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**International environmental policy and governance
issues.**

Progress in the implementation of resolution 5/7 on the Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste

Report of the Executive Director

Introduction

1. In paragraph 3 of its resolution 5/7 on the sound management of chemicals and waste, the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) expressed concern that increasing levels of illegal transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and other waste, as reported by developing countries, have a disproportionately negative impact, and invited the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal to consider this matter further.
2. In paragraph 5 of the resolution, it requested the Executive Director of UNEP to continue and strengthen support for the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) in preparing for the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5) and to provide continuity of effective secretariat services and administrative support for the implementation of any decision made by the Conference.
3. In paragraph 15, it encouraged Governments in a position to do so, and invited the private sector, including industry, foundations, other non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders, to mobilize and continue to mobilize financial and other resources to contribute to the Special Programme. In paragraph 16, it decided to extend the duration of the Special Programme for a period of five years and to include the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 in the Special Programme. In paragraph 19, it further requested the Executive Director to seek views from Member States and other stakeholders, while ensuring sufficient time for their consideration, on priorities for further work, building on existing measures and initiatives, and on potential further international action on the issues discussed in the Assessment Report on Issues of Concern¹, and in particular on those issues identified in the report entitled Global Chemicals Outlook II² and to prepare a summary analysis, taking into account the views received for consideration by UNEA and by other international bodies, including the ICCM, as appropriate.

** UNEP/EA.6/1.

¹ UNEP (2020) “An Assessment Report on Issues of Concern: Chemicals and Waste Issues Posing Risks to Human Health and the Environment”

² UNEP (2019) “Global Chemicals Outlook II: From Legacies to Innovative Solutions: Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”

4. In paragraphs 21 to 24, it requested the Executive Director to: work closely with the other members of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) and other relevant United Nations entities and instruments, and with relevant multilateral environmental agreements, to foster effective cooperation and collaboration in promoting the sound management of chemicals and waste; subject to the availability of resources, and in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO), update the report entitled *State of the Science of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals 2012*; report on the implementation of the resolution and of the programme of work with respect to chemicals and waste; and subject to the availability of resources and in cooperation with WHO, present a full range of options for addressing asbestos contaminants in products and the environment.

5. The present report contains an update on progress in the implementation of resolution 5/7, highlighting activities undertaken under the 2022–2023 programme of work.

I. Progress in the implementation of resolution 5/7

A. Illegal transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and other waste

6. **The invitation by UNEA to the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention as contained in paragraph 3 was considered by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting** (June 2022, Geneva, Switzerland). In its decision BC-15/25 on international cooperation and coordination with other organizations, the Conference of the Parties noted the invitation and drew attention to relevant decisions adopted at its past and current meetings³.

7. **By way of background, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention had, by decisions BC-14/15, BC-15/17, and BC-16/14, mandated the Committee administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance with the Basel Convention to prepare reports aimed at scoping the extent of illegal traffic cases reported by Parties under the Convention.** Such reports draw upon information provided in table 9 of the national reports transmitted by Parties. Such reports⁴ as well as findings thereof⁵ were developed pursuant to the Committee's work programmes for the biennium 2020–2021 and 2022–2023. A similar report is also expected to be developed by the Committee as part of its work programme for the biennium 2024–2025 for the consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting in 2025.

B. The fifth International Conference on Chemicals Management and the establishment of a new Global Framework for Chemicals

8. **The fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5) took place from 25 to 29 September 2023 in Bonn, Germany.** The Conference was organized by UNEP and hosted by the Government of Germany who held the presidency of the session. A High-level Segment took place as part of the Conference on 28 and 29 September 2023. The Conference adopted the Global Framework for Chemicals – *For a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste* along with a set of resolutions to support implementation and a High-Level Declaration (the “Bonn Declaration on the Global Framework for Chemicals”)⁶. The scope of the Framework, which supersedes SAICM, covers the entire life cycle of chemicals, including in products and waste. The Framework confirms the integrated approach to financing and establishes a Global Framework on Chemicals Fund to be administered by UNEP, with already announced contributions from Germany (EUR 20 million) and France (EUR 400 000) as well as remaining funds from the Quick Start Programme Trust Fund. Amongst others, the Conference also invited relevant IOMC organizations to update the existing costs of inaction report taking into account quality-assured new research and latest information relating to economic and social costs of unsound management of chemicals and waste at the national, regional, and international levels.

