
International Conference on Chemicals Management

Third session

Nairobi, 17–21 September 2012

Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda

Organizational matters: adoption of the agenda

Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1

Opening of the session

1. The third session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 17 September 2012, at the United Nations Office at Nairobi.
2. Opening and welcoming statements will be delivered.

Item 2

Organizational matters

(a) Election of officers

3. In accordance with paragraph 1 of rule 14 of the rules of procedure, the president and four vice-presidents elected by the Conference at its second session shall serve as the Bureau of the Conference until the closure of its third session.¹
4. In accordance with paragraph 2 of rule 14 of the rules of procedure, a new president and four vice-presidents, one of whom will act as rapporteur, shall be elected by and from among the representatives of the governmental participants to serve as the Bureau for the fourth session of the Conference whose term shall commence at the closure of the third session.
5. Accordingly, the Conference is invited to proceed with the election of officers for the fourth session of the Conference.

(b) Adoption of the agenda

6. The Conference may wish to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda set out in document SAICM/ICCM.3/1.

¹ The second session of the Conference elected Mr. Ivan Eržen (Slovenia) as President of the Conference, and the following four vice-presidents: Mr. Carlos Portales (Chile), Mr. Eisaku Toda (Japan), Mr. Cheikh Ndiaye Sylla (Senegal) and Mr. Victor Escobar Paredes (Spain). Mr. Ivan Eržen (Slovenia) was replaced by Mr. Tomaž Gantar (Slovenia). Mr. Carlos Portales (Chile) was replaced by Mr. Osvaldo Alvarez Pérez (Chile). Mr. Teruyoshi Hayamizu (Japan) served as vice-president for part of the intersessional period. Following the resignation of Mr. Victor Escobar Paredes and his replacement from Spain, since no other representative of Spain was available for the post, Ms. Johanna Lissinger Peitz (Sweden) was nominated to represent the Western European and other States. That nomination is to be confirmed by the Conference.

(c) Appointment of a credentials committee

7. The Bureau may wish to appoint a credentials committee to discharge the functions specified in paragraph 10 below, with the assistance of the secretariat.

(d) Organization of work

8. The Conference may wish to meet from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. each day, subject to adjustment as necessary. The Conference may wish to establish a committee of the whole or other working groups to address certain agenda items as necessary.

9. The high-level session of the Conference will consist of a high-level dialogue to be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, 20 September, followed by additional discussion on the afternoon of the same day.

Item 3

Report of the credentials committee

10. The Bureau will examine the credentials of participants and submit its report to the Conference in accordance with rule 11 of the rules of procedure.

11. Regarding government participation, as stipulated in rule 10 of the rules of procedure, the credentials of representatives of Governments and the names of alternate representatives and advisers must be submitted to the secretariat, if possible no later than 24 hours after the opening of the session. Any later change in the composition of the delegation must also be submitted to the secretariat. For government participants, credentials must be issued either by a head of State or Government or by a minister for foreign affairs or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization. If credentials are submitted in the form of a copy or by telecopier, original credentials must be submitted upon registration. Please note that submission of credentials prior to the session will greatly facilitate the advance clearing process by the secretariat.

12. With regard to participants from intergovernmental organizations, as stipulated in paragraph 2 of rule 13 of the rules of procedure, the name of any such intergovernmental participant seeking accreditation must be submitted to the secretariat, if possible no later than 24 hours after the opening of the session. At the same time, each organization must submit to the secretariat the names of its representatives at the session. Any later change in the list of names must also be submitted to the secretariat.

13. Regarding participants from non-governmental organizations, as stipulated in paragraph 3 of rule 13 of the rules of procedure, the name of any such non-governmental participant seeking accreditation must be submitted to the secretariat, if possible no later than 24 hours after the opening of the session. At the same time, each organization must include a statement describing the activities, expertise and responsibilities of the participant and how they are consistent with the purpose and objectives of the Strategic Approach and must submit to the secretariat the names of its representatives at the session. Any later change in that list of names must also be submitted to the secretariat. Upon the secretariat's verification of receipt of the above-mentioned information, participants will be admitted to the session unless one third or more of the government representatives object.

14. The representatives attending the session may participate in the session pending the decision of the Conference regarding their credentials and accreditation.

