

30 September, 2015

IPEN Intervention on Budget and Activities

Thank you Mr. President.

IPEN believes a strong, fully funded SAICM Secretariat and staff is needed to ensure an effective, efficient and meaningful SAICM process and implementation.

Over the next 5 years the SAICM Secretariat will have an important role to help assist all stakeholders to utilize the SAICM process and implement SAICM.

With regards to Meeting Document 14:

We are interested to learn more about the work program of the Secretariat Staff, specifically that of the proposed “Knowledge Management Program Officer,” as well as the current and proposed work of consultants to support the Secretariat.

We are pleased to see that the industry via ICCA has contributed \$135,000 to the Secretariat budget, but would like to get clarity on what this contribution has been applied to and could be applied to in the future. We believe that the industry contribution to the Secretariat opens doors for similar initiatives from other stakeholders and associations, but clarity is needed on what these contributions could be applied to in order to avoid duplication and increase efficiency.

In relation to this, we appreciate the need to continue to promote stakeholder engagement, but would like to avoid the situation when there is a focus to engage only one category of stakeholders. In Document 14, under item (c) proposed 2016-2020 activities, we found that the proposed activities fall short of the SAICM process, and should not be limited to activities that enhance only industry engagement.

SAICM is a multi-stakeholder process, which benefits from the engagement of all stakeholders including the health, agriculture, labor and environment sectors, and the participation of industry and public interest groups, intergovernmental organizations and governments.

We believe the outcomes of the ongoing contact groups, including the OOG, Beyond 2020 and Emerging Policy Issues, will impact the Activities and Budget of the SAICM Secretariat. We look forward to the follow-up group discussions and the Budget contact group.

Thank you Mr. President.