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**Global Framework on Chemicals – accelerating action: implementation arrangements, national focal points and capacity-building**

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# Accelerating action: implementation arrangements, national focal points and capacity-building

**Note by the secretariat**

## I. Introduction

1. In resolution V/7, the International Conference on Chemicals Management, at its fifth session, requested the secretariat of the Global Framework on Chemicals – for a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste to develop draft guidelines for national focal points for consideration at the first session of the International Conference of the Global Framework on Chemicals.

2. In resolution V/8, the International Conference on Chemicals Management invited the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC), Governments, stakeholders and other international organizations to develop proposals for implementation programmes for consideration at the first session of the International Conference of the Framework.

3. The Global Framework on Chemicals provides for the International Conference of the Framework to develop a strategy for capacity-building and supporting technology transfer on mutually agreed terms. It also provides for the International Conference, as part of its functions, to promote cooperation and coordination among international instruments and programmes relating to chemicals and waste, while the secretariat continues to strengthen working relationships with IOMC participating organizations and their networks, other United Nations bodies and the secretariats of relevant international agreements in order to draw upon their sectoral expertise.

4. The present note provides information on activities conducted in relation to the guidelines for focal points and the accompanying road map, the capacity-building and technology transfer strategy, the development of implementation programme proposals, and international cooperation and coordination.

* UNEP/GFC/IC.1/1.

# II. Activities to implement the Global Framework on Chemicals

## A. Development of guidelines for national focal points

5. The secretariat developed draft guidelines for focal points and an accompanying road map, taking into consideration the views expressed by the Bureau, input received during expert and stakeholder consultations and comments received after the first meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, held in June 2025 in Punta del Este, Uruguay.

6. A stakeholder consultation was held on the draft guidelines and the road map on 23 September 2025 and the documents were revised based on the comments received. The revised draft guidelines and road map are set out in document UNEP/GFC/IC.1/INF/6.

7. The draft guidelines and road map are intended to assist focal points in supporting the implementation of the Framework. They take into consideration national circumstances, institutional arrangements and available capacities and cover key areas of focal point work, including communication, coordination, reporting, resource mobilization and capacity-building.

8. In addition, the secretariat has strengthened the national focal point nomination process. Nominations must now be directed through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to reflect the policy breadth of the Global Framework on Chemicals and to encourage wider representation from ministries responsible for health, labour, business and consumer protection. This approach has contributed to increased representation from across Government, including the health and labour sectors, among designated focal points and alternates.

9. To support newly nominated national focal points, the secretariat launched a pilot induction programme to provide the skills and tools needed for effective national coordination, stakeholder engagement and Framework implementation. The pilot was a success and will be expanded to all focal points across the various regions and stakeholder constituencies.

## B. Capacity-building and technology transfer strategy

10. The secretariat developed a draft capacity-building and technology transfer strategy pursuant to the Framework provision on capacity-building and supporting technology transfer on mutually agreed terms. A stakeholder consultation on the draft strategy was held on 4 September 2025 and the draft was revised based on the comments received. The revised draft strategy is set out in document UNEP/GFC/IC.1/INF/6.

11. The strategy is intended to strengthen the capacity of countries and stakeholders to implement the Framework, in line with national circumstances and priorities. It identifies capacity needs, strategic priority areas and delivery models for capacity-building and technology transfer support. It also includes a voluntary self-assessment tool to help countries and stakeholders identify capacity strengths and gaps and priority needs.

## C. Implementation programmes

12. The IOMC participating organizations developed two proposals for implementation programmes over the period 2025–2026 through a consultative process that included two face-to-face multi-stakeholder workshops, a series of global and regional webinars,[1] discussions at the first meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Framework[2] and five virtual meetings of an informal "reflection" group comprising representatives of the regions and constituencies of the Framework. Additional information on the development of the proposals is available in document UNEP/GFC/IC.1/INF/6.

13. Each implementation programme provides an enabling structure for stakeholders who wish to undertake coordinated activities aimed at achieving the relevant strategic objectives and targets of the Framework. The enabling structures are intended to foster the exchange of knowledge and promote capacity development among and across stakeholders and regions. They also provide a mechanism for addressing, where appropriate, issues of concern adopted by the International Conference of the Framework.

