

Global Alliance on Highly Hazardous Pesticides

Draft concept notes on interim arrangements and establishing an Interim Steering Committee

This note has been prepared by an ad-hoc UN task force comprising 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).

- 1) The ad-hoc UN task force of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides will facilitate an interim steering committee, as a multi-stakeholder working group, to develop terms of reference for members and the foundational structure that will support the development and establishment of the alliance in the first year of its operation.
- 2) The interim steering committee will be composed of up to 20 members that participate as representatives for key stakeholder groups, and can include, but are not limited to: representatives of governments, regional economic integration organizations, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, youth organizations, industry, businesses, the financial sector, development banks, academia, workers' organizations and employers' organizations and retailers. Furthermore, the interim steering committee shall include participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and shall take into account geographical representation, age and gender balance. There will be three co-chairs on the committee.
- 3) Key stakeholder groups will be represented on the interim steering committee as follows:
 - Representatives for government (including regional integration organizations) institutions related to agriculture, industry, health, or environment (5 positions);
 - Representatives of industry, including advocacy groups, chemical industry, plant health industry, retail industry, agri-food industry, and the financial sector (3 positions);
 - Representative of civil society organizations (4 positions, including consumer associations, indigenous and vulnerable groups, rural development, environmental and health institutions);
 - Representatives of academic, science and research institutions both public and private with experience in chemical risk management (3 positions);
 - Representative of labor and employer organizations (1 position);
 - The ad-hoc UN task force will be represented as ex-officio observers on the interim steering committee (4 positions). The ad-hoc UN task force will not form part of the steering committee.
- 4) Organizations with subsidiary groups will be represented only once on the interim steering committee.
- 5) Participation on the interim steering committee will not be remunerated by the interim steering committee, by the ad-hoc UN task force, or by any of its member organizations.
- 6) Participation on the interim steering committee will not influence membership by the individual or his/her organization in the future governance of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides.

Functions of the interim steering committee

- 7) Interim steering committee members will attend virtual meetings to delegate work, exchange ideas and report on progress. The committee will decide on the frequency of meetings. The tasks for the interim steering committee are as follows:
- Act as a steering committee until a global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides advisory council is in place;
 - Will take into account the inputs of the lunchtime meeting dedicated to the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides at the Global Framework on Chemicals, Open-Ended Working Group at Punta del Este, Uruguay, on 27 June 2025;
 - Will coordinate its own activities, including selecting chairs/co-chairs, and engage with the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides ad-hoc UN task force;
 - Will develop terms of reference and application procedures for members of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides;
 - Will develop terms of reference including a reporting framework, nomination and selection protocols for advisory council members of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides;
 - Will initiate development of terms of reference for the coordination team of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides, to be completed or endorsed by the established advisory council;
 - Will initiate development of terms of reference for technical working groups and nomination and selection of team leads, without reference to focal work areas, for the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides, to be completed or endorsed by the established advisory council;
 - Will make recommendations to the advisory council on the need for, and mechanisms for continuing facilitation of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides by the ad-hoc UN task force;
 - Will ensure strong stakeholder feedback through webinars, surveys, personal communications, etc.; when defining terms of reference and statutes of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides. Members of the interim steering committee should consult with stakeholders from the stakeholder group that they represent to support decisions of the committee;
 - Will make the initial calls and acceptance/rejection of global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides members working with the ad-hoc UN task force on mechanisms for broad communication of the call and reception of expressions of interest;
 - Will oversee the formation of the first global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides advisory council through the selection of candidates from among the alliance members;
 - Will forward a report to the first advisory council on the interim steering committee activities and outcomes;
 - Will disband itself after establishment of the first advisory council and having completed its functions.

United Nations organizations and the interim steering committee

- 8) 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) will continue to function together as an ad-hoc UN task force offering engagement of the steering committee with the UN organizations.
- 9) The ad-hoc UN task force will provide some administrative support to the interim steering committee, at least until the establishment of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides.

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96 **Application and selection of interim steering committee membership**
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- 98 10) Entities wishing to nominate a candidate for the interim steering committee should forward a.
99 nomination letter to the ad-hoc UN task force from a nominating organization and duly signed
100 by a senior manager or head of the organization.
101
- 102 11) The nomination letter should indicate the name of the nominee, the sector that he/she will
103 represent, the organization at which the candidate works, and the reasons for proposing the
104 individual. Whereas the nomination letter must be completed by an organization to which the
105 nominee does not belong, the nomination form can be completed by the individual or by the
106 nominating organization and will include options to address selection criteria.
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- 108 12) Nominating organizations must represent a government entity, or a recognized organization
109 that is currently and actively working in agriculture, health, environment or human rights
110 sectors, and is preferably active in work towards pesticide risk reduction.
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- 112 13) Nomination of candidates will imply that the candidate is aware of the nomination and that the
113 candidate will agree to the time commitments as a member of the interim steering committee.
114 The nominee must support the goal and objectives of the global alliance on highly hazardous
115 pesticides as indicated in resolution V/11 of the Global Framework on Chemicals.
116
- 117 14) The members of the steering committee will be selected by the ad-hoc UN task force as part of
118 the task force's facilitation and coordination for establishing the global alliance on highly
119 hazardous pesticides as stipulated in resolution V/11 of the Global Framework on Chemicals.
120
- 121 15) The ad-hoc UN task force will apply selection criteria related to (A) capacity and (B)
122 representation of broader stakeholder diversity (i.e., sectoral representation, regional
123 representation, representation for countries with economies in transition, age and gender,
124 etc.)(see Annex I).
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- 126 16) Selection will be based on nominations received from stakeholders to the ad-hoc UN task force
127 after the lunchtime event dedicated to the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides at the
128 Global Framework on Chemicals, Open-Ended Working Group at Punta del Este, Uruguay, on 27
129 June 2025. A link will be provided to record expressions of interest (nomination form) and to
130 upload nomination letters
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133 **Modality of work**

- 134 17) Virtual meetings (recommended regular meeting, such as weekly, biweekly or monthly, but with
135 the frequency as defined by the committee members)
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137 **Annex 1: Selection criteria**

A1	Demonstrated experience in aspects of pesticide risk management; pesticide registration; the agricultural, environmental and human health impacts of pesticides; or other topics that benefit the work of the global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides.
A2	Demonstrated experience in developing or implementing international policy/agreements related to health, environment, or chemical industry; including participation as a delegate or observer in a relevant Conference of the Parties (COP).
A3	Experience in developing, establishing, coordinating or operating a multisectoral organization, dedicated work group, or project.
A4	Active role in developing statutes for a multisectoral organization, dedicated work group, or multisectoral/international project.
A5	Demonstrated experience in leadership/chairing roles
B1	Regional representation (governments)
B2	Regional representation (organizations)
B3	Gender representation
B4	Sectoral representation
B5	Youth representation
B6	Representation of Low and Middle-Income Countries

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