

IPEN Closing Statement

By Gohar Khojayan

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Thank you, Co-Chair.

I speak on behalf of Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment and IPEN.

The Global Framework on Chemicals (GFC) provides a vital policy framework aimed at preventing or minimizing harm from chemicals and waste to protect human health and the environment. The situation on the ground requires strong political will and sustained commitment from all stakeholders for its implementation.

Since its adoption, work has primarily focused on finalizing structural elements of the framework. However, what remains missing is a concrete plan with specific, targeted action items to accelerate implementation in the period leading up to the first International Conference.

Effective implementation of the GFC requires adequate, sustained, and sufficient financial resources. Significantly more resources are needed to support GFC implementation. Building on the existing GFC Fund, it is crucial that financial resources are equitably accessible to all stakeholders, with particular emphasis on low- and middle-income countries. The Fund should operationalize the "polluter pays" principle by securing financial contributions from industry actors whose activities contribute to chemical pollution.

The GFC's multistakeholder and multisectoral approach is a critical strength that needs to be fully realized in practice. Concrete efforts are needed to ensure consistent, meaningful representation across all sectors and stakeholder groups—especially civil society—throughout implementation, decision-making, and governance.

IPEN underlines the importance of the Gender Action Plan, which aims to integrate gender considerations into all aspects of chemical management.

IPEN welcomes the overwhelming support for the retention of all current issues of concern. To ensure meaningful progress, a dedicated implementation strategy, including work plans with timelines, financial resources, and a lead country or organization must be developed for each IoC.

IPEN hopes that the measurability framework will be finalized for adoption at IC-1. The framework must support transparent, publicly accessible data and enable participatory monitoring, including through community-based and civil society-led mechanisms. This makes it all the more critical that the measurability structure includes indicators that track progress in resource mobilization—both in terms of scale and effectiveness.

IPEN welcomes the work going into the establishment of a Global Alliance on HHPs (GAHHPs) which offers a platform to coordinate international efforts, share best practices, and promote non-chemical approaches such as agroecology.

Finally, IPEN supports enhanced international cooperation to ensure that the GFC contributes meaningfully to broader global goals, including the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Thank you.