Item 4

Implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management

15. Agenda item 4 includes six sub-items relating to the implementation of the Strategic Approach: evaluation of and guidance on implementation and review and update of the Strategic Approach; implementation of and coherence among international instruments and programmes; strengthening of national chemicals management capacities; financial and technical resources for implementation; emerging policy issues; information exchange and scientific and technical cooperation. These sub-items accord with the functions of the Conference set out in paragraph 24 of the Overarching Policy Strategy, which include evaluating the implementation of the Strategic

Approach with a view to reviewing progress against the 2020 target² and taking strategic decisions, programming, prioritizing and updating the approach as necessary.

16. The first meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, established as a subsidiary body of the Conference in its resolution II/6, was held from 15 to 18 November 2011 in Belgrade to prepare for the third session of the Conference. At its first meeting, the Working Group reviewed progress on the implementation of the Strategic Approach, and considered, inter alia, proposals for the addition of two new work areas to the Global Plan of Action, financial and technical resources for implementation of the Strategic Approach, a draft health sector strategy, progress on emerging policy issues adopted by the Conference at its second session, together with two proposals for the adoption of new emerging policy issues. The report of the Open-ended Working Group on the work of its first meeting is contained in document SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/2.

17. Under this agenda item, the Conference may wish to consider the recommendations and draft resolutions transmitted to it by the Open-ended Working Group as described under the sub-items below.

(a) Evaluation of and guidance on implementation and review and update of the Strategic Approach

(i) Addition of activities to the Global Plan of Action

18. At its second session, the Conference agreed on a procedure to include new activities in the Global Plan of Action of the Strategic Approach and to consider at its third session a proposal for inclusion of activities on nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials.

19. The Open-ended Working Group considered two proposals for additions to the Global Plan of Action. The first, submitted by Switzerland, proposed the inclusion of a new work area and activities on nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials. The second, an outcome of the fourth African regional meeting (Nairobi, April 2011), proposed the addition of a new work area and activities on the environmentally sound management of hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic equipment.

20. In decision OEWG.1/1, on the inclusion of new activities in the Global Plan of Action, the Working Group agreed on provisions for the submission of additional comments by stakeholders on the proposal for the inclusion of a new work area and activities related to nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials. In the same decision, it also requested the secretariat to prepare, in collaboration with the secretariat of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, a document setting out the proposed additions to the Global Plan of Action on the environmentally sound management of hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products taking full account of the deliberations of the Working Group and to make that document available for comment on the Strategic Approach website.

21. The Conference will have before it a note by the secretariat on proposed additions to the Global Plan of Action of the Strategic Approach (SAICM/ICCM.3/3) containing a summary of the comments received on the two proposals for the addition of new work areas and associated activities to the Global Plan for Action, the first on nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials and the second on hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products. In addition, the Conference will have before it copies of the submissions received by the secretariat on both proposals for additions together with an annotated proposal showing the areas where comments were received (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/4/Rev.1). The addendum to the note by the secretariat (SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/4/Rev.1/Add.1) sets out the annotated revised proposal showing the areas with regard to which comments were received in relation to the proposal for the addition of a new work area and activities on hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products.

22. The Conference may wish to decide to include in the Global Plan of Action one or both proposed new work areas and/or associated activities.

(ii) Evaluation and progress in implementation of the Strategic Approach

a. Reports by regional focal points

23. In its resolution II/2, on regional activities and coordination, the Conference recalled the importance accorded to regional meetings in paragraph 26 of the Overarching Policy Strategy and

2 The term “2020 target” refers to the aim set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation that, by 2020, chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment.

requested regional focal points to report to the Conference at its third session on the outcomes of their regional meetings and other regional activities during the intersessional period. The Conference may wish to take note of the information contained in reports from Strategic Approach regional focal points on activities undertaken during the intersessional period (SAICM/ICCM.3/5), which clarifies the regional perspectives on achievements during 2009–2012 and initial views on priorities for 2012–2015.

b. Reporting according to the 20 indicators of progress

24. At its second session, the Conference adopted modalities for reporting on progress in the implementation of the Strategic Approach, which are set out in annex III to the report of the Conference on the work of its second session (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/1). Those modalities included 20 indicators for reporting by stakeholders on progress that reflect the subject areas of the Overarching Policy Strategy: risk reduction; knowledge and information; governance; capacity-building and technical cooperation; and illegal international traffic. At its second session, the Conference requested the secretariat to prepare a baseline estimates report for the period 2006–2008, an electronic tool to collect data from stakeholders and a first progress report for the period 2009–2011 for consideration by the Open-ended Working Group.

25. A draft baseline estimates report and a preliminary summary of the data collected from Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations using an electronic data collection tool for the period 2009–2010 were considered by the Open-ended Working Group at its first meeting. The Working Group agreed to extend the period of data collection from the first periodic report to the end of January 2012, with the first report on progress based on the data for the biennium 2009–2010.

