 8. IOMC Information System

Calendar of Events

16. Mr Pereira presented a demonstration of the online Calendar. Input had been received recently from several members. Special software was needed to print the online version. Guidance on how to install and use the software will be developed. The online Calendar will provide information on meetings from the date of access onward. Historical information will be retained to facilitate data entry by the PO.

17. IOCC members agreed to update the information for their organization by 1 August 2000. The Calendar will be printed (start date of events: 15 October 2000) in Geneva for distribution at Forum III. The Secretariat will print and arrange shipping.

Inventory of Activities

18. UNEP demonstrated the Beta version of the system. The system was available online for access by the PO. Comments should be provided directly to UNEP.

19. The IOCC agreed:
- 15 October 2000: deadline by which all PO will update the Activity Profiles for their organization, deleting those that are no longer "active" and adding new ones.
 - IFCS categories/priorities for action will be deleted from the database.
 - Each PO will be responsible for distributing to the other PO new activity profiles for approval.
 - The next edition of the Inventory Summary Report will be distributed in printed format with the distribution of the Forum III Final Report.

Item 9. IOMC General Information Brochure

20. The Secretariat distributed a camera-ready copy of the brochure for final input.

Item 10. IOMC Publications Brochure

21. Mr Willis distributed a draft version of the brochure. The draft was not yet at a stage for clearance and approval, but will be finalized for Forum III. There was a general discussion during which detailed comments on the draft were provided by members.

22. It was agreed that each PO will send new text to UNEP (F. Ouane) by 15 July 2000. UNEP will produce a new version and distribute it to members for review. Members should provide comments on the Introductory paragraphs directly to UNEP.

Item 11. Forum III

23. Mr Willis proposed to take up the following items: (i) review detailed time schedule; (ii) IOCC meetings in Salvador; (iii) IOMC exhibit; and (iv) IOMC/IOCC lunchtime presentation.

24. The IOCC concurred with Mr Willis participating in the Round Table as the IOCC chairman. The POs involved in Forum III decision items will be prepared to brief other members on possible discussion issues, etc., when the IOCC meets in Salvador. The agenda of the IOCC meeting following Forum III will include a post mortem on Forum III including consideration of the response to Forum III items and the long-term relationship with the IFCS.

25. It was agreed that the lunchtime presentation will be organized with a five-minute introduction by Mr Willis, IOCC Chairman, who will then moderate a Q&A session. The text for the Forum III Lunchtime Presentations Announcement was finalized by the IOCC. UNIDO's participation is uncertain.

26. WHO, UNEP and UNITAR have requested exhibit booths for their organization. UNIDO may also do so. The IOCC agreed to have a general IOMC exhibit booth. A request will be made to have the booth adjacent to the individual exhibit booths of member organizations. The Calendar and 2 brochures will be made available (in addition to their distribution at registration). The IOMC website will be demonstrated offline (links to PO websites limited to the home page link). The electronic version of the Calendar and Inventory will be available. The IOMC Trust Fund will pay for required electronic equipment: PC, large monitor, VCR etc. The booth will not be "staffed" - but will be covered by members as feasible.

27. The IOCC agreed to meet on Sunday 15 October 2000 10h00 to 13h00 at the venue of Forum III.

Item 12. IOMC Trust Fund Financial Statement

28. The Secretariat introduced the Financial report noting that the expenditures/estimated budget for 2000 covered the period 1 January to 30 June only. UNIDO and FAO noted that the 2000 contribution was being processed.

29. The annual contribution level will be reviewed at the next regular meeting of the IOCC.

Item 13. IOMC Administrative Arrangements & Secretariat

30. The IOCC agreed that WHO should continue as the administering organization and agreed that Dr Tim Meredith serve as Head of the Secretariat.

Item 14. Agenda, date, and place of next meeting

The next IOCC meeting will be held 15 October 2000, from 10h00 to 13h00, in Salvador da Bahia, venue for Forum III.

