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3 **Global Alliance on Highly Hazardous Pesticides**

4 **Operational Framework**

5 **Draft Version 2: June 2025**

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Preamble

This draft version 2 operational framework has been prepared by a task force established after the International Conference on Chemicals Management in its Fifth Session (ICCM5) consisting of focal points from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in response to resolution V/11 of the Global Framework on Chemicals. The task force received the support of focal points from the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (BRS), the International Labour Organization (ILO), and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) acting as observers; from the Global Framework on Chemicals Secretariat; and from a number of stakeholders who provided valuable comments and suggestions on the first draft of the operational framework that was presented at a task force webinar on 10 April 2025.

This advanced draft of the operational framework (version 2) describes a governance structure and modality for operations toward establishing and coordinating a global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides as a voluntary, multi-stakeholder initiative committed to achieving those targets of the Global Framework on Chemicals that are relevant to reducing global risks from highly hazardous pesticides. The draft operational framework emphasizes the goal and objectives, scope and application, and organizational structure of a global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides, thereby guiding stakeholders on how to contribute to its mission. The operational framework is not an action plan; but rather, it serves as a guiding document to organize and mobilize stakeholders around a shared governance structure.

The global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides' action plan—which will include concrete targets, milestones, and implementation steps—will be developed separately, through broad consultation and under the guidance of the final, accepted operational framework.

This second draft encompasses all requested changes by stakeholders as relevant to an operational framework (see annexes). The draft operational framework will be further discussed at the Global Framework on Chemicals Open-Ended Working Group at Punta del Este, Uruguay, in June 2025 with the intention to finalize the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides' operational framework.

1 Introduction

1. Highly Hazardous Pesticides are defined as those pesticides *‘acknowledged to present particularly high levels of acute or chronic hazards to health or environment according to internationally accepted classification systems such as the World Health Organization (WHO) or the Globally Harmonized System of Classification or their listing in relevant binding international agreements or conventions. In addition, pesticides that appear to cause severe or irreversible harm to health or the environment under conditions of use in a country may be considered to be and treated as highly hazardous’*¹.
2. The Global Framework on Chemicals – for a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals includes targets related to each of its five strategic objectives that are relevant to reducing the risks from highly hazardous pesticides. Target A7 states that *‘by 2035, stakeholders have taken effective measures to phase out highly hazardous pesticides in agriculture where risks have not been managed and where safer and affordable alternatives are available; and to promote transition to and make available those alternatives’*. Target D5 emphasizes the need to proactively promote alternatives to highly hazardous pesticides in agriculture and is, therefore, fundamental to achieving Target A7. Target D5 states that *‘by 2030, governments implement policies and programs to increase support to safer and more sustainable agricultural practices, including agroecology, integrated pest management and the use of non-chemical alternatives, as appropriate’*².
3. Furthermore, the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its Fifth Session (ICCM5), under Resolution V/11 endorsed *‘the formation of a global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides’* and invited *‘the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organization, within the scope of their respective mandates’*³ and available resources, to coordinate the work of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides, with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations taking the lead role’. (Resolution V/11 Highly Hazardous Pesticides; Annex I)

¹ Food and Agriculture Organization and World Health Organization (2016) *International code of conduct on pesticide management: Guidelines on highly hazardous pesticides*. FAO, Rome, Italy.

<https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/4aa015cc-f644-4a1a-88dc-d0c2272fca05/content>

² United Nations Environmental Program (2024) *Global Framework on Chemicals - For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste*. <https://www.chemicalsframework.org/>

³ Information on mandates can be found in relevant documents:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations - <https://www.fao.org/about/about-fao/en/>

International Labour Organization - <https://www.ilo.org/about-ilo>

United Nations Development Programme - <https://www.undp.org/about-us>

United Nations Environment Programme - <https://www.unep.org/who-we-are/about-us>

World Health Organization - <https://www.who.int/about>

- 89 4. The Conference further invited ‘*all interested stakeholders to become members of the global*
90 *alliance on highly hazardous pesticides and commit themselves to its overall goal and, where*
91 *appropriate, to contribute financial or in-kind resources or expertise towards the development*
92 *and implementation of its activities*’. (Resolution V/11 Highly Hazardous Pesticides; Annex I)
93
- 94 5. In 2024, the Sixth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly under resolution 6/11
95 further invited ‘*Member States and all other relevant stakeholders to become members of the*
96 *voluntary, multi-stakeholder global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides*’ and encouraged
97 ‘*Member States and other relevant stakeholders that are in a position to do so to carry out*
98 *further research on safer and affordable alternatives to highly hazardous pesticides, as*
99 *appropriate*’ (UNEA-6 Resolution 6/11 Highly Hazardous Pesticides; Annex II).

