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**Second meeting of the open-ended ad hoc group on
measurability and indicators**

Online, 14 August 2024, 14:00-16:00 CEST

Report of the second meeting of the open-ended ad hoc group on measurability and indicators

1. Opening and welcome

Ms. Itsuki Kuroda (Japan) and Ms. Keima Gardiner (Trinidad and Tobago), Co-Chairs of the open-ended ad hoc group on measurability and indicators (OEAHGMI) opened the second meeting of the ad hoc group at 14h00 CEST on 14 August 2024 and welcomed participants.

2. Organizational matters

a) Adoption of the agenda

The Co-chair presented the provisional agenda for the meeting (GFC/OEAHGMI.2/1) that was posted on the webpage of the [second meeting](#) of the OEAHGMI on 8 August 2024.

The Co-chair invited participants to raise additional points under agenda item 8, any other business. With no other items raised, the provisional agenda was adopted.

b) Organization of work

The Co-chair informed participants that the working documents for the meeting were available on the webpage dedicated to the [second meeting](#). With respect to the frequency of meetings, she recalled that the group was expected to convene every quarter for two to three hours depending on the agenda to advance its work, and that meetings will be held in an online setting. Finally, she reminded that meetings will be conducted in English only.

3. Updates on the workstreams

The Co-Chairs informed the meeting of the number of participant registrations received to date to the three workstreams: Workstream 1, Assessment of existing indicators identified in document SAICM/IP.4/INF/39/Rev.1: 85 participants; Workstream 2, Development of additional indicators needed to complete the measurability structure: 77 participants; and Workstream 3, Identification and assessment of thematic and sector-specific indicators: 86 participants. Following a query it was indicated that the participant list was posted to the website and was made available to the respective team leads.

a) Thought starter on criteria

The Secretariat introduced document [GFC/OEAHGMI.2/2 “Thought starter – On the criteria to select indicators of the Global Framework on Chemicals”](#). The thought starter expands on the criteria that are listed in the Measurability structure in Annex III to the Framework and delineates the three criteria that were identified by the Co-Chairs to be used to refine the number of indicators and identify top priority indicators from the existing list. The aim of the thought starter is to provide a comprehensive guide

that can support stakeholders in their analysis and selection of indicators.

The Co-Chair stressed that the goal is to have strong criteria to help narrow down the number of indicators, and she added that, the ad hoc group might propose new relevant criteria, aligned with the objective, to be recommended to the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) for consideration at its next meeting in June 2025. It was also emphasized that it will be important to have indicators that address all targets and to consider that for new indicators the practicality and accessibility of data generation will have to be considered with regard to criteria owing to the fact that historical data might not be available to create a baseline and assess progress.

b) Thought starter on Factsheet for an indicator

The Secretariat introduced document [GFC/OEAHGMI.2/3 “Thought starter – Proposed Factsheet template for indicators of the Global Framework on Chemicals”](#). The purpose of the factsheet is to allow standardization of the presentation of information, hence to facilitate the evaluation and comparison of different indicators and provide a robust methodology to assess their relevance and pertinence to the Framework. The factsheet consists of five sections: Specifications, assessment, data specifications, methodology and references.

Further guidance on the completion of the factsheets for the indicators will be given at the next meeting of the ad hoc group.

Participants were requested to provide comments on the two thought starters to the Secretariat (unep-gfc.secretariat@un.org) by 6 September 2024.

4. Update on progress of work under workstream 1

Concept note workstream 1

The Co-Chair recalled that at the second segment of the first meeting of the OEAHGMI, the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC), as team leader of workstream 1, was requested to prepare a concept note outlining the working modalities with stakeholders, including in terms of further feedback from the wider group, and the new list of indicators.

The IOMC introduced document [GFC/OEAHGMI.2/4 “Concept note – Workstream 1”](#). The concept note outlines the progress made by the IOMC since the submission of the “Inventory and Analysis Report: Existing Indicators on Chemicals and Waste Management” (SAICM/IP.4/INF/39/Rev.1) at the fourth meeting of Intersessional process (IP4) in 2022 and 2023. It guides stakeholders on the assessment of the list of screened indicators and it suggests planned next steps, including engagement of stakeholders registered to workstream 1 of the OEAHGMI through an online consultation in September. IOMC also explained the approach used to screen and organize the indicators into two priority groups: group 1 consisting of indicators that respond to all criteria and group 2 consisting of indicators with elements reflecting different sectors but that present some gaps in the criteria.