The next regular IOCC meeting will be held 18-19 (½ day) December 2000, hosted by UNIDO in Vienna. The agenda will include:

- ♦ IOMC Website -review
- ♦ Coordinating Groups:
 - ♦ Status Reports
 - ♦ TOR for IOMC Co-ordinating Group on Unwanted Stocks of Pesticides and Other Chemicals
 - ♦ report from Chemical Accidents CG on response to the requests for assistance following the breakdown of the tailing dam at Baia Mare in Romania and the cyanide spill and the effectiveness of the CG efforts. (Critical review by IOCC member directly involved.)
- ♦ Forum III post mortem
- ♦ IOMC Trust Fund - annual level of contribution.

Annex A

**Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals
Inter-Organization Coordinating Committee**

**Thirteenth meeting
22-23 June 2000**

DECISIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

Annex A-1

AGREED DEADLINES AND KEY DATES		
Date	Responsible PO	Action Item
15 July 2000	All IOMC POs	IOMC Publication/Information Exchange Brochure Submit new text and comments to UNEP (F. Ouane)
1 August 2000	All IOMC POs	Calendar of Events – complete updating of information
6 August 2000	All IOMC POs	IOMC Internet Guide Each PO will submit to the website consultant a detailed listing categorizing each of the pages for their organization's website, according to the agreed on groupings
1 October 2000	All IOMC POs	IOMC Inventory of Activities All POs will update the Activity Profiles for their organization, deleting those that are no longer "active" and adding new ones
15 October 2000	All IOMC POs	The next IOCC meeting will be held 15 October 2000, from 10:00 to 13:00 in Salvador da Bahia, venue for Forum III
18-19 December 2000	All IOMC POs	The next regular IOCC meeting will be held 18-19 December 2000 (half-day), hosted by UNIDO in Vienna

Annex A

Annex A-2

Responsible PO	Agenda Item
Item 4. IOMC Internet Site – enhancements and additions	
<p>All IOMC POs</p> <p>IOMC CGs</p> <p>All PO Secretariat</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of the IOMC website will be a standing IOCC meeting agenda item Internet Gateway: consensus that the IOMC Gateway page will not be put on each of the organizations' sites, but the box from the Gateway page containing the logos of the Participating Organizations will link only to the IOMC home page (i.e. not link to the home pages of each PO). [Note: several PO informed the meeting of new logos for their organizations. These will be sent to the Secretariat within several days.] Search facility – will not be added to the IOMC website Coordinating Groups (CGs): IOCC reaffirmed that the terms of reference, list of members and designated representatives, meeting reports for each CG should be posted on the IOMC website Internet Guide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the secretariat and web consultant will periodically review links; each PO is responsible for informing the secretariat/consultant when new pages are added, etc.; the Secretariat will copy the PO web masters on IOCC meeting announcements including a request for web masters to check Internet Guide links to sites; Categories and Programme Areas - the Guide will be reorganized using the categories of activities used in the Inventory of Activities and Calendar of Events. Within 6 weeks, each PO will submit to the consultant a detailed listing categorizing each of the pages for their organizations website according to these groupings.
Item 5. Capacity Building for Chemicals Management	
<p>UNITAR</p> <p>All other POs</p> <p>POs</p> <p>OECD CG Secretariat</p>	<p>OPCW/UNITAR workshop on laboratory facilities</p> <p>UNITAR will prepare an outline of the proposed workshop programme and distribute it to the PO for input. At that time the POs will decide on their interest in participating or contributing to the workshop and if so, designate a contact point</p> <p>Collaboration with OPCW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OPCW and IOMC POs will explore areas for cooperation on a case-by-case basis and through the IOMC CGs "informally", rather than through a formal letter or memorandum of agreement Technical staff of the organizations interested will undertake follow-up exploratory discussions on collaboration <p>IOMC Coordinating Group on PRTRs</p> <p>Membership – the IOCC agreed that membership should be extended to UNECE</p>