26. The Conference will have before it a summary report on progress in implementation of the Strategic Approach (SAICM/ICCM.3/4), the completed baseline estimates report (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/5) and a report on progress for 2009–2010 based on the submissions from 123 stakeholders using the secretariat's online electronic data collection tool (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/6). It will also have before it information on the Strategic Approach implementation activities of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/9) and a submission by the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) using the indicators adopted by the Conference together with measures for tracking implementation of the ICCA Responsible Care Global Charter and Global Product Strategy (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/7).

27. The Conference may wish to review the work carried out in preparing the baseline and first progress reports, which provide for the first time comparable information on progress in the implementation of the Strategic Approach by a wide group of stakeholders, to review those areas for which less progress than expected has been achieved and to discuss possible ways of encouraging the implementation of additional activities in the intersessional period. The Conference may also wish to agree on arrangements for the development of a second progress report for 2011–2013 so that progress over time can be formally evaluated by the Conference at its fourth session.

(b) Implementation of and coherence among international instruments and programmes

28. A function of the Conference set out in paragraph 24 (e) of the Overarching Policy Strategy is “to promote implementation of existing international instruments and programmes”. To supplement the information collected from stakeholders on the implementation status of more than 20 international instruments and agreements (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/6), the Conference will have before it a note by the secretariat on a summary of projects funded under the Quick Start Programme supporting the implementation of the three chemicals-related multilateral environmental agreements (SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/27).³

29. A function of the Conference, as set out in paragraph 24 (f) of the Overarching Policy Strategy, is “to promote coherence among chemicals management instruments at the international level”. The Conference will have before it an update on the implementation of the 2011 synergies

³ The Quick Start Programme, which is supported by a Trust Fund together with multilateral, bilateral and other forms of cooperation, was established in accordance with paragraph 19 of the Overarching Policy Strategy and resolution I/4, on the Quick Start Programme, of the International Conference on Chemicals Management. The Programme supports activities to enable initial capacity-building and implementation of the Strategic Approach in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

decisions on enhancing cooperation and coordination in the chemicals and wastes cluster (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/30).

30. The Conference may wish to review the information contained in the above-mentioned documents, and consider ways in which further cooperation can be undertaken to achieve progress on the 2020 target.

(c) Strengthening of national chemicals management capacities

31. Heads of State and Government and high-level representatives, having met at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, reaffirmed, among other things, their aim to achieve by 2020 the sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle and called for the effective implementation and strengthening of the Strategic Approach as part of a robust, coherent, effective and efficient system for the sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle, including to respond to emerging challenges (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/25). They also expressed their deep concern that many countries, in particular least developed countries, lacked the capacity for sound management of chemicals and wastes throughout their life cycle and called for additional efforts to be made to enhance work towards strengthening capacities, including through partnerships, technical assistance and improved governance structures.

32. A high-level dialogue on strengthening the Strategic Approach will be convened under the present agenda item to provide a platform for high-level interaction between Strategic Approach stakeholders on strengthening the Strategic Approach for its more effective implementation towards the 2020 goal. The dialogue will discuss the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and other initiatives such as those launched in tandem with the Stockholm+40 Partnership Forum for Sustainable Development (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/29), focusing on eight areas that might be reinforced in the coming eight years before the 2020 deadline and the conclusions and recommendations from other documents such as the Global Chemicals Outlook (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/15) and on the costs of inaction (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/14).

(d) Financial and technical resources for implementation

33. Functions of the Conference set out in paragraphs 24 (h) and 24 (i) of the Overarching Policy Strategy are “to work to ensure that the necessary financial and technical resources are available for implementation” and “to evaluate the performance of the financing of the Strategic Approach”. Section V of the Overarching Policy Strategy describes the range of actions and mechanisms that, among other things, make up the financial arrangements of the Strategic Approach.

(i) Quick Start Programme

34. In its resolution I/4, the Conference provided that the Executive Board of the Quick Start Programme should report to the Conference at its second and third sessions on the implementation of the Programme.

35. By its resolution II/3, the Conference requested the Executive Board of the Quick Start Programme to evaluate the Programme, report on its effectiveness and the efficiency of its implementation and make recommendations in the light of its findings for the consideration of the Conference at its third session. By the same resolution, the Conference is called upon to review and evaluate the above-mentioned report and to consider it in the context of the adequacy of financial and technical arrangements for Strategic Approach implementation for action as appropriate.

