



a toxics-free future

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IPEN and CES Intervention on emerging policy issues

Given by Eugeny Lobanov

Thank you, Madam Co-chair,

I'm speaking on behalf of IPEN Participating Organization in Belarus – Center for Environmental Solutions.

Emerging policy issues adopted by ICCM are a good example of how SAICM enables multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral efforts to specifically address sources of toxic exposure which are not covered by existing international agreements, and to identify innovative legal, policy and grassroots approaches.

Looking back, the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint is a great example of how effective SAICM might be while stimulating international activities to address particular issues.

Broad multi-stakeholder discussions and pilot projects on other emerging policy issues are going in different countries and regions, including pilot projects on information about chemicals in products; toxic exposures related to the full lifecycle of electrical and

electronic products; endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs); nanotechnology and nanomaterials; environmentally persistent pharmaceutical pollutants and others. For example, on nanotechnology and nanomaterials, the SAICM process significantly contributed to awareness-raising on this topic among stakeholders in various regions.

At the same time, we also recognize that awareness is only a small aspect of addressing an issue. Effectively addressing emerging policy issues to reduce harm requires a lot of time and resources to implement actual action on the ground beyond awareness-raising. It is unlikely that by 2020 we will have solved them. We are especially concerned with a slow progress in many important areas as, for example, hazardous substances within the lifecycle of electrical and electronic products.

IPEN believes that current issues of concern and emerging policy issues should be carried forward Beyond 2020, and further addressed. In addition, we believe that the idea presented in the Bureau thought starter to categorize emerging policy issues as issues of concern, new and emerging, urgent and/or unaddressed issues would be helpful to adjust the type of activities put in place to address them.

Finally, IPEN also believes that implementation of each existing emerging policy issue and potential new issues shall be linked to clearly measurable quantitative and qualitative objectives that allow facilitating a running assessment of the successes and challenges. In other words, all emerging policy issues and issues of concern should produce meaningful real world outcomes, and be

specific and measurable. For example, one of the objectives for the lead paint activity area could be that by 2030 all countries have banned lead in paint. Or for hazardous substances within the lifecycle of electrical and electronic products, one of the objectives could be that by 2030, 50 countries enact meaningful right-to-know regulations for workers producing electrical and electronic equipment. On Nanotechnologies and manufactured nanomaterials, one of the objectives could be that by 2025, comprehensive information about the nature and presence of nanomaterials in commerce is publicly available to enable proper risk assessment.

Co-chair, I would also like to bring attention to the informational paper *Beyond 2020: Chemical safety and Agenda 2030*, which was developed by IPEN and PAN, and which is available in the “Reference documents” section of the SAICM website. In this paper we provide suggestions for measurable objectives for all existing and some potential emerging policy issues.

Thank you very much.