Participants were requested to provide comments on the concept note submitted by the IOMC to the Secretariat (unep-gfc.secretariat@un.org) by 6 September 2024.

The IOMC proposed a consultation webinar to take place in September 2024 and for which invitations will be sent to stakeholders of workstream 1 in the following weeks. During the online consultation the IOMC will propose to work on the two priority groups of indicators. Stakeholders will also have the opportunity to propose indicators that align with the Framework, satisfy the screening criteria and fit with the objective of reducing the number of indicators and enhancing their robustness. Depending on the outcome of the consultation, workstream 1 might have a second consultation in October 2024.

The IOMC welcomed the proposal of the European Commission to present the Indicator Framework, developed by the EU, during the consultation webinar in September.

5. Update on progress of work under workstream 2

The Co-Chair recalled that at the second segment of the first meeting of the OEAHGMI it was agreed that workstream 2, keeping in mind identified gaps, would focus on the development of indicators that are not currently available but they are needed in order to complete the measurability structure of the Framework. It was agreed that the work on the high-level indicators would start immediately.

a) Concept note on global environmental burden attributable to chemicals and waste indicator

The Co-Chair informed the meeting that at the second segment of the first meeting UNEP, as team leader of workstream 2, was requested to prepare a concept note that outlines a workplan for the development of the high-level indicator on the global environmental burden attributable to chemicals and waste, including setting out working modalities with stakeholders and timeline.

UNEP introduced document [GFC/OEAHGMI.2/5 “Draft Concept note - Workstream 2 - Proposed approach in developing a high-level indicator on the global environmental burden attributable to chemicals and waste”](#). The concept note sets out a possible approach in developing the high-level indicator on the global environmental burden, highlighting six key steps: 1. Define the primary objectives and scope; 2. Review criteria to be met; 3. Identify main elements of the high-level indicator; 4. Determine the Methodology; 5. Test the indicator; and 6. Develop a factsheet on the indicator. UNEP also proposed the organization of work with stakeholders registered to workstream 2 of the OEAHGMI as well as a timeline. Stakeholders with environmental background as well as knowledge in gender and other themes relevant to chemicals and waste were encouraged to participate and contribute to the work of workstream 2.

Participants were requested to provide comments on the concept note submitted by UNEP to the Secretariat (unep-gfc.secretariat@un.org) by 6 September 2024.

UNEP proposed that workstream 2 could meet virtually every two months, starting with the first meeting in September 2024. This arrangement would allow the group to have four meetings until the next meeting of the OEWSG in June 2025. It was also proposed that steps 1, 2 and 3 of the concept note would be covered in the first four meetings and steps 4, 5 and 6 would be developed after the OEWSG and before the International Conference in 2026.

b) Concept note on the global burden of disease attributable to chemicals and waste indicator

The Co-Chair recalled that at the second segment of the first meeting of the OEAHGMI it was agreed that WHO would lead the work on the development of a high-level indicator on global burden of disease.

WHO introduced background information on the global burden of disease attributable to chemicals and waste including relevant published work that will support the development of the concept note (document GFC/OEAHGMI.2/6). The concept note will be based on the presentation provided at the meeting and will outline a workplan for the development of the high-level indicator, including a timeline for a series of webinars.

WHO will submit the concept note in early September. Participants were requested to provide comments on the concept note to the Secretariat within two weeks following the submission of the document (unep-gfc.secretariat@un.org).

WHO will circulate a concept note based on the presentation given at the meeting in early September 2024. WHO will organize a webinar in November 2024 on the global burden of disease and on proposed approaches for the development of new indicators relevant to the GFC. Workstream 2 will establish a task group to investigate options for combining different groups of indicators. In addition, an assessment of the burden of disease from waste will be carried out.