100 2 Goal and Objectives

- 101 6. The global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides will be a voluntary and multi-stakeholder
102 initiative that includes all relevant actors, working together, to achieve targets related to highly
103 hazardous pesticides under each of the strategic objectives of the Global Framework on
104 Chemicals with special reference to Targets A7 and D5 (Resolution V/11 Highly Hazardous
105 Pesticides; Annex I; UNEA-6 Resolution 6/11 Highly Hazardous Pesticides; Annex II).
106
- 107 7. The work of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides will contribute to achieving the
108 Sustainable Development Goals, in particular target 2.4 on sustainable food production systems
109 and resilient agricultural practices that help maintain ecosystems, and target 3.9 on substantially
110 reducing the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil
111 pollution and contamination (Resolution V/11 Highly Hazardous Pesticides; Annex I).
112
- 113 8. The global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides will develop and implement an action plan
114 with clear targets and milestones for progress, developed in consultation with stakeholders and
115 guided by the International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management (2014)⁴ and related
116 Guidelines on Highly Hazardous Pesticides (2016)⁵. (Resolution V/11 Highly Hazardous
117 Pesticides; Annex I).⁶
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⁴ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and World Health Organization (2014). *The International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management*; Rome, Italy.
<https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/4aa015cc-f644-4a1a-88dc-d0c2272fca05/content>

⁵ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and World Health Organization (2016). *International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management: Guidelines on Highly Hazardous Pesticides*; Rome, Italy.
<https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/7c65af6a-52ca-4e44-8c57-4303d076bea4/content>

⁶ Resolution V/11 further indicates that work to develop an action plan is to build on ‘*Initial considerations and elements of an action plan on highly hazardous pesticides*’, prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme; and the resolution outlines areas for consideration under the action plan.

3 Scope and Application

9. The United Nations system has no universal list of highly hazardous pesticides. The identification of nationally registered pesticides as highly hazardous is conducted by each national government and its respective designated pesticide authority. Identification of HHPs is based mainly on active ingredients (although certain additives are listed under relevant conventions), that meet one or more criteria as outlined by the FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management in its Guidelines on Highly Hazardous Pesticides (2016)⁷. These criteria are:

Criterion 1: Pesticide formulations that meet the criteria of classes Ia (extremely hazardous) or Ib (highly hazardous) of the WHO Recommended Classification of Pesticides by Hazard;

Criterion 2: Pesticide active ingredients and their formulations that meet the criteria of carcinogenicity Categories 1A and 1B of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals;

Criterion 3: Pesticide active ingredients and their formulations that meet the criteria of mutagenicity Categories 1A and 1B of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals;

Criterion 4: Pesticide active ingredients and their formulations that meet the criteria of reproductive toxicity Categories 1A and 1B of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals;

Criterion 5: Pesticide active ingredients listed by the Stockholm Convention in its Annexes A and B, and those meeting all the criteria in paragraph 1 of Annex D of the Convention;

Criterion 6: Pesticide active ingredients and formulations listed by the Rotterdam Convention in its Annex III;

Criterion 7: Pesticides listed under the Montreal Protocol;

Criterion 8: Pesticide active ingredients and formulations that have shown a high incidence of severe or irreversible adverse effects on human health or the environment.

10. Relevant stakeholders are expected to employ a diversity of approaches to achieve the Global Framework on Chemicals' targets related to highly hazardous pesticides. As a useful guide, the Guidelines on Highly Hazardous Pesticides describe a 3-step process for managing highly hazardous pesticides that government stakeholders, including pesticide regulators, are encouraged to employ. Where appropriate, the three-step process can also be employed by other stakeholders to manage risks from highly hazardous pesticides. The three steps are:

1. Identification of highly hazardous pesticides: Pesticide registries are analyzed against the eight criteria to identify which pesticide products are highly hazardous; surveillance, research and incident reporting data related to impacts on human health or the environment may be used during the identification step.

