

# Sound Management of **Chemicals and Waste** in the context of the **2030 Agenda** on **Sustainable Development**



Second Meeting of the Open-Ended  
Committee of Permanent Representatives

15-19 February 2016  
Nairobi, Kenya

*Rolph Payet, Executive Secretary of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions*



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

[www.brsmeas.org](http://www.brsmeas.org)

 [@brsmeas](https://twitter.com/brsmeas)

2/23/2016

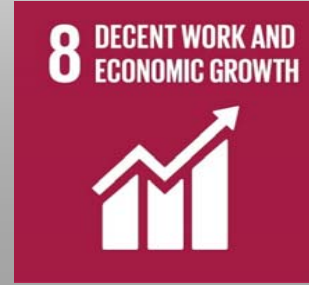
1

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development  
Chemicals and waste is key cross-cutting issue which  
provides opportunities for collaboration and  
innovative practical solutions in addressing global  
and local challenges





Chemicals and wastes are reflected in a number of goals and targets, including **health, gender, water, cities and human settlements, oceans, food and sustainable consumption and production**



Air pollution is the cause of death of 7 million people across the world each year [WHO, 2014]

## Sustainable production and consumption is transboundary





Toxic chemicals concentrate in fatty tissues and travel around the globe. Indigenous peoples in the Arctic have highest recorded levels of POPs. [BRS, 2010]

**All humans are exposed to hazardous chemicals**



3 million people a year are poisoned by pesticides

[WHO, 2008]

Safe Foods = Healthy Populations



42 million metric tonnes of e-waste generated in 2014

[UNU-IAS, 2014]

# Connecting Chemicals and Waste to the Development Agenda



# Can the SDG implementation also detoxify our planet?

Poverty eradication

Health and well-being

Sustainable & Green  
chemistry

Integrated Waste management

Technology transfer

Governance  
Climate Change

Water

Ocean Debris

Data monitoring

Green & safe jobs

Risk communication

Information access

Circular economy & LCA

Role of informal sector

Alternatives to  
hazardous chemicals

Reducing illegal traffic  
In hazardous C & W





# Policy development

- Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm, 1972) – Principle 7
- Agenda 21 (Earth Summit, Rio 1992) – Chapter 19 Environmentally sound management of toxic chemicals including prevention of illegal international traffic in toxic and dangerous products
- “Chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment” (World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, 2002 and SAICM, 2006)
- Rio+20 outcome “The Future We Want” further recognised the 2020 target (2012)
- Adoption of the MEAs: Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm and Minamata Conventions

# Chemicals and waste cluster

## Policy



WHO



ILO

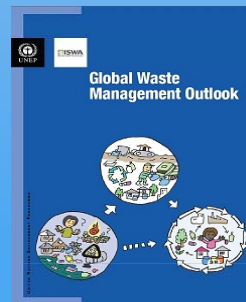


## Implementation

Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, UNITAR, WHO, WB, OECD)

Basel and Stockholm Regional centers

## Information/ Indicators



National reports

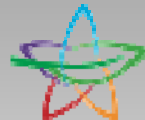


Effectiveness evaluation of the Stockholm Convention

# Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions



BASEL CONVENTION



ROTTERDAM CONVENTION



STOCKHOLM CONVENTION

**Title:** Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal

**Entry into force:** 5 May 1992

**Number of parties:** 183 (as of February 2016)

**Objectives:** To protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects of hazardous wastes

**Scope:** Hazardous wastes based on their origin and / or composition and their characteristics **and other wastes**

**Key provisions:**

- (i) **Minimization** of the generation of hazardous and other wastes
- (ii) Promotion of the environmentally **sound management** of hazardous and other wastes
- (iii) Conditions for and **control of transboundary movements** of hazardous and other wastes

**Title:** Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade

**Entry into force:** 24 February 2004

**Number of parties:** 155 (as of February 2016)

**Objectives:** To promote shared responsibility and cooperative efforts among Parties in the international trade of certain hazardous chemicals

**Scope:** Pesticides and industrial chemicals that have been banned or severely restricted for health or environmental reasons by Parties.