9. **The Conference was preceded by the third segment of the fourth meeting of the Intersessional Process considering the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.** That meeting took place over three sessions, from 29 August to 2

³ Decisions BC-15/20 and BC-14/17 on national legislation, notifications, enforcement of the Convention and efforts to combat illegal traffic, BC-14/19 on the Basel Convention Partnership Programme, and BC-14/24 on synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes.

⁴ UNEP/CHW/CC.14/4/Add.1 and UNEP/CHW/CC.15/4/Add.1.

⁵ For the Committee's findings during its fourteenth meeting, see annex I to document UNEP/CHW.15/INF/14. For the Committee's findings during its fifteenth meeting, see annex I to document UNEP/CHW.16/INF/21.

⁶ Fifth session of the International Conference for Chemicals Management (ICCM5) | SAICM.

September 2022 in Bucharest, Romania, from 27 February to 3 March 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya and from 23 to 24 September 2023 in Bonn, Germany. As called for in resolution IV/4 of ICCM, the intersessional process prepared recommendations for consideration by ICCM5.

C. Special Programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level to enhance the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention, and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management

10. Pursuant to paragraph 10 of UNEA resolution 5/7, the Executive Board of the Special Programme at its eighth meeting held from 15 to 17 February 2023 revisited the question of eligibility for funding and adopted revised language in the Guidance on the Scope of the Special Programme⁷, referring to paragraph 6 of the Terms of Reference adopted in UNEA resolution 1/5⁸, with a footnote referring to the United Nations World Economic Situation and Prospects Report⁹. The Executive Board further noted in the guidance that a number of donors have strict policies of funding only applications that meet the eligibility requirements of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list of Official Development Assistance (ODA)¹⁰ at the time of application. This revised language was used in the documentation for seventh round of funding.

11. Currently, seventy-five (75) country projects have been approved by the Executive Board of the Special Programme in six rounds of applications, with combined project budgets amounting to approximately US\$ 20 million. The seventh round of applications was launched on 6 April 2023 with a closing date of 11 August 2023. Applications are currently under review, for consideration by the Executive Board at its eighth meeting in March 2024. The Programme continues to benefit from donor support, with pledges and contributions to date amounting to US \$ 35 million in June 2023, up from \$32,8 million as at February 2022.

12. ICCM5, through its resolution V/3 on financial considerations, welcomed with appreciation the decision taken by UNEA in paragraph 16 of resolution 5/7 to extend the duration of the Special Programme and to include in it the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020. The Conference encouraged Member States of UNEA to consider reviewing the Special Programme terms of reference at its next session, taking into consideration the need for the implementation of the new Global Framework on Chemicals.

D. Issues discussed in the Assessment Report on Issues of Concern: Chemicals and Waste Issues Posing Risks to Human Health and the Environment

13. UNEA requested the Executive Director of UNEP to seek views from Member States and other stakeholders on priorities for further work, building on existing measures and initiatives, and on potential further international action on the issues discussed in the Assessment Report on Issues of Concern: Chemicals and Waste Issues Posing Risks to Human Health and the Environment¹¹.

14. The consultative process conducted in response to resolution 5/7 comprised a call for written inputs as well as the convening of a global consultation meeting (July 2023, Geneva and online). UNEP convened information-sharing webinars¹² and prepared factsheets on each of the 19 issues of concern¹³ as well as overviews of three high level groups of issues of concern (metals and metalloids, chemicals in products and bioactive chemicals).

⁷ <https://wedocs.unep.org/handle/20.500.11822/42155;jsessionid=07C1C13AA5827A38351377530DC93041>

⁸ “Support from the Special Programme will be available for developing countries, taking into account the special needs of least developed countries and small island developing states, and for countries with economies in transition, with priority given to those with least capacity.”

⁹ https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/document_gem/global-economic-monitoring-unit/world-economic-situation-and-prospects-wesp-report/ with annexes available at https://desapublications.un.org/file/1113/download?_ga=2.247642817.739791176.1676889344-1020178047.1591942680

¹⁰ <https://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/dac-list.htm>

¹¹ <https://www.unep.org/resources/report/assessment-report-issues-concern-chemicals-and-waste-issues-posing-risks-human>

¹² Webinars, held in April and June 2023, aimed at providing an overview of the main findings of the assessment report and at discussing how to prioritize and address issues of concern. Recordings of the webinars are available at: <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/chemicals-waste/what-we-do/emerging-issues/issues-concern>

¹³ <https://www.unep.org/resources/factsheet/assessment-report-issues-concern-factsheets>.