2. Needs and risk assessment of highly hazardous pesticides: A needs assessment is conducted for each product identified in the first step taking into consideration available alternatives, and associated risks to human health and the environment are assessed in

⁷ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and World Health Organization (2016). *International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management: Guidelines on Highly Hazardous Pesticides*; Rome, Italy.
<https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/7c65af6a-52ca-4e44-8c57-4303d076bea4/content>

- the context of exposure using available models, or through surveillance of implemented risk mitigation measures, of actual exposure, or of impacts.
3. Mitigation of risks associated with highly hazardous pesticides: Risk mitigation options are identified. These may include restricting or ending use, changing formulations or packaging or taking policy, administrative or practical actions, including through financial incentives, to establish or improve risk mitigation measures including during pesticide use and pesticide and/or container disposal, and to promote good agricultural practices and alternatives to highly hazardous pesticides through training, communication, research and monitoring of effectiveness. The most appropriate mitigation measures may be different for each highly hazardous pesticide and for each condition of use.
11. Key enabling factors in mitigation are effective communication and awareness raising about the risks from highly hazardous pesticides, as well as communicating the benefits of (e.g., Target B5)⁸ and making available alternatives, including through government support (e.g., Target D5) to transition away from highly hazardous pesticides.

4 Organizational Structure

12. FAO, UNDP, UNEP and WHO, with FAO as the lead organization⁹, will form an 'ad-hoc UN task force', without secretarial duties, to facilitate the establishment of the alliance. The ad hoc UN task force will act as an external facilitator of the alliance. The United Nations organizations that form the ad-hoc UN task force will work within the scope of their respective mandates and available resources. The ad hoc UN task force may be invited by the advisory council (see 15 below) to continue facilitation of the alliance's work after the alliance is established, with conditions to be outlined in jointly prepared terms of reference for the arrangement and subject to agreements between the relevant organizations.
13. The global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides is open to any stakeholders including but not limited to governments, regional economic integration organizations, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, industry, businesses, the financial sector, development banks, academia, youth organizations, workers' organizations, employers' organizations and retailers.
14. Conditions, if any, and mechanisms for interested stakeholders to become members of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides will be outlined in relevant terms of reference for membership developed through facilitation by the ad hoc UN task force and a temporary

⁸ Target B5: By 2030, educational, training and public awareness programmes on chemical safety, sustainability, safer alternatives and the benefits of reducing chemicals and waste risks have been developed and implemented, taking into consideration a gender-responsive approach.

⁹ Currently, the International Labor Organization (ILO) does not directly participate in the ad hoc UN task force pending further development of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides.

steering committee of interested stakeholders¹⁰. The terms of reference of the advisory council can be amended following establishment of the alliance if endorsed by the advisory council (see 15 below). At a minimum, a member might signify commitment to achieving the goal and objectives of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides.

15. The advisory council of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides has the role to provide strategic guidance, to inform activities across focal work areas, and to review and monitor progress in each of the focal areas. The advisory council may change, eliminate or propose additional focal work areas where stakeholders indicate sufficient interest in doing so, ensuring alignment with the goal and objectives of the alliance on highly hazardous pesticides as set out under resolution V/11.
16. The composition of the advisory council, the nomination and selection protocols for establishing the advisory council and the detailed roles of the advisory council will be outlined in the related terms of reference for the advisory council, developed through facilitation by the ad hoc UN task force and a temporary steering committee of interested stakeholders. The terms of reference of the advisory council can be amended following establishment of the alliance if endorsed by the advisory council and following a review by members of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides.
17. It is recommended that the advisory council membership will represent the diversity of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticide membership (see paragraph 13) and shall include meaningful participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and take into account geographical representation, gender balance, and age diversity, including the participation of youth.
18. An alliance coordination team (henceforth 'coordination team'), will coordinate and report on the work of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides and act as administrative support to the alliance under the direction of the 'advisory council'. The composition and roles of the 'coordination team' will be outlined in the relevant terms of reference endorsed by the advisory council.
19. The work of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides will be organized into focal work areas. These focal work areas will align with the action plan of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides as endorsed by the advisory council. It is recommended that focal work areas would, where possible, reflect the strategic objectives of the Global Framework on Chemicals and encompass each of the work areas listed under resolution V/11.
20. Each focal work area will have a technical working group. The technical working groups represent the main implementation mechanism of the action plan of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides. The composition of the technical working groups, the nomination and selection protocols for assigning members to technical working groups and to roles within