<p>CG Chemical Accident Prevention, Preparedness and Response</p> <p>IOCC members</p>	<p>IOMC Coordinating Group on Chemical Accident Prevention, Preparedness and Response</p> <p>The IOCC requested the CG to review the response to the requests for Accident assistance following the breakdown of the tailing dam at Baia Mare in Romania and the cyanide spill and the effectiveness of the CG efforts. The report will be submitted for the next IOCC meeting (December 2000).</p> <p>The IOCC representative from the 4 organizations involved will review the report for the next IOCC meeting focusing on how the process worked.</p>
<p>Item 7. Proposal for an IOMC Co-ordinating Group on Unwanted Stocks of Pesticides and other chemicals</p>	
<p>CG (FAO & UNEP)</p>	<p>The IOCC agreed to the establishment of a CG on Unwanted Stocks of Pesticides and Other Chemicals. The initial membership will be limited to IOMC POs; OPCW could be invited to join at a later date.</p> <p>The CG will draft its TOR for approval by the IOCC. FAO (G. Vaagt) and UNEP (M. Newton) will jointly serve as the CG secretariat.</p>
<p>Item 8. IOMC Information System</p>	
<p>All IOMC POs</p> <p>Secretariat</p> <p>All IOMC POs</p> <p>UNEP</p> <p>UNEP, Secretariat</p>	<p>Calendar of Events</p> <p>IOCC members agreed to update the information for their organization by 1 August 2000.</p> <p>The Calendar will be printed (start date of events: 15 October 2000) in Geneva for distribution at Forum III. The Secretariat will print and arrange shipping.</p> <p>Inventory of Activities</p> <p>The IOCC agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ 1 October 2000: deadline by which all POs will update the Activity Profiles for their organization, deleting those that are no longer "active" and adding new ones ♦ Each PO will be responsible for distributing to the other POs new Activity Profiles for approval ♦ IFCS categories/priorities for action will be deleted from the database ♦ The next addition of the Inventory Summary Report will be distributed in printed format with the distribution of the Forum III Final Report
<p>Item 10. IOMC Publications Brochure</p>	
<p>All IOMC POs</p> <p>UNEP</p>	<p>It was agreed that each PO will send new text to UNEP (F. Ouane) by 15 July 2000. Members should provide comments on the Introductory paragraphs directly to UNEP.</p> <p>UNEP will produce a new version and distribute it to members for review.</p>

Item 11. Forum III	
IOCC Chairman	Round Table - The IOCC concurred with Mr Willis participating in the Round Table as the IOCC chairman
POs concerned	The POs involved in Forum III decision items will be prepared to brief other members on possible discussion issues, etc., when the IOCC meets in Salvador
IOCC Chairman, all IOMC POs	It was agreed that the lunchtime presentation will be organized with a five-minute introduction by Mr Willis, IOCC Chairman, who will then moderate a Q&A session
IOCC	The IOCC agreed to have a general IOMC exhibit booth
Item 13. IOMC Administrative Arrangements & Secretariat	
WHO	The IOCC agreed that WHO should continue as the administrating organization and that Dr Tim Meredith should serve as Head of the Secretariat
Item 14. Agenda, dates and place of next meetings	
All IOMC POs	<p>The next IOCC meeting will be held 15 October 2000, from 10:00 to 13:00 in Salvador da Bahia, venue for Forum III</p> <p>The next regular IOCC meeting will be held 18-19 December 2000 (half day), hosted by UNIDO in Vienna. The agenda will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ IOMC Website –review ♦ Coordinating Groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Status Reports - TOR for IOMC Co-ordinating Group on Unwanted Stocks of Pesticides and Other Chemicals - report from Chemical Accidents CG on response to the requests for assistance following the breakdown of the tailing dam at Baia Mare in Romania and the cyanide spill and the effectiveness of the CG efforts (critical review by IOCC member directly involved.) ♦ Forum III post mortem ♦ IOMC Trust Fund – annual level of contribution