15. **A summary analysis of views has been prepared, drawing on the submissions received during the written consultation period and findings from the Global Consultation meeting.** This document will be made available on the UNEP website for consideration by UNEA at its sixth session¹⁴. Amongst key conclusions, the summary analysis notes that the majority of stakeholders who provided their input to the process agreed with the overall conclusion of the Assessment Report on Issues of Concern that for each of the 19 issues identified, further international action is needed to address the potential risks. Stakeholders highlighted a number of approaches to do so, including legally binding instruments, voluntary action, and awareness raising, amongst others.

16. **ICCM5 decided that all existing emerging policy issues and other issues of concern recognized before the fifth session of the Conference should transition on an interim basis to “issues of concern” as part of the Global Framework on Chemicals until the next session of the Conference,** at which time it will determine their path under the new Framework.

E. Cooperation and collaboration with member organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals and other relevant United Nations entities and instruments, and with relevant multilateral environmental agreements

17. **UNEP has continued its active engagement with member organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) and beyond.** This included cooperation through regular Inter-Organization Programme meetings (bi-annual face-to-face meetings as well as other meetings e.g., preparatory meetings to conferences, meetings of the mercury group). UNEP is also an active partner and a host of coalitions aiming at coordinating actions in specific domains. Within the framework of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint, UNEP and WHO collaborate with partners, including the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and United States Environment Protection Agency, to prevent exposure to lead by promoting efforts to phase out paints containing lead. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), UNEP and WHO, together with relevant partners, are developing a global action plan on highly hazardous pesticides. UNEP also actively participated in the sessions of the FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management to ensure the mainstreaming of environment perspective in the guidance documents prepared in supporting the implementation of the International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management. In March 2023, UNEP accepted the invitation of FAO and WHO to be part of the “Joint Programme for the sound management of pesticides”¹⁵.

18. **UNEP, in collaboration with the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions as well as the secretariat of the Minamata Convention, is implementing projects to assist countries implement their obligations under these instruments.** Supporting countries’ commitments under the Minamata Convention on Mercury in artisanal and small-scale gold mining, the planetGOLD programme, funded by GEF and led by UNEP, in partnership with UNIDO, UNDP, Conservation International, governments, the private sector, and artisanal and small-scale gold mining communities, is working to eliminate mercury from the supply chain of gold produced by artisanal and small-scale miners. UNEP also works on a regular basis with IOMC organizations through the Global Mercury Partnership, which it coordinates, to support implementation of the Minamata Convention, provide state of the art knowledge and science, and raise awareness towards global action on mercury.

19. **IOMC organizations cooperated and coordinated closely in support of the beyond 2020 framework instrument negotiations,** as illustrated in the information document presented to IP4.2 on “Strengthening integrated chemicals and waste management: An IOMC contribution to the intersessional process on the “Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020” (SAICM/IP.4/INF/18). UNEP continued chairing the IOMC Working Group on indicators, which following a request at IP4.2, updated the information document entitled “Inventory and analysis report: existing indicators on chemicals and waste management” (SAICM/IP.4/INF/39). To further support the intersessional process, UNEP as part of IOMC, contributed to the organisation of a multi-stakeholder workshop, hosted by the OECD in January 2023 in Paris on “Advancing global chemicals and waste management in chemical intensive economic sectors and value chains”, and contributed to the hosting of the workshop on “Opportunities for economic sectors and industries to engage in international chemicals and waste management”, organised in June 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland.

¹⁴ <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/chemicals-waste/what-we-do/emerging-issues/issues-concern>

¹⁵ https://www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/gsb-subject-matter/statutory-bodies-details/en/c/396/?no_cache=1

20. **UNEP is addressing environmental dimensions of antimicrobial resistance (AMR), as part of the Quadripartite Alliance with FAO, WHO and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).** The joint 2022-2023 workplan includes: providing secretariat and support services to the global governance structures (i.e., the AMR Global Leaders Group, the AMR Multi-stakeholder Partnership Platform, and the AMR Multi-partner Trust Fund); making the economic and investment case on AMR; integrated surveillance; monitoring and evaluation; priority research agenda, and awareness raising. In addition, a workstream on AMR was included in the One Health Joint Plan of Action. A rebranding of the World AMR Awareness Week held in November annually was agreed, and joint events have been organised at global, regional, and country levels. Among publications launched are the One Health Priority Research Agenda for AMR, the Biennial report 2020-2021 and the 2022 AMR Multi-partner Trust Fund annual report.

F. Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals

21. **UNEP is collaborating with and WHO as well as OECD to update the information included in the 2012 Report on State of the Science of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals.** Due to financial support expected to be secured early 2024 from the European Union, the updating of the report, including convening of expert consultations, is expected to take place in 2024, with an expected release in the first half of 2025. An update on the status and way forward will be made available to UNEA-6 as document UNEP/EA.6/INF/13¹⁶.

22. **Other work led by UNEP contributed to the further development of knowledge on the issue of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals.** UNEP in cooperation with the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions and the financial support from the Governments of Norway, Sweden and Switzerland developed a report entitled “Chemicals in plastics: a technical report”¹⁷ in 2023. The report provides state of knowledge on chemical-related issues of plastic pollution, their adverse impacts and includes an overview of chemicals of concern based on their hazardous properties, which also include endocrine disruption. In cooperation with WHO, UNEP will also be executing a project on pharmaceuticals funded by the GEF. Amongst others, the project will aim at addressing both the scientific and policy barriers preventing robust action on Environmentally Persistent Pharmaceutical Pollutants and EDCs by promoting coordinated action by UNEP and WHO to develop global best practice protocols and policy guidance to facilitate early actions at key lifecycle ‘hotspots’ including manufacturing facilities and disposal of medicines.

G. Options for addressing asbestos contaminants in products and the environment

23. **A document outlining “Options for addressing asbestos contaminants in products and the environment” is being prepared by UNEP and WHO in collaboration with ILO,** with inputs from the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions ILO and with financial support from the government of Norway. The document covers topics such as: Status and extension of asbestos value chain – production, consumption, and disposal; Contamination with Asbestos in products and in the environment and adverse impacts on people and the planet, and Options for addressing asbestos contaminants in products and the environment. Annexes in digital format will complement the report with a set of figures and tables, historical trends statistics on asbestos value chain, and references. This joint UNEP and WHO document will be made available to UNEA-6 as document UNEP/EA.6/INF/14¹⁸.

H. Green and sustainable chemistry

24. **UNEA welcomed UNEP’s Green and Sustainable Chemistry: Framework Manual and its executive summary which highlight the crucial importance of environmentally sound innovation, and encouraged their use, as appropriate.** In response to this call, UNEP supported the dissemination of these tools and their application to specific sectors¹⁹. Practical guidance was developed to carry out the planning and implementation of strategic action to advance green and sustainable chemistry, drawing upon the experiences of stakeholders with relevant strategic

¹⁶ <https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea6/unea-6-documents>

¹⁷ <https://www.unep.org/resources/report/chemicals-plastics-technical-report>

¹⁸ <https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea6/unea-6-documents>

¹⁹ <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/chemicals-waste/what-we-do/policy-and-governance/green-and-sustainable-chemistry>

initiatives²⁰. On the Buildings and Construction Sector, a technical workshop was co-organized by UNEP and the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction (GlobalABC) Secretariat in January 2023 in Paris, France to discuss the potential of chemical innovations towards a more sustainable value chain, and key strategies to reach that potential²¹. An e-course and a Specialized Manual on Education to Green and Sustainable Chemistry are under development.

I. Technical advice, policy support and capacity-building for developing countries and countries with economies in transition

25. UNEP continued to provide technical advice, policy support and capacity-building to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including in meeting their obligations under chemicals and waste MEAs.

26. UNEP is supporting the implementation of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), including the generation of critical information on levels of POPs. This includes work through a GEF-funded Global Monitoring Plan project in 42 countries to build capacity and generate data on human exposure to and environmental existence of POPs to support the effectiveness evaluation of the Convention, and on disposal of PCB contaminated oil and equipment in 12 countries in the SADC region, one country in Western Africa and two countries in the Mediterranean. UNEP also supported reporting on national implementation plans (NIPs) and national reports, through the development of an integrated electronic toolkit to facilitate the development, transmission, access, and use of data. An additional 33 countries were supported in updating their NIPs, also with financial support from the GEF. Through contribution from Biovision, a Swiss based foundation, UNEP is also supporting the development of national road maps on alternatives to DDT in two African countries.

