INTER-ORGANIZATION PROGRAMME FOR THE SOUND MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS (IOMC) INTER-ORGANIZATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE (IOCC)

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 46th MEETING

The 46th meeting of the Inter-Organization Coordinating Committee (IOCC) of the IOMC was held on 19 October 2016 at UNIDO, in Vienna. Bob Diderich (OECD) chaired the meeting.

The meeting began with a review of the previous day's IOMC-hosted 2nd Inter-agency meeting on sound chemicals management, whose purpose was to share information and coordinate with other international organizations that also have a role in the management of chemicals. The IOMC agreed that the inter-agency meeting continued to be useful and should become an annual event. The IOMC also agreed to keep the door open to participation of other agencies.

The IOMC meeting continued with an update from the SAICM Secretariat on the GEF project proposal and the current work plan. The IOMC agreed that the project should be discussed at future IOMC meetings and that the SAICM and IOMC secretariats should discuss the IOMC role. The IOMC was also updated on upcoming SAICM Bureau and QSP Executive Board meetings, and it decided to invite the consultant carrying out the SAICM evaluation for a half-day discussion at the next IOMC meeting.

The IOMC then heard updates on progress with the emerging policy issues. It reviewed the IOMC indicators developed to date and agreed to publish them on the IOMC web site leaving a place holder for the pesticide indicator(s) to come.

The IOMC was informed of progress with the UNEP Special Programme to support national institutional strengthening on the chemical MEAs and SAICM. It asked UNEP to clarify its request that IOMC POs be consulted during the appraisal of project proposals and it was informed that a second call for proposals was envisaged for February – June 2017. The IOMC agreed that UNEP should lead the preparation of an IOMC brochure on the sustainable development goals, and it agreed that OECD and WHO would represent IOMC on the UNEP Steering Committee for the Global Chemicals Outlook. The IOMC was informed that UNITAR's interim review of projects done and lessons learned was to be followed by another review, likely to be completed by mid-2017, when many more QSP projects should be finished. The IOMC proposed that the review take stock of the number of project countries that subsequently implemented the GHS.

The IOMC then heard progress reports from the IOMC Toolbox and Mercury groups. It agreed to proceed with the internet data collection tool proposed by the IOMC Secretariat, for the IOMC activity matrix. Finally, following the regular rotation of the IOMC's chair, Jose Arcana, UNITAR, was elected as the next IOMC chair.

The 47th IOMC meeting will be hosted by WHO in Geneva on 31 March 2017, back to back with a third Inter-agency meeting and meetings of the IOMC Toolbox and Mercury groups. The 48th IOMC meeting will be hosted by FAO in autumn 2017.