

# Developing an Implementation Programme for the Global Framework on Chemicals on Strengthening National Chemicals Legislation and Institutional Capacities

*A multi-stakeholder workshop  
Punta del Este, Uruguay, 22–23 June 2025*

## Provisional Agenda *(as of 9 May 2025)*

### Global Framework on Chemicals, Target A1

“By 2030, Governments have adopted and are implementing and enforcing legal frameworks, and have established appropriate institutional capacity to prevent or, where prevention is not feasible, minimize adverse effects from chemicals and waste as appropriate for their national circumstances.”

### Objectives of the workshop

This multi-stakeholder workshop aims to inform the development of a Global Framework on Chemicals (GFC) Implementation Programme focused on strengthening national chemicals legislation and institutional capacities. The workshop will involve two components:

- (1) an expert meeting on day 1 (Sunday 22 June), and
- (2) a larger workshop on day 2 (the morning of Monday 23 June)

Specifically, the workshop will:

- Provide a **platform to reflect** on existing legislation and institutional mechanisms with a view to contributing to efforts for **innovative** approaches (Day 1).
- Gather concrete input to inform the development of the IP1 to be discussed at the **Open-ended Working Group (OEWG)** session (24-27 June 2025) (Day 2).

The expert meeting component will involve approximately 100 invited participants, taking account of regional and stakeholder balance. Due to resource constraints, additional participation will not be possible. The outcomes of the expert meeting will be reported to Day 2 of the workshop.

The larger workshop component on day 2 will focus on shaping the mandate, TORs, workplan, and other aspects of the implementation programme. It will take place at the OEWG conference venue and be open to a larger audience. Outcomes of the workshop will be communicated to the OEWG later in the week.

## Day 1 – Sunday, 22 June 2025

### 9:00 – 9:30 Opening and Setting the scene

- Bob Diderich, IOMC Chair
- Kay Williams, Head, GFC Secretariat

### 9.30 – 12:15: Session 1 – Ongoing initiatives on innovative approaches to chemicals management (upstream and downstream)

#### 9:30 – 10:00

- **Introduction to the session** Jacqueline Alvarez, UNEP Economy Division
- **Summary/Outcome of the expert brainstorming Meeting (Jan 2025)** – Vito Buonsante, UNEP Law Division
- **Organization of groups for the breakout groups and facilitators**, Jonathan Krueger, IOMC Secretariat

#### 10:00 – 11:45 Breakout groups (*11:00 health break*)

<b>Group 1</b> <b>National Experiences with Innovative legal instruments on risk assessment</b>	<b>Group 2</b> <b>Downstream Users as Drivers of Chemicals Management</b>
<p>This section focuses on real-world experiences from different countries in developing and implementing national chemicals legislation. It highlights innovative legislative models, policy tools, and practical approaches that can inform the programme's structure and scope, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reversal of the burden of proof</li><li>• Generic risk assessment</li><li>• Grouping of chemicals (for risk management)</li><li>• Use of available data/ trusted overseas regulator</li></ul>	<p>This section explores the role of non-traditional enablers, such as downstream users. It highlights tools that shift the decisions on chemical use and its responsibility to chemical users, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Essential use approach and Chemicals Authorization</li><li>• Toxics Use Reduction Act (TURA)</li><li>• Chemical leasing</li></ul>

#### 11:45 – 12:15 Facilitators report back to plenary - discussion

### 12:15 – 13:30 Lunch

## 13:30 – 16:30: Session 2 – New technologies and financial innovative tools for a smarter chemicals management

13:30 – 13:45

- Introduction to the session – UNEP Law Division
- Organization of groups for the breakout groups and facilitators, tbc

13:45 – 15:45 Breakout groups (15:00 *Health Break*)

Group 1 Harnessing technology innovation	Group 2 Harnessing financial incentives
<p>This session will explore how emerging technologies can support and transform national chemical management systems, especially in the context of strengthening legislation, improving transparency, and enhancing decision-making. By focusing on three distinct but complementary areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Artificial Intelligence</li><li>• New approach methodologies (NAMs)</li><li>• Blockchain technology</li></ul> <p>The session will highlight how innovation can drive cost-effective, scalable, and science-based solutions for assessing and managing chemical risks.</p>	<p>This session will explore how innovative financing mechanisms can enable and sustain the implementation of national chemicals legislation and support the long-term goals of the GFC Implementation Programme. It will highlight policy models and instruments that link polluter responsibility, regulatory cost recovery, and investment in institutional capacity. The discussion will also consider opportunities for resource mobilization through public-private partnerships and donor engagement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extended producer responsibility (EPR) schemes</li><li>• Cost recovery mechanisms and chemicals regulation</li><li>• Other economic instruments (taxes, subsidies for alternatives, etc)</li></ul>

15:45 – 16:30 Facilitators report back to plenary

16:30 – 17:00 Close of Day 1 and Preview of Day 2

## Day 2 – Monday, 23 June 2025 (*morning only*)

### 8:30-8:45 Welcome and Opening, Ludovic Bernaudat, UNEP Economy Division

- Summary of Day 1
- Focus of Day 2 – from ideas to design

### 8:45 –11:30: Session 3 – Shaping the Implementation Programme 1

#### 8:45 – 9:30

- **Introduction to the session** — Kay Williams, Head, GFC Secretariat
- **Strategic approach to a modular chemicals management** - Bob Diderich, OECD
- **Survey Results on Institutional Capacities** – Vito Buonsante, UNEP Law Division
- **Presentation of the IP1 draft document** – Vito Buonsante, UNEP Law Division
- **Organization of groups for the breakout groups and facilitators**, *tbc*

#### 9:30 – 11:15 Breakout groups (*10:30 health break*)

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
Objectives TOR Governance	Knowledge-sharing Collaboration Effective capacity Development	Benchmarking Tracking process	Development of a global workplan

#### 11:15 –12:00 Facilitators report back to plenary - discussion

### 12:00: Close of the workshop