¹⁰ See terms of reference in FAO, UNDP, UNEP, WHO (2025) Global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides: draft concept notes on interim arrangements and establishing an interim steering committee.

the technical working groups and the functions of the technical working groups will be outlined in the related terms of reference endorsed by the advisory council.

5 Public Communication

21. The global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides aims to conduct outreach and dissemination activities relating to its work to the wider stakeholder community with an emphasis on reaching those most at risk from highly hazardous pesticides.
22. Members of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides shall not use the emblems or logos of other participating member organizations in promotional materials without prior approval of those organizations.
23. Members may not speak on behalf of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides outside the context of the alliance. Otherwise, any person who communicates in any form/media about the work of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides must indicate that he/she is representing personal views or views of their own organization.
24. The name 'global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides' shall not be used for commercial activities.
25. Reports and publications of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides to official bodies will be prepared by the coordination team in accordance with established global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides protocols and procedures. Protocols and procedures for publications will be outlined under the terms of reference of the coordination team as approved by the advisory council.
26. Information and resources, prepared and published by contributors to the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides may on occasion be listed on a website of the alliance. Protocols for listing, language options, suitability criteria for such resources and other considerations for listing on the website will be developed by the coordination team and endorsed by the advisory council.

6 Financial Resources

27. The global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides is not a financial mechanism. Members of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides are responsible for funding activities contributing to the implementation of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides' action plan. A financial plan for the alliance may be developed by alliance members; the plan may include provisions for transparency regarding financial or in-kind contributions, as well as offering guidance for funding proposals to the Global Framework on Chemicals Fund. The alliance may also see fit to support members in identifying funding opportunities.

7 Updating the Operational Framework

28. This operational framework may be updated to a new version as endorsed by the advisory council and following consultation with members of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides¹¹.

¹¹ A final version of the operational framework will be made available after a second review by stakeholders and further stakeholder engagement at the GFC Open-Ended Working Group held in Punta del Este, Uruguay, in June 2025. The handling of comments during the first review of the operation framework and contributions to the text from stakeholders are outlined in Annex III.

Annex I: Resolution V/11: Highly Hazardous Pesticides

The Conference,

Mindful of the goal expressed in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development of aiming to achieve, by 2020, that chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse impacts on human health and the environment, and of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015,

Recalling its resolution IV/3 on highly hazardous pesticides, which recognized highly hazardous pesticides as an issue of concern and called for concerted action to address highly hazardous pesticides in the context of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management,

Recalling also target A7 of the Global Framework on Chemicals – For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste, which states that by 2035, stakeholders have taken effective measures to phase out highly hazardous pesticides in agriculture where the risks have not been managed and where safer and affordable alternatives are available; and to promote transition to and make available those alternatives,

Building on the submission presented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the International Conference on Chemicals Management about scaling up efforts to address highly hazardous pesticides globally, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Health Organization and others,¹²

Noting that resolution IV/3 recognized that highly hazardous pesticides cause adverse human health and environmental effects in many countries, particularly in low-income and middle-income countries,

Taking into account the principles and approaches mentioned in section IV of the Global Framework on Chemicals – For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste,

Taking note of paragraphs 84 and 86 of the report¹³ of the 131st session of the Council of the Food and Agricultural Organization, which recognized that organization's role in the Strategic Approach and suggested that its activities in the framework of the Strategic Approach could include risk reduction, including the progressive ban on highly hazardous pesticides, promoting good agricultural practices, ensuring environmentally sound disposal of stockpiles of obsolete pesticides, and capacity-building in establishing national and regional laboratories,

Affirming the importance of the contributions of the Global Framework on Chemicals – For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular target

¹² See document SAICM/OEWG.3/INF/9, p. 67, available at <https://www.saicm.org/About/OEWG/OEWGmeetings/tabid/5984/language/en-US/Default.aspx>.