36. In compliance with resolution II/3, the Executive Board approved terms of reference for a midterm review of the Programme at its fifth meeting held in Geneva on 29 and 30 June 2010. The Executive Board considered the findings of the evaluation of the Quick Start Programme at its sixth and seventh meetings held in Geneva on 13 and 14 September 2011 and 7 and 8 May 2012, respectively. The Conference will have before it the conclusions and recommendations of the Executive Board on the midterm evaluation of the Quick Start Programme (see SAICM/ICCM.3/8); the executive summary of the report of the midterm review of the Quick Start Programme (see SAICM/ICCM.3/9) as well as the report of the midterm review of the Quick Start Programme (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/17).

37. The Conference will also have before it reports by the secretariat on the implementation of the Quick Start Programme and its Trust Fund (see SAICM/ICCM.3/23), on the status of projects funded under the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/16) and on the implementation of the Quick Start Programme Business Plan (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/26).

38. The Conference will be invited to consider and endorse, as appropriate, the conclusions and recommendations of the Executive Board concerning the midterm evaluation of the Quick Start Programme.

39. By its decision OEWG.1/2, the Open-ended Working Group transmitted to the Conference a draft resolution on amending the time limit of the disbursement of funds under Quick Start Programme projects (see SAICM/ICCM.3/10). The Conference may wish to adopt the resolution to amend the time limit of the disbursement of funds for projects funded under the Quick Start Programme, currently set at November 2013, until all approved projects in its portfolio are completed. Should the Conference decide to support the recommendations of the Executive Board and extend the Programme for a limited time, then consideration of the draft resolution to amend the time limit of the disbursement of funds under Quick Start Programme projects may no longer be necessary.

(ii) Financial and technical resources for the implementation of the Strategic Approach

40. By its resolution II/3, on financial and technical resources for implementation, the Conference reaffirmed that achieving the objectives of the Overarching Policy Strategy depended in part on the financing of diverse actions at all levels and on enhanced synergies and the complementarity of the multiple financial arrangements foreseen in the Strategic Approach for its implementation. It further recognized the need for sustainable, predictable, adequate and accessible funding for activities in support of the sound management of chemicals and the achievement of the objectives set forth in the Strategic Approach, and set out a number of actions to be taken to ensure that the necessary financial and technical resources were available for implementation. In paragraph 18 of the same decision, the Conference invited all stakeholders to assess and report to the secretariat on the steps that they have taken to implement the Strategic Approach financial arrangements at the latest six months before the third session of the Conference and requested the secretariat to compile and synthesize these reports, including any additional relevant information, for consideration by the Conference at its third session.

41. The Conference will have before it a note by the secretariat on the implementation of Strategic Approach financial and technical arrangements (SAICM/ICCM.3/7), based on reports submitted by stakeholders pursuant to resolution II/3. To support discussions on this sub-item, the Conference will have before it the following documents: a compilation of reports by stakeholders on implementation of the Strategic Approach financial arrangements (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/11); information from the United Nations Environment Programme entitled "Guidance on the development of legal and institutional infrastructure for the sound management of chemicals and measures for recovering costs of national administration" (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/12); a World Health Organization study entitled "Knowns and unknowns on burden of disease due to chemicals: a systematic review" (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/13) providing the burden of disease data utilized by UNEP in its report on the costs of inaction and the Global Chemicals Outlook, which are contained in documents SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/14 and SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/15, respectively. The Conference will also have before it a report on the UNDP-UNEP partnership initiative for the integration of the sound management of chemicals into development planning processes (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/10) and an additional report by IOMC entitled "National implementation of SAICM: a guide to resource, guidance and training materials of IOMC-participating organizations" (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/31).

42. The Conference may wish to consider the above-mentioned documentation, explore methods to increase support for the Strategic Approach among bilateral aid agencies and existing international financial institutions; analyze the impact of existing sound chemicals management activities with the aim of expanding outreach and explore methods to increase support for the Strategic Approach, in particular from an expanded donor base.

(iii) Consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes

43. At its first session, the Open-ended Working Group established a contact group on finance and technical assistance to consider possible long-term financing options for the Strategic Approach. The contact group considered financing to implement activities to 2020 and the links to and elements of the consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes as they related to the Strategic Approach. The Conference will have before it a note by the secretariat on possible long-term financing options for the Strategic Approach (SAICM/ICCM.3/11), which contains in its annex the summary by the co-chairs of the contact group.

