

Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC)

INTER-ORGANIZATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE (IOCC)

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 53rd MEETING

21-22 April 2020, via teleconference

The 53rd meeting of the Inter-Organization Coordinating Committee (IOCC) of the IOMC was held 21-22 April 2020 via teleconference due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Manal Azzi (ILO) chaired the meeting. The meeting discussed, *inter alia*, SAICM and Beyond 2020 (including outcomes of preparatory and other workshops), IOMC indicators of progress, the work of the IOMC mercury group and follow-up to COP-3, outcomes of / preparations for relevant governing body meetings, and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on sound chemicals and waste management.

Specific Matters

Regarding the Beyond 2020 process, all organizations were encouraged to participate in further work related to **targets, indicators, and milestones**, develop a **joint statement for IP-4**, and discuss mechanisms to **encourage broad sectoral participation in ICCM-5** (including use of the IOMC logo on the invitation letters). IOMC was also encouraged to provide thoughts to the ICCM Bureau about regional meetings, the timing of IP-4, and how IOMC could contribute to these events.

OECD updated on progress related to two **new IOMC indicators of progress** on the number of countries with “legislation in place to manage industrial and consumer chemicals” and the “number of countries that have adhered to MAD (mutual acceptance of data)”. IOMC discussed the impact of the **COVID-19 pandemic**, noting the challenges it brings to work in countries in particular, as well as the new initiatives needed in relation to waste management.

The Chair of the **IOMC mercury group** informed that the group had discussed issues related to raising its visibility, the need to ensure links between the mercury group and the IOCC, the impacts of COVID-19 on ASGM, and the proposal to have further technical meetings of the group in future.

General Matters

The **Minamata Convention** secretariat reported on outcomes from COP-3 and several organizations reported on changes to meetings as a result of COVID-19. A progress report on the **IOMC Toolbox** was provided, noting that new modalities may be needed such as more e-learning and virtual training as a result of the impacts of the pandemic.

It was agreed to earmark the week of the original dates for ICCM-5 (first week of October 2020) for the next meeting and discuss the situation inter-sessionally.