¹³ The relevant extract from the report is available at [CL 131/REP \(fao.org\)](https://www.fao.org/CL/131/REP/).

307 2.4¹⁴ on sustainable food production systems and resilient agricultural practices that help maintain
308 ecosystems and target 3.9 on substantially reducing the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous
309 chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination,

310 *Recognizing with appreciation* the significant work being done by the Food and Agriculture Organization
311 of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development
312 Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Health Organization and others to
313 raise awareness of and inform and guide pesticide regulators, industry, civil society and other
314 stakeholders on the identification and elimination of unacceptable risks from highly hazardous
315 pesticides,

316 *Noting* that the final report of the independent evaluation of the Strategic Approach from 2006 to
317 2015¹⁵ found that increased effort by Strategic Approach stakeholders to work in partnership to take
318 action on highly hazardous pesticides and promote agroecology would both protect and enhance
319 biodiversity and minimize the adverse impacts on health from exposure to chemical inputs for
320 vulnerable groups,

321 *Endorses* the formation of a global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides with the goal of taking
322 effective measures to phase out highly hazardous pesticides in agriculture where the risks have not been
323 managed and where safer and affordable alternatives are available; and to promote transition to and
324 make available those alternatives, as a voluntary multi-stakeholder initiative under the auspices of the
325 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the
326 United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World
327 Health Organization;

328 *Invites* all interested stakeholders to become members of the global alliance on highly hazardous
329 pesticides referred to in paragraph 1 above and commit themselves to its overall goal and, where
330 appropriate, to contribute financial or in-kind resources or expertise towards the development and
331 implementation of its activities;

332 *Requests* the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides to support the implementation of relevant
333 targets set by the Conference at its fifth session, and, in particular, to develop and implement an action
334 plan with clear targets and milestones for progress, developed in consultation with stakeholders and
335 guided by the International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management (2014) and the related
336 Guidelines on Highly Hazardous Pesticides (2016), which define the highly hazardous pesticides criteria
337 and describe the approach to managing risk; this work is to build on 'Initial considerations and elements
338 of an action plan on highly hazardous pesticides'¹⁶, prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organization

¹⁴ "By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality."

¹⁵ SAICM/ICCM.5/INF/1.

¹⁶ See document SAICM/ICCM.5/INF/16, p. 26.

of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme, in the following areas:

- (a) Raising awareness of the human health and environmental impacts of highly hazardous pesticides;
- (b) Identifying and promoting safer and more sustainable agricultural practices, including agroecology, integrated pest management and the use of non-chemical alternatives;
- (c) Sharing examples of countries having successfully phased out highly hazardous pesticides;
- (d) Supporting low- and middle-income countries in their efforts to strengthen national regulatory frameworks and phase out highly hazardous pesticides in agriculture where the risks have not been managed and where safer and affordable alternatives are available; and to promote transition to and make available those alternatives;
- (e) Mobilizing support for farmers and agricultural workers in their transition from the use of highly hazardous pesticides, where the risks have not been managed, towards less hazardous alternatives;
- (f) Supporting the agrifood supply chain in a transition from highly hazardous pesticides to safer and affordable alternatives, where available and where the risks have not been managed;

Invites the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organization, within the scope of their respective mandates and available resources, to coordinate the work of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides, with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations taking the lead role;

Invites the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides to report on progress to the Conference at its next session and to relevant regional meetings.