[1] The webinars engaged more than 1,100 participants from all regions and major stakeholder groups. More information, including presentations and recordings, is available at https://iomcwebinars.org/gfc-implementation/.

[2] https://www.unep.org/events/conference/open-ended-working-group-oewg-global-framework-chemicals.

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14. The implementation programmes focus on two work topics:

(a) Legal frameworks and institutional capacities for the sound management of chemicals and waste (implementation programme 1);

(b) Industry engagement and action along value chains (implementation programme 2).

15. Implementation programme 1 is aimed at supporting national and regional efforts to strengthen and develop, where necessary, coherent legal frameworks, institutional arrangements and governance mechanisms to manage chemicals throughout their life cycle, including products and waste, in a safe and sustainable way. Occupational health and safety considerations form a foundational pillar of implementation programme 1 to provide coherence with wider national chemicals systems and product legislation. Implementation programme 1 links closely with implementation programme 2 where relevant, such as by promoting supply chain diligence for safe sourcing or establishing systems for disclosing the presence of hazardous substances in products. The terms of reference for implementation programme 1 can be found in annex I.

16. Implementation programme 2 is aimed at coordinating action across increasingly complex and interconnected value chains. Under implementation programme 2, industry sector programmes are established for high-impact sectors, currently construction, electronics, healthcare and textiles. The initial focus is on raising awareness in order to engage relevant industry actors at the global, regional and national levels. The sector programmes also support the development, where appropriate, of strategies and policies, to steer the transformation of the value chain; the identification of priority chemicals of concern including piloting of approaches for their replacement; the review of sectoral and reporting standards; and alignment of sectoral and reporting standards with the Global Framework on Chemicals to improve consistency and mutual recognition and reduce duplication. The terms of reference for implementation programme 2 can be found in annex II.

17. Cross-cutting thematic workstreams are proposed across the sector programmes under implementation programme 2 and, where appropriate, under implementation programme 1 to allow common understanding and coherence on specific topics, reduce unnecessary divergence and increasing alignment in support of the vision of the Framework. The proposed thematic workstreams are:

(a) Identification of priority chemicals of concern (target D6);

(b) Transparency, traceability and disclosure along value chains (target B2);

(c) Chemical footprint approaches (target D6);

(d) Green and sustainable chemistry innovation (target D1);

(e) Reporting standards and frameworks (target D3);

(f) Private sector financing and investment (target D3).

18. To retain the momentum and coherence of implementing activities under the programmes and workstreams, it is proposed that an ad hoc working group be set up until the second session of the International Conference, when the group's effectiveness will be reviewed. The ad hoc working group would reflect the structure of the extended Bureau of the International Conference of the Framework, *mutatis mutandis*. Its function would be to provide advice in support of the operation of the implementation programmes, encourage active participation by stakeholders and promote coherence and coordination. It would report to the International Conference.

## D. International cooperation and coordination

19. Close collaboration with international institutions, programmes and organizations, including multilateral environmental agreements, is essential for implementation of the Framework. A strong two-way relationship with the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution is particularly important, given the Panel's functions and its potential contribution to identifying priority areas for action and assessing evidence-based solutions. More broadly, the Panel can help inform responses to global priorities, including by supporting the implementation programmes and raising public awareness. In this regard, collaborative working practices have been established, including with regard to organizing events and achieving progress in joint areas of interest.

20. In line with the Framework's provisions, the secretariat has also been working in close collaboration with IOMC members, including to support the implementation of resolutions of the International Conference on Chemicals Management.

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# III. Suggested action by the International Conference

21. The International Conference may wish to consider the activities carried out to support the implementation of the Framework with respect to guidelines for national focal points, capacity-building and technology transfer, implementation arrangements and international cooperation and coordination and adopt a resolution along the lines of the draft resolution set out in annex III.