44. During the twelfth special session of the UNEP Governing Council, the Executive Director of UNEP reported on the outcome of the consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes. In its decision SS.XII/4, the Governing Council requested the Executive Director to prepare a draft proposal and seek advice thereon through a consultative process for consideration and possible decision at the third session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management and at the

Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-seventh session in 2013. The Conference will have before it the Executive Director's proposal for an integrated approach to financing the sound management of chemicals and wastes (see SAICM/ICCM.3/12) for its consideration and possible decision.

45. The Conference may wish to review the outcome of the contact group's discussions, as set out in the co-chairs' summary, and consider the proposal by the Executive Director on an integrated approach to financing the chemicals and wastes agenda. The Conference may wish to consider adopting a resolution on immediate and long-term financing of the Strategic Approach.

(e) Emerging policy issues

(i) Emerging policy issues considered in detail at the second session

46. One of the functions of the Conference, as set out in paragraph 24 (j) of the Overarching Policy Strategy, is to focus attention and call for appropriate action on emerging policy issues as they arise and to forge consensus on priorities for cooperative action. At its second session, the Conference considered in detail four emerging policy issues – lead in paint, chemicals in products, hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products and nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials – as well as progress in managing perfluorinated chemicals and the transition to safer alternatives, and called for appropriate actions on each issue in its resolution II/4.

47. Progress on each of the issues was presented through reports to the Open-ended Working Group. Each of the reports was submitted by the lead organization for a particular issue. The Open-ended Working Group considered the reports and adopted decision OEWG.1/3, on emerging policy issues, transmitting to the Conference for its consideration and possible adoption a draft omnibus resolution relating to the emerging issues and perfluorinated chemicals.

48. The Conference will have before it a note by the secretariat on progress on emerging policy issues and managing perfluorinated chemicals and the transition to safer alternatives (SAICM/ICCM.3/13). The Conference will also have before it reports pertaining to each issue prepared by the relevant participating organizations of the IOMC as follows:

(a) Lead in paint, prepared by UNEP and the World Health Organization (WHO) (see SAICM/ICCM.3/14);

(b) Chemicals in products, prepared by UNEP (see SAICM/ICCM.3/15);

(c) Hazardous substances in electrical and electronic products, prepared by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the secretariats of the Basel Convention and the Stockholm on Persistent Organic Pollutants (see SAICM/ICCM.3/16);

(d) Nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials, prepared by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) (see SAICM/ICCM.3/17);

(e) Managing perfluorinated chemicals and the transition to safer alternatives, prepared by OECD and UNEP (see SAICM/ICCM.3/18).

49. The Conference will also have before it notes by the secretariat providing additional detailed information on the business plan of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/21), on the report of an international workshop on the chemicals in products project and synthesis of findings of the project (SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/19 and SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/20), the report of an international workshop on hazardous substances within the life cycle of electrical and electronic products (SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/24) and a report by the secretariat on nanotechnology and manufactured nanomaterials in the context of the Strategic Approach, including issues of relevance to developing countries and economies in transition (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/18).

50. The Conference may wish to review progress made on each emerging policy issue, and managing perfluorinated chemicals, consider continuing cooperative action as necessary, and adopt a resolution as appropriate.

(ii) New nominations for emerging policy issues

51. In accordance with the procedure for considering emerging policy issues set out in the annex to resolution II/4, the Conference will have before it a note by the secretariat on new nominations of emerging policy issues (SAICM/ICCM.3/19), providing a summary of the two nominations for emerging policy issues, namely endocrine-disrupting chemicals and environmentally persistent

pharmaceutical pollutants, which were submitted to the secretariat and considered by the Working Group. The Conference will also have before it a copy of the submission for a nominated new emerging policy issue for proposed actions on endocrine-disrupting chemicals (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/23) and a report on the state of the science on endocrine disruptors (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/22) for its information.

52. With respect to environmentally persistent pharmaceutical pollutants, the Working Group considered that the proposal did not meet the criteria for the issue to be considered as an emerging policy issue. With respect to endocrine-disrupting chemicals, the Working Group was unable to reach consensus on the inclusion of the issue in the provisional agenda for the third session of the Conference. It agreed, therefore, to forward its decision OEWG.1/4 A, including text relating to the areas on which consensus could not be reached in square brackets, to the Conference for its consideration.

53. The Conference may wish to review and consider decision OEWG.1/4, review the proposal on international cooperation to promote awareness, understanding and action in respect of endocrine-disrupting chemicals and consider the cooperative actions proposed therein and adopt the proposal as a new emerging policy issue of the Strategic Approach.