Annex II: Resolution Adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly on 1 March 2024 6/11. Highly Hazardous Pesticides

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Acknowledging resolutions IV/3 of 2 October 2015 and V/11 of 29 September 2023 of the International Conference on Chemicals Management,

Noting that unmanaged risks from the use of highly hazardous pesticides have the potential to cause harm, and that progress to reduce the associated risks globally has been slow and uneven owing to a lack of safe and affordable alternatives,

Noting General Assembly resolution 76/300 of 28 July 2022 on the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, and welcoming World Health Assembly resolution WHA76.17 of 30 May 2023 on the impact of chemicals, waste and pollution on human health,

Recalling target 7 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework¹⁷, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Acknowledging the significant work being done by the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations; the International Labour Organization; the secretariats of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants; the United Nations Environment Programme; the World Health Organization; and others to raise awareness of and inform and guide relevant stakeholders regarding highly hazardous pesticides,

Acknowledging that effective and inclusive multilateral action that addresses highly hazardous pesticides contributes to achieving the sound management of chemicals and waste,

Recognizing the need to scale up means of implementation, particularly for developing countries, to address highly hazardous pesticides and contribute to achieving the sound management of chemicals and waste,

1. *Encourages* stakeholders, including Member States, in accordance with target A7 of the voluntary, multi-stakeholder and multisectoral Global Framework on Chemicals – For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste¹⁸, to take effective measures to phase out highly hazardous pesticides in agriculture where the risks have not been managed and where safer and affordable alternatives are available, and to promote transition to and make available those alternatives;

¹⁷ Decision 15/4, annex. See document CBD/COP/15/17.

¹⁸ Resolution V/1 of 29 Sept. 2023, annex II, adopted by the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its fifth session. See document SAICM/ICCM.5/4.

392 2. *Invites* Member States to continue to cooperate and coordinate in efforts to prevent illegal
393 trafficking in highly hazardous pesticides, including, where relevant, as highlighted in decisions BC-
394 16/24 of 12 May 2023, RC-11/11 of 12 May 2023 and SC-11/23 of 12 May 2023, adopted by the
395 conferences of the parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of
396 Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent
397 Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm
398 Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, respectively, on synergies in preventing and combating
399 illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes;

400 3. *Invites* Member States and all other relevant stakeholders to become members of the voluntary,
401 multi-stakeholder global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides, to be established under the Global
402 Framework on Chemicals;

403 4. *Encourages* Member States and other relevant stakeholders that are in a position to do so to carry
404 out further research on safer and affordable alternatives to highly hazardous pesticides, as
405 appropriate;

406 5. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to support the
407 work of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides;

408 6. *Also requests* the Executive Director to report to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its
409 seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT

Annex III: Responses to Comments Received on Draft 1 of the Operational Framework

The draft version 2 of the operational framework has been prepared by the FAO, UNDP, UNEP, WHO task force for the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides following comments and suggestions on a first draft of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides operational framework. Comments and suggestions were submitted by interested stakeholders before 16 May 2025 and have been incorporated into draft version 2 as detailed below. Numbers indicate the relevant paragraphs in the second draft of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides operational framework.

Introduction

- 1) ☐ There were requests to add to the definition by indicating specific international agreements or references to criteria for identification, including possible listing of the criteria; however, because the definition used is the original definition from the Code of Conduct (2014), and the criteria for identification are fully listed elsewhere in the document, the definition has not been amended.
☐ The reference for the citation relates to the original publication in the Code of Conduct in 2014.
- 2) ☐ Several stakeholders requested that specific mention be made of target D5 as the target is inherent to achieving target A7. Target D5 has therefore been added to the document as an additional paragraph. This paragraph also indicates that the work of the global alliance is not limited to targets A7 and D5, but will also respond to other relevant targets.
☐ The paragraph uses language recommended by several stakeholders that the provision of alternatives needs to be proactive.
- 3) ☐ One stakeholder requested that the mandates of the listed UN organization could be indicated. A footnote has been added to direct readers to those mandates.
- 4) ☐ No comments received
- 5) ☐ No comments received

Goal and objectives

- 6) ☐ Several stakeholders requested that specific mention of target D5 be included in the paragraph; furthermore, a request was made to include language that emphasizes the collaborative nature of the alliance.
☐ Use of the word 'particular' referring to target A7 has been removed as requested by several stakeholders; however, special reference to target A7 and mention of the contributions from D5 under resolution GFC V/11 and UNEA-6/11 has been noted.

□ A request was made to align the language of paragraph 6 with the language of resolution V/11; to better reference the source of the information, both Annex I and II are cited.

