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**Fourth Teleconference of the Bureau of the  
International Conference on Chemicals Management for its fifth session**  
28 October 2020 from 14:00 – 16:30 CET

## **Proposal to convene a High-level Segment during ICCM5**

### **I. Introduction**

1. Paragraph 24 of the Overarching Policy Strategy (OPS) sets out the functions of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM). Sub-paragraph L specifies that the Conference is *to provide a high-level international forum for multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral discussion and exchange of experience on chemicals management issues with the participation of non-governmental organizations* in accordance with applicable rules of procedure.
2. The fifth session of the International Chemical Management (ICCM5) will take place in Bonn, Germany from 5 – 9 July 2021. The ICCM5 slogan “**United for a fair and chemical safe future**” demonstrates that together we will shape the new framework and stand united for the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.
3. The SAICM Secretariat, in consultation with the ICCM5 Host Country, has prepared a proposal for the High-level Segment for ICCM5. The current High-level Segment proposal, which will be aligned to the ICCM5 slogan, includes multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral discussions and exchanges of experience on chemicals issues across the lifecycle.
4. It is proposed that the High-level Segment takes place from 8 July 2021 from 13:00 to 22:00 CET to 9 July 2021 from 08:00 to 15:00 CET. High-level Government representatives (Ministers or State Secretary level) from the Ministries of Agriculture, Environment, Health, Labour, Trade and Economy, Executive Heads of Intergovernmental Organisations, High-level representatives of industry, financial institutions, Non-Governmental Organizations, leading scientists and academia representatives will be invited to participate in the High-level Segment.
5. The objective of the High-level Segment is to offer a unique opportunity to raise political profile and awareness, secure broad ownership and strengthen participation and commitment across all sectors, for an ambitious global platform and process for the sound management of chemicals and waste in the long-term.
6. The outcomes of the High-level Segment will include a High-level Declaration, as well as individual (national/organizational) and collective action commitments / pledges / announcements / reports; sharing of information on activities, achievements and plans, as well as the launch of new multi-stakeholder and multi-sector networks and partnerships.
7. In addition to the adoption of the High-level Declaration, further proposed outcomes of the High-level Segment might include:

- (a) Welcoming of the ICCM5 outcomes, including a potential new instrument for beyond 2020;
  - (b) Highlighting opportunities for contributing to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through SAICM's broad stakeholder participation;
  - (c) Showcasing the importance of the sectors and collaboration across the different sectors and stakeholders;
  - (d) Announcing new, innovative and action partnerships and renewing of existing efforts;
  - (e) Inspiring enhanced political engagement for beyond 2020;
  - (f) Recognising achievements attained since ICCM4 and / or since 2006 when SAICM was initiated; and
  - (g) Making individual or collective commitments and / or pledges to take specific implementation and enhancement actions in relation to the sound management of chemicals and waste.
8. Invitations by UNEP Executive Director Andersen and Minister Schulze will be issued in the last quarter of 2020. The ICCM5 President already issued a letter informing High-level Segment participants about the postponement of ICCM5 and the new dates of the High-level Segment.
9. Close attention will be paid to the health and security of high-level participants, with particular attention being paid to developments in relation to COVID-19.

## II. Proposed timetable for the High-Level Segment

10. The table below presents the proposed timetable for the High-level Segment, which would take place from 8 July 2021 from 13:00 to 22:00 CET to 9 July 2021 from 08:00 to 15:00 CET.

Time	Thursday 8 July 2021		Friday 9 July 2021	
08.00-09:00				High-level Breakfast*
09.00-10:00				Press Conference
10.00-13:00	ICCM5 Plenary (continues)		<u>High-level Segment (Cont.)</u> iv) Panel session (multi-sectoral panel sessions results) v) Further statements vi) Formal adoption of the High-level Declaration vii) Closure	
13.00-15.00	Lunch Sessions: SMCW & Innovation & Partnerships	High-level Lunch*	High-level Lunch*	
15.00-18.00	<u>High-level Segment:</u> i) Opening ii) High-level statements iii) Keynote inputs		ICCM5 Plenary (conclusion)	
	Multi-sectoral panel sessions			
18.00-20.00	High-level Segment evening sessions: SMCW &	Reception ICCA/VCI		

	Innovation & Partnerships		
20.00	High-level Dinner*		

(\* invitation only: not in formal programme)