(f) Information exchange and scientific and technical cooperation

54. In its paragraph 24 (k), the Overarching Policy Strategy provides that the functions of the Conference include “to promote information exchange and scientific and technical cooperation”. The Conference will have before it a note by the secretariat on the performance of the information clearing house functions of the Strategic Approach (SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/28).

55. The Conference may wish to consider the above-mentioned note with a view to recommending further action needed to ensure adequate progress towards the 2020 goal in the intersessional period and, if appropriate, recognizing the availability of relevant national, regional and global information resources that could contribute to the implementation of the Strategic Approach and tracking progress in its implementation.

Item 5

Health sector strategy

56. By its resolution II/8, on health aspects of the sound management of chemicals, the Conference invited the secretariat to develop in consultation with WHO and within available resources a strategy for strengthening the engagement of the health sector the implementation of the Strategic Approach for consideration at the third session of the Conference.

57. The draft strategy for strengthening the engagement of the health sector in the implementation of the Strategic Approach was discussed by the Open-ended Working Group at its first meeting and referred to the third session of the Conference for possible adoption. The draft strategy has been amended to take account of a number of minor clarifications received during and following the first meeting of the Open-ended Working Group. The Conference will have before it the proposed strategy for strengthening the engagement of the health sector in the implementation of the Strategic Approach (see SAICM/ICCM.3/20), which takes into account, among other things, the outcomes of a consultation held in Ljubljana on 4 and 5 February 2010, submissions received through the Strategic Approach website, and the discussions at and resolutions from regional meetings held since the second session of the Conference.

58. The Conference may wish to consider the proposed strategy as an important part of the multisectoral approach to implementation of the Strategic Approach and to request the secretariat to report, in collaboration with WHO, on the implementation of the strategy at sessions of the Conference, commencing at its fourth session.

Item 6

Cooperation with intergovernmental organizations

59. In its resolution I/1, on implementation arrangements, the Conference commended the Strategic Approach to the attention of the governing bodies of relevant intergovernmental organizations and encouraged them to endorse or otherwise appropriately acknowledge the Strategic Approach with a view to incorporating its objectives into their programmes of work within their mandates and to report thereon to the Conference. Furthermore, in the Dubai Declaration on International Chemicals Management, ministers, heads of delegation and others assembled at the first session of the Conference committed themselves to striving “to integrate the Strategic Approach into

the work programmes of all relevant United Nations organizations, specialized agencies, funds and programmes consistent with their mandates as accorded by their respective governing bodies". The Conference will have before it a report on the work of IOMC-participating organizations to support the implementation of the Strategic Approach (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/9). The Conference will also have before it a submission on the chemical dialogue of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Committee on Trade and Industry (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/32) as well as a submission from the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction on building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters (see SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/33). The Conference may wish to review and take note of the information contained therein.

Item 7

Activities of the secretariat and adoption of the budget

60. The Conference will have before it a report by the secretariat on activities of the secretariat for the period 2009–2012 and draft indicative budget for the period 2013–2015 (SAICM/ICCM.3/21). The Conference may wish to consider and take note of the information provided in the report and to approve the proposed programme of work and indicative budget. In accordance with its resolution II/6, the Conference may also wish to confirm the establishment of the Open-ended Working Group and thereafter to request the secretariat to determine a process to convene a second meeting of the Working Group prior to the fourth session of the Conference

Item 8

Venue and date of the fourth session of the Conference

61. Paragraph 26 of the Overarching Policy Strategy provides for the fourth session of the Conference to be held in 2015 unless otherwise decided by the Conference. The Overarching Policy Strategy and resolution I/1 call for sessions of the Conference, where appropriate, to be held back-to-back with meetings of the governing bodies of relevant intergovernmental organizations in order to enhance synergies and cost-effectiveness and to promote the multisectoral nature of the Strategic Approach.

62. The Conference will have before it a note by the secretariat on scheduling sessions of the Conference back-to-back with meetings of the governing bodies of UNEP and the World Health Assembly and of other relevant intergovernmental organizations expected to take place in 2015 (SAICM/ICCM.3/INF/3). The Conference may wish to agree on a process to determine the venue and date of its fourth session following the conclusion of the third session.

Item 9

Other matters

63. The Conference may wish to consider other matters raised during the third session.

Item 10

Adoption of the report

64. The Conference may wish to consider and adopt its report.

Item 11

Closure of the session

65. It is expected that the session will be closed by 6 p.m. on Friday, 21 September 2012.