27. Significant work is conducted to support implementation of the Minamata Convention and addressing mercury pollution. To date UNEP has supported 68 countries in the development of Minamata Initial Assessments and 33 countries in the development of national action plans to reduce mercury use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining, with funding from the GEF. Further assisting countries in reducing and eliminating mercury in artisanal and small-scale gold mining, the largest source of global mercury pollution, is the planetGOLD programme, funded the GEF and led by UNEP. New GEF-funded projects have also started in primary mercury mining phase out, the control on skin-lightening products containing mercury, phase out of dental amalgam, and mercury trade. The GEF ISLANDS programme, led by UNEP, is working with 33 SIDS governments (29 directly with UNEP) and private sector partners to improve chemicals and waste management. UNEP further supported countries and action on mercury through the Global Mercury Partnership. Finally, supporting countries to generate and use scientific information for science-based policy development, UNEP organized inter-laboratory proficiency testing on mercury analysis. Trainings on mercury monitoring and mercury flow analysis were also organized in the context of the Japan funded project for promoting the Minamata Convention.

28. On lead in paint, the UNEP project “Global Best Practices on Emerging Chemical Policy Issues of Concern under SAICM”, financed by GEF and executed by the SAICM Secretariat was successfully completed. Through the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paint (Lead Paint Alliance), and with support from a GEF-funded project the number of countries that have passed lead-paint laws reached 93 as of 31 March 2023.²² 25 small and medium enterprises have completed pilots on lead paint reformulation, demonstrating lead paint reformulation is entirely possible. Guidance documents, factsheets, laboratory database and tools, as well as model legislation supporting the enactment of the lead paint laws were developed and are available on the Lead Paint Alliance webpage. Periodically, newsletters covering the lead paint topic are released and webinars are being organized. UNEP also released a Lead Paint Law Compliance and Enforcement Guidance (March 2023), which provides countries with guidance for the development and implementation of compliance and enforcement strategies for lead paint laws. Global webinars were jointly organized by UNEP, WHO and BRS Conventions Secretariat in the margins of the 2022 and 2023 International Lead Pollution Prevention Week.

29. With respect to Waste of Used Lead Acid Batteries (WLAB), and other sources of contamination, a Guidance Manual for Policymakers and Regulators on their Environmentally Sound

²⁰ www.unep.org/practical-guidance-strategic-action-advance-green-and-sustainable-chemistry

²¹ <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/43064/GSC-Workshop-Jan2023-Report.pdf?sequence=1>

²² <https://www.who.int/data/gho/data/themes/topics/indicator-groups/legally-binding-controls-on-lead-paint>

Management in Africa (in English and French) was developed by UNEP under a European Commission's project, in collaboration with Pure Earth. In addition, UNEP supported the development of national strategy documents for Burkina Faso and Tanzania and conducted a Baseline Assessment of waste lead-acid batteries collection, storage, and transportation practices in Ghana. UNEP organized several webinars with the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions Secretariat and other partners including UNICEF and WHO on WLAB Environmentally Sound Management. Seed funding has been secured for carrying out more work to address lead across multiple sources with planned demonstration in countries in the Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and Asia-Pacific regions.

30. **UNEP has supported countries in their efforts to address antimicrobial resistance.** At regional level, UNEP is carrying out a mapping exercise on the interventions related to AMR and the environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, and an analysis of the environmental dimensions of AMR in the African National Action Plans (NAP). UNEP is providing support to countries such as India, Kenya, and Nigeria to continue strengthening the environmental angle of their NAPs, and, together with the Quadripartite partners (FAO, WHO and WOA), is implementing projects in Bangladesh, Madagascar and Tunisia providing policy support and technical assistance. Moreover, the Quadripartite, led by UNEP, carried out capacity development activities on safe disposal of antimicrobials in Indonesia, Morocco, Peru, Tajikistan, and Zimbabwe. The Quadripartite develops guidance documents such as the 'Guidance to facilitate monitoring and evaluation for antimicrobial resistance national action plans', and the 'One Health Legislative Assessment Tool for AMR'.

II. Lessons learned

31. While some issues are being addressed, **more ambitious worldwide action by all stakeholders is urgently needed on a wide range of issues that require further international effort.** This includes issues highlighted in the Assessment Report.

32. **Financial and technical support along with capacity building remains critical** to address pollution and allow the sound management of chemicals and waste around the world.

33. **UNEP will continue working with member organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals and beyond,** to strengthen cooperation and avoid duplication of actions. UNEP will further support the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements on chemicals and waste. Collaboration with IOMC has been successful and is expected to be pursued as well in the context of the implementation of the new Framework for Chemicals.