**Key provisions:**

- (i) **Prior Informed Consent procedure** on a national decision making process on import of hazardous chemicals
- (ii) **Exchange of information** on a broad range of potentially hazardous chemicals

**Title:** Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

**Entry into force:** 17 May 2004

**Number of parties:** 179 (as of February 2016)

**Objectives:** To protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants

**Scope:** 26 persistent organic pollutants

**Key provisions:**

- (i) **Elimination** of persistent organic pollutants, listed in annex A
- (ii) **Restriction** of persistent organic pollutants, listed in annex B
- (iii) **Reduction or elimination of the POPs listed in annex C** (unintentionally produced)

# Minamata Convention on Mercury

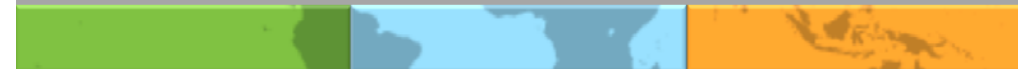


- Opened for signature on 10 October 2013 and will enter into force when have 50 parties (currently 23)
- Contains provisions which address mercury through its life-cycle including supply, trade, products, processes, artisanal and small scale gold mining, emissions, releases, storage, waste and contaminated sites
- Provides a robust financial mechanism committed to provide adequate, predictable, and timely financial resources
- Works to build information on mercury issues, and encourage public participation
- Specifically addresses health related issues of mercury

# BRS Conventions and sustainable development

- Full and effective implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions contributes to sustainable development and the protection of **human health and the environment**  
(Geneva Statement, 2013 ExCOPs)
- Parties joined the United Nations Environment Assembly in recognizing the **continued relevance** of the sound management of chemicals and wastes beyond 2020 and stressed the importance of considering policies on strengthening the sound management of chemicals and wastes in the long term
- Parties requested to provide input to the UN Statistical Commission and other relevant forums for the **development of indicators** relevant to the sound management of chemicals and wastes

(Decisions BC-12/17, RC-7/9 and SC-7/27 on International cooperation and coordination, 2015 COPs)



# SAICM and sustainable development

- SAICM contributes to sustainable development by promoting **multi-stakeholder and multi-sector approach** to sound management of chemicals and waste and calling for action on **emerging policy issues**
- The fourth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM4) in 2015 set out a plan for deciding on a **course of action** for sound management of chemicals and waste up to 2020
- An intersessional process to assess SAICM was established, in order to sufficiently inform the decision of “the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste **beyond 2020**” at ICCM5
- ICCM4 decided that the intersessional process should, among other things, consider the need for and develop recommendations regarding **measurable objectives** in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

# Minamata Convention and sustainable development

Aspects of the Minamata Convention on Mercury that specifically focuses on:

- **Poverty reduction** (artisanal mining, no limitation on development activities)
- Good **health and well-being** (specific consideration of health issues)
- **Clean water, air and soil** (through reducing emissions and releases of mercury)

# Future steps (1)

- **Raising awareness** of the role of the sound management of chemicals and wastes in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the national level (including the national statistic offices)
- Establishing the intersessional process to prepare recommendations regarding **SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020**
- Promoting the **sustainable chemistry** as the link work on chemicals and waste with analysis and action on the advancement of an inclusive **green economy** and **sustainable consumption and production**



## Future steps (2)

- Holding an International Expert Workshop on the **Integrated National Implementation of SDGs and International Chemicals and Waste Agreements**, Geneva, 11-13 April 2016 (partnership of UNEP Chemicals and Waste Branch, BRS Secretariat, UNITAR, SAICM Secretariat, Interim Secretariat on Minamata Convention and IOMC)
- Holding an Expert Consultation on the Second edition of the **Global Chemicals Outlook**, Geneva, 13-14 April 2016.

Thank you