6. **Update on progress of work under workstream 3**

The Co-Chair recalled that at the second segment of the first meeting of the OEAHGMI, workstream 3 was tasked to identify and assess indicators (either existing or under development) covering different sectors and themes of relevance to the Global Framework on Chemicals and its implementation programmes. The secretariat, team leader of the workstream 3 informed the meeting that a [questionnaire “Invitation to Contribute: Stakeholder input for Workstream 3 on Thematic and Sector-Specific Indicators”](#) was shared on 24 July 2024 with stakeholders registered to workstream 3. The questionnaire focuses on three sections:

1. A first group of indicators: indicators measuring the integration of safe and sustainable management of chemicals and waste into sustainable development decision making processes related to Sustainable Development Goals, climate change, biodiversity loss, labour, health, waste management, finance, trade, gender;

2. A second group of indicators: indicators measuring the implementation of the Global Framework on Chemicals in economic and industrial sectors along value chains including but not limited to food and agriculture, textiles, electronics, and building and construction;
3. A third section focused on Development of new indicators.

The answers received will help the Secretariat in developing a scoping exercise to identify indicators (existing or under development) that cover different sectors and themes of relevance to the Global Framework on Chemicals and its implementation programmes.

The deadline set to complete the questionnaire is 31 August 2024.

The secretariat also encouraged participants to complete a survey that was recently launched by IOMC [“Implementing the Global Framework on Chemicals in Economic and Industry Sectors: A global survey to support development of a GFC implementation programme on industry engagement and action along value chains”](#). The survey focuses on implementing the Global Framework on Chemicals in Economic and Industry Sectors and contains two questions that will be relevant to the work to be conducted under workstream 3.

7. Next steps

The Co-Chairs suggested that the third meeting of the OEAHGMI be held on 13 November 2024 and that date was agreed upon by the group.

Workstream 1 – (Assessment of existing indicators identified in document SAICM/IP.4/INF/39/Rev.1)

Workstream 1 will complete its work before the third meeting of the OEAHGMI and present a draft outcome at that meeting. A final outcome will be presented at the fourth meeting of the OEAHGMI in February 2025.

The online consultation in September 2024 will also welcome an intervention from EC-EU introducing the indicator framework for chemicals that was recently adopted by the European Union.

Workstream 2 - (Development of additional indicators needed to complete the measurability structure: global environmental burden attributable to chemicals and waste indicator)

UNEP will report back on the progress made by workstream 2 at the third meeting of the OEAHGMI.

Workstream 2 – (Development of additional indicators needed to complete the measurability structure: global burden of disease attributable to chemicals and waste indicator)

WHO will report back on the progress made by workstream 2 at the third meeting of the OEAHGMI.

Workstream 3 – (Identification and assessment of thematic and sector-specific work)

The secretariat will use the answers received from the questionnaire in the development of the scoping exercise. The secretariat will present the outcome of the work and a path forward at the third meeting of the OEAGMI.

The Co-Chairs clarified that, only after the work has been completed by workstream 1 and workstream 3, based on the outcome of their work carried out in identifying gaps, the OEAHGMI will consider proposals for additional work under workstream 2 on the development of new indicators. The additional work might include headline indicators, targets that do not have any indicator identified as well as other indicators that do not address any target, such as indicators on gender, finance, sectoral approach and implementation programmes.

The Co-Chairs informed the meeting that workstreams are open to all stakeholders interested in participating in their work. Registration is still open on the website via the online [“Task Team Registration – Measurability and Indicators Workstreams”](#) and the list of registered participants will be periodically updated.

They also reiterated that written submissions from task team leads are to be sent to the Secretariat two weeks in advance of the next meeting and will be uploaded to the website. Further, the work of the teams will be supported by the Secretariat, upon request. Also, as usual, any other submission from relevant stakeholders can be sent to the Secretariat via email to unep-gfc.secretariat@un.org. Lastly, all meeting reports and relevant documentation will be uploaded on the webpages dedicated to the

work of the group, as is customary.

8. Any other business

No items were raised under any other business.

9. Closure of the meeting

The Co-chairs thanked the participants for their participation and the colleagues for their availability to lead the groups. The meeting was closed at 16:10 CEST.