34. **The activities of UNEP supporting countries in the sound management of chemicals and waste contribute to the implementation of the medium-term strategy objectives on chemicals and pollution.** The unsound management of chemicals and waste as well as unsustainable consumption and production not only generate pollution but also impact climate change and biodiversity. The deep interlinkages between the three planetary crises call for urgent action at all levels in a coordinated manner, including to avoid burden shifting. The recently adopted Kunming-Montreal global biodiversity framework and its target 7 that aims to reduce pollution risks and the negative impact of pollution from all sources, including pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals, are important signals for UNEP, FAO and WHO to expedite the engagement and exchange on approaches to accelerate the transition to nature and climate change positive, pollution-free planet.

35. **UNEP has built credibility by providing strong science and exercising secretariat functions.** UNEP was invited to work closely with the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals, other relevant United Nations organizations, instruments and frameworks, and the secretariats of relevant multilateral agreements to foster effective cooperation and collaboration in promoting and implementing the Global Framework for Chemicals.

36. **Additionally, UNEP was requested to administer a Global Framework on Chemicals Fund** to support framework stakeholders in the implementation of the framework, established by ICCM5. These accomplishments provide further lessons and experience on how to create impact and serve the needs of countries and the global commons in the area of chemicals and waste management.

37. **UNEP has been involved in the development and design of GEF-8 strategy,** especially for integrated programmes for hazardous chemicals and is expected to remain engaged when the GEF-9 strategy will be developed to ensure that the sectoral approach is reflected.

III. Recommendations and suggested actions

38. In relation to ICCM5 and the Global Framework for Chemicals, the Environment Assembly may wish:

- a) To welcome the outcomes of ICCM5 and encourage all Member States and relevant stakeholders to support the implementation of the new Global Framework for Chemicals – *For a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste*, including with sufficient staff and resources for the secretariat and to take note of the invitation by ICCM5 to relevant IOMC organizations to update the existing costs of inaction report.
- b) To review the terms of reference of the UNEP Special Programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention, and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management at its next session, taking into consideration the need for the implementation of the Global Framework for Chemicals.
- c) To take note of the urgent call by ICCM5 to all stakeholders across the life cycle of key economic and industrial sectors, including but not limited to food and agriculture, textiles, electronics, and building and construction, to commit themselves to the implementation of the Framework, and further encourage them to embed the sound management of chemicals across the life cycles and value chains, ensuring environmental, health and social, including labour considerations are addressed in a comprehensive manner alongside economic considerations.

In relation to chemicals and waste issues of concern, endocrine disrupting chemicals, antimicrobial resistance and asbestos, the Environment Assembly may wish:

- d) To take note, along the findings of the Assessment report, of the Summary analysis of views on issues of concern, including on priorities for further work and on potential further international action, and determine the path forward.
- e) Noting the ongoing work on Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals, to encourage UNEP to continue its cooperation on the issue with WHO as well as OECD and make available the updated 2012 Report on State of the Science of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals prior to its seventh session.
- f) To welcome UNEP's work on antimicrobial resistance (AMR), particularly the publication of its first spotlight report 'Bracing for Superbugs: Strengthening environmental action in the One Health response to antimicrobial resistance', and the leadership and consolidation of the joint work of the Quadripartite (FAO, UNEP, WHO and WOA), coordinated by the AMR Quadripartite Joint Secretariat. To encourage UNEP to continue its work in that context, and all Member States to support the work on the environmental dimensions of antimicrobial resistance, particularly in the road to the 2024 United Nations General Assembly High Level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance.
- g) To take note of the "Options for addressing asbestos contaminants in products and the environment" and the need for further work on the issue, in collaboration with the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the International Labour Organization and the World Health Organization.

In relation to support towards the sound management of chemicals and waste, the Environment Assembly may wish:

- h) To draw attention to the role that the sound management of chemicals and waste can play in addressing legacy pollution and shaping the future, from the design of environmentally sound innovative products, processes and value chains to sustainable consumption and production systems, as reflected in the medium-term strategy.
- i) To encourage Governments and regional economic integration organizations in a position to do so, and to invite the private sector, including industry, foundations, investors, other non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders, to mobilize and continue to mobilize financial and other resources to contribute to the sound management of chemicals and waste, including through contributions to the Special Programme and the new Global Framework on Chemicals Fund.
- j) Recognizing the need for impactful and meaningful capacity building, to further support developing countries towards achieving sustainable self-sustaining institutional and capacity strengthening as well as the adoption of comprehensive sectoral approaches.