7) □ Requests were made to include other SDG goals; however, the paragraph in its current form aligns with resolution V/11. To better indicate the source of the information reference to Annex I has been added.

8) □ Reference to the action plan uses the language of resolution V/11. Stakeholders noted that the original version of the operational framework included the word 'monitor' in relation to milestones and requested that the text be corrected to 'for' (i.e., for progress).

□ Furthermore, although mentioned in resolution V/11, several stakeholders requested that reference to the FAO/UNEP/WHO document 'Initial considerations and elements of an action plan on highly hazardous pesticides' be excluded from the text. For consistency, following several conflicting requests for the language to align more closely with resolution V/11, a footnote has been added to indicate that the document can be used as a starting point for developing the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides action plan.

□ One stakeholder suggested that the mechanism for development of the action plan should be included; however, these details are beyond the scope of this document and will be decided in consultation with members after establishment of the alliance.

Scope and application

9) □ Several stakeholders felt that there were inadequate provisions in the scope of work for civil society, non-government organizations or industry. The text throughout section 3 has been revised to broaden the scope and include information that may be more relevant to these sectors.

□ Requests to specifically mention published HHP lists from non-government organizations have not been followed; this is in keeping with the language of the Code of Conduct and the related Guidance on Highly Hazardous Pesticides, which are specifically mentioned in resolution V/11. For the same reason, requests to alter the text related to each of the eight criteria has not been followed.

10) □ Stakeholders requested several changes to this paragraph to broaden the scope and applications and thereby encompass more of the work of non-government organizations and industry in the context of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides. To this end, the first sentence indicates the diversity of work required to achieve GFC targets related to highly hazardous pesticides. The paragraph reminds stakeholders that the Guidance on Highly Hazardous Pesticides can be used as a guide for work, thereby avoiding exclusive language; it further highlights that the Guidance on Highly Hazardous Pesticides is directed at government stakeholders, but that it may also be employed where relevant by other stakeholder groups.

□ When listing the three steps outlined in the Guidance on Highly Hazardous Pesticides, several stakeholders requested that information related to each step should incorporate more details

from the original document, including the need to support work on HHPs through surveillance, research and data reporting.

□ Similarly, further information related to step two, including further emphasis on available alternatives, has been added in response to requests from several stakeholders.

□ Several requests were made to add specific details to the information related to step three – mitigation of risks: information was added to meet these requests while aligning the text with information presented in the Guidance on Highly Hazardous Pesticides.

□ Furthermore, a paragraph in the original draft which stated - The FAO/WHO Guidelines on Highly Hazardous Pesticides (2016) suggests that *‘for cases where highly hazardous pesticides pose high risks that are difficult to reduce while effective, less hazardous alternatives are available; the most effective option to mitigate such risks will often be to end its use through regulatory action’* was removed upon request from one stakeholder.

11) □ Paragraph 11 was added following requests from several stakeholders to place further emphasis on communication and on achieving target D5.

□ One stakeholder commented that *‘it is imperative to uphold the principles of equity, non-discrimination, and environmental justice, ensuring that all populations, particularly those in low- and middle-income countries with limited regulatory capacity, are afforded equal protection from the harms associated with hazardous chemicals’*. This comment was welcomed; however, the language needs consideration by a wider stakeholder group and could be added to a subsequent version of the operational framework after revision by the advisory council, or may be included in the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides action plan.

Organizational structure

12) □ One stakeholder requested that an original paragraph that read *‘the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides is a voluntary and multi-stakeholder initiative working to implement relevant targets of the Global Framework on Chemicals related to highly hazardous pesticides,’* was too repetitive of paragraph 6; the paragraph was removed to improve clarity.

□ Further details have been added concerning the ad hoc UN task force. Stakeholders commented that the original version of the operational framework allowed too much influence on the functioning and governance of the alliance by the UN organizations. Therefore, the text has been altered to downplay the role of the ad hoc UN task force, including that the task force may be invited to participate in the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides by the advisory council following the establishment of the alliance. Paragraph 12 reminds readers that such an arrangement will need to be developed together with the UN organizations and the advisory council and, furthermore, that the task force would be outside the boundaries of the alliance. Stakeholders suggested that protocols and mechanisms for UN organizations and FAO leadership will need to be defined together with stakeholders.