### III. Update on the preparations for the High-level Segment

11. To enhance the dynamics of the High-level Segment, moderated multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder panel sessions could be considered and focus on the following topics: ‘The Global South: development / health / co-benefits for the sound management of chemicals and waste; ‘Fair & Safe: Prioritising Women & Children’; ‘Multi-stakeholder Governance: Ensuring All Stakeholders Are Engaged’; ‘Implementation & Monitoring: How Best to Incentivize & Realize?’.
12. Panellists could include sectoral leaders and decision-makers from Governments, IGOs, industry, non-governmental organizations and academia. Panellists should be directly involved in producing, using or disposing of chemicals and waste and / or helping to drive and influence economic, environmental and development agendas. It would also be important to ensure gender equality, multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral participation and regional balance.
13. Following a call for interest in hosting event(s) during the High-level Segment of ICCM5, the following proposals were received in early September 2020:
  - **High-level round table/lunch:** Women Leaders on the Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste (hosted by the Government of Germany).
  - **Reception:** International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) / Verband der Chemischen Industrie e. V. (VCI) that would include an event on Power of Partnerships to achieve SDGs (hosted by ICCA).
  - **IPEN High-level event (hosted by IPEN)<sup>1</sup>.** The event would highlight on-the-ground stories to put the SAICM mission into context, noting that chemicals and waste are an international issue. It is envisaged that a key outcome of the event will be a call to action for beyond 2020 political and financial commitments.
  - **Panel/forum during the High-level Segment (hosted jointly/fully by IOMC)<sup>2</sup>.** The event intends to showcase IOMC contributions and commitment to beyond 2020 with the participation of Heads of Deputy and Heads of IOMC Participating Organisations.
  - **Events hosted by United Nations Agencies<sup>3</sup>:**
    - **Global Chemical Leasing Award 2021 (hosted by UNIDO).** The [Global Chemical Leasing Award 2021](#) was launched in December 2019 and is jointly sponsored and supported by UNIDO, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Sustainability and Tourism (BMNT), the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), the German Environment Agency (UBA), the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) and the European Association of Chemical Distributors (FECC). The 2021 Award has three main categories (Case studies, Innovation, Research) and two special awards (Women-led initiatives, Start-ups) for companies and individuals.

<sup>1</sup> Event to be placed in the suggested draft programme of the High-level Segment

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

In addition, a special jury recognition “Chemical Leasing Champions” will be given to companies that demonstrate a long-standing commitment to Chemical Leasing.

- **Global Harmonised System Partnership (hosted by UNITAR).** The event envisions OECD’s and ILO’s participation.
- **Launching the Global Action Plan on Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs) (hosted by FAO).** The event envisions UNEP’s and WHO’s participating in the event.
- **Health event at ICCM5 (hosted by WHO).** The WHO will organize a discussion about how to make ICCM5 a truly global and inclusive event, using the skills and experience gained through convening virtual events and activities. While not replacing the need for face-to-face negotiations, as well as high level presence, for the remainder of the programme having some more inclusive virtual events/activities would be helpful. The event would provide a way to engage many more than those able to travel to the event, and a broader and more diverse audience. In particular, the event should greatly help multi-sectoral engagement, because it may be more challenging than ever to get delegations to include different ministries. It would also provide the possibility of more than one Minister from a country.
- **High-level Dinner (hosted by the Government of Germany).** The event, by invitation only, will be a working dinner at the Petersberg Hotel for Ministers that will include a brief ceremony to present the Future Policy Award.
- **The Future Policy Award 2021 Ceremony:** Protection from Hazardous Chemicals (hosted by World Future Council in partnership with UNEP, SAICM, UNDP, ILO, UNITAR, UNESCO, BMU, UBA). The world-renowned Future Policy Award will recognize the world’s best laws, policies, and legal frameworks that regulate or ban the use of hazardous chemicals that threaten the environment and human health. The aim of the Future Policy Award is to raise global awareness for exemplary policies and speed up policy action in a specific policy area. It is the first award that celebrates policies rather than people on an international level.
- **High-level Breakfast (hosted by the Governments of Sweden and Uruguay).** The event, by invitation only, would bring together members of the High Ambition Alliance, specially Ministers and CEOs that gathering together will take stock and coordinate on the Beyond 2020 discussions.
- **High-level Lunch (hosted by the Government of Germany).** The event, by invitation only, would be hosted at the GOB Theatre, will followed by a group photo. Attendees would be limited to Ministers & Chief Executives of attending IGOs, industry and civil society organisations.

#### **IV. Consideration by the Bureau on the ICCM5 High-level Segment**

14. The ICCM5 Bureau may wish to further consider the proposal to convene a High-level Segment during ICCM5 as set out in this document.
15. For reference, the Bureau may wish to consider the approach taken for the High-level Segment at ICCM4 (Reference: <http://saicm.org/Meetings/HighLevelSegment/tabid/5519/language/en-US/Default.aspx>).
16. It should be noted that a number of high-level events are being convened in 2021, including, among others: i) the [UNEA 5 in February 2021](#); ii) the [15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the 4th meeting of the Conference of](#)

[the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing](#) (second quarter of 2021); iii) the [109th Session of the International Labour Conference \(7-18 June 2021\)](#); iv) the [74th World Health Assembly in May 2021](#) (virtual and reduced this year); and v) the [meetings of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions](#) from 19 to 30 July 2021.

17. Given the importance of establishing a new framework for chemicals and waste beyond 2020, convening a High-level Segment will provide an important platform for ICCM5 participants to engage.
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