□ Paragraph 12 emphasizes the current facilitatory role of the UN organizations in establishing the alliance without reference to future UN roles.

□ The order of the paragraphs (12-20) has been changed to better reflect the sequence of developing the alliance. This is in response to queries by several stakeholders regarding the sequence.

13) □ Several stakeholders requested additions to the list of possible stakeholders that might become members of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides; the text reminds readers that members are 'not limited to' the entities listed (i.e., the list is not exclusive); however, some additions have been made to the list following requests from stakeholders.

14) □ Several stakeholders rejected any conditions on membership of the alliance on highly hazardous pesticides as was outlined in the original version of the operational framework. These conditions (i.e., resource, action, information or other support) have been removed from the text; however, a recommended minimum requirement of commitment to the alliance remains in the text.

□ The text indicates that details of the conditions and mechanisms for membership will be outlined in the terms of reference for members to be endorsed by the advisory council.

15) □ There were no objections to having an advisory council. The text has been slightly altered to align with previous changes to the document.

16) □ Stakeholders rejected all information and recommendations related to the composition of the advisory council. Therefore, the text has been changed to indicate that the terms of reference for the advisory council will be developed by the ad hoc UN task force and a temporary steering committee of stakeholders.

□ Terms of reference for the temporary steering committee are presented in a separate document and will be finalized after consultation with stakeholders at the Global Framework on Chemicals Open-Ended Working Groups to be held in Punta del Este, Uruguay in June 2025.

□ The text of paragraph 16 further indicates that the terms of reference for the advisory council can be amended following establishment of the alliance.

17) □ Several stakeholders voiced concerns about representation on the advisory council. Paragraph 17 has therefore been included to note the recommendations for representation and to include specific text as requested by some stakeholders.

18) □ Stakeholders had no objections to a coordination team; however, several stakeholders requested that the composition and role of the coordination team need to be decided by stakeholders. Paragraph 18 has therefore been altered to remove text related to the composition of the coordination team and the roles of the team. Furthermore, text has been added to indicate that these details will be outlined in the terms of reference for the coordination team to be endorsed by the advisory council.

19) □ Several authors rejected the designation of focal work areas in the original version of the operational framework, indicating that focal work areas will need to be decided by members of the alliance through development of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides action plan. The text of paragraph 19 has been changed to reflect these ideas. Furthermore, a recommendation is included that the focal work areas would reflect the strategic objectives of the Global Framework on Chemicals and the work areas listed in resolution V/11. This recommendation has been made following comments from stakeholders.

20) □ There were no objections to technical working groups each aligned with a focal work area. However, stakeholders rejected the proposed composition of the technical working groups and the selection of technical working group co-chairs as presented in the original version of the operational framework. The text has therefore been revised to indicate that the composition of the technical working groups and the assignment of members to technical working groups, including the protocols for nomination and selection of group leaders, will be outlined in the terms of reference of the technical working groups to be endorsed by the advisory council.

Public communication

21) □ Additional text has been added to paragraph 21 following a suggestion by one stakeholder.

22) □ Stakeholders requested changes to the original text in paragraph 22, specifically that reference to use of the names of the UN organizations without approval be removed, and that the information be expanded to include consideration of the use of emblems and logos on any of the members.

23) □ Minor clarifications added.

24) □ Stakeholders requested that reference to use of the name global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides in promotional materials be removed. The text related to commercial activities remains.

25) □ Minor clarifications added.

26) □ Stakeholders rejected the proposal on the original operational framework to only publish UN documents or otherwise sanctioned global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides documents. The text has therefore been altered to indicate that decisions regarding listing of information on the alliance website will be developed by the coordination team and endorsed by the advisory council.

Financial resources

27) □ Paragraph 27 has been expanded to include suggested text from stakeholders.

606 **Updating the operational framework**

607 ☐ A further paragraph was added to indicate that the operational framework produced by the ad hoc
608 UN task force in consultation with potential members and other interested stakeholders can be updated
609 at a later time following consulta

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