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# Annex I

## Draft terms of reference and workplan for implementation programme 1, on legal frameworks and institutional capacities for the sound management of chemicals and waste

## I. Background

1. Many countries face challenges in developing and maintaining coherent, effective national legal and institutional frameworks for the sound management of chemicals and waste throughout their life cycle. While elements of legislation, policies and institutional arrangements exist, they are often fragmented across sectors, incomplete in scope or insufficiently coordinated. Effective chemicals management requires integrated systems that include governance arrangements, access to information, risk assessment and management mechanisms, occupational safety and health measures, and approaches that support prevention and sustainable innovation.

2. The implementation programme on legal frameworks and institutional capacities for the sound management of chemicals and waste (implementation programme 1) is designed to support voluntary national and regional efforts aimed at strengthening the coherence, effectiveness and sustainability of legal and institutional frameworks for the sound management of chemicals and waste, taking into consideration national circumstances, priorities and levels of development.

3. The programme includes a labour component as a foundational pillar and is supported by an overview of building blocks for national frameworks, contained in appendix 1, and an initial implementation workplan, contained in appendix 2.

## II. Objective

4. The objective of the programme is to support and facilitate voluntary national and regional efforts to strengthen and, where necessary, develop coherent legal frameworks, institutional arrangements and governance mechanisms for the sound management of chemicals and waste throughout their life cycle, in support of strategic objective A, target A1 and other relevant targets of the Global Framework on Chemicals – for a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste.

## III. Scope

5. The programme focuses on national and regional legal and institutional frameworks that support the sound management of chemicals and waste throughout their life cycle. It promotes cooperation, knowledge-sharing, capacity-building, peer learning and the use of internationally recognized tools and guidance.

6. Activities within the scope of the programme would consist of initiatives that contribute to integrated national chemicals and waste management systems, such as:

(a) Development, adoption or revision of legal frameworks, standards and institutional arrangements for the sound management of chemicals and waste;

(b) Strengthening of mechanisms for the generation of information and the assessment and management of chemical risks;

(c) Strengthening of institutional capacities and coordination mechanisms;

(d) Development of legal and policy frameworks that support risk reduction and sustainable innovation;

(e) Strengthening of sustainable financing approaches for chemicals management;

(f) Technical assistance related to implementation of relevant international instruments;

(g) Other relevant initiatives.

7. The Programme does not:

(a) Replace or duplicate legally binding obligations under existing or future international agreements, being without prejudice to the rights and obligations of Parties to interpret and implement the provisions of those respective agreements;

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(b) Establish legally binding standards or benchmarks;

(c) Serve as a compliance or review mechanism;

(d) Provide detailed technical methodologies;

(e) Act as a financial mechanism;

(f) Address comprehensive waste management systems, except where directly linked to the life cycle management of chemicals and consistent with the Framework.

# IV. Programme components and activities

8. Globally, the programme focuses on outreach, facilitation, knowledge-sharing, capacity-building and coordination across health, labour and environmental aspects of chemicals management. Activities of the global component can include, for instance:

(a) Awareness-raising on the importance of coherent legal frameworks and institutional capacity;

(b) Identification of stakeholder initiatives, needs and opportunities for engagement;

(c) Exchange of experiences, lessons learned and good practices;

(d) Promotion of internationally recognized tools and guidance;

(e) Identification of common implementation challenges and opportunities for cooperation;

(f) Workshops, technical exchanges and capacity-building activities;

(g) Promotion of synergies with other implementation programmes under the Framework.

9. An overview of building blocks for national frameworks for the sound management of chemicals can be found in appendix 1. It is intended as an illustrative and voluntary reference tool to support dialogue, gap identification and coordination and does not establish mandatory implementation pathways, minimum requirements, sequencing expectations or reporting obligations.

10. Initial activities for implementation of the programme are set out in the workplan in appendix 2. The workplan may be reviewed and updated, as appropriate.

11. The programme includes a labour component intended to promote the meaningful engagement of governments, employers' organizations and workers' organizations and support the implementation of relevant international labour standards relating to chemicals management and occupational safety and health, thereby supporting coherence between occupational safety and health frameworks and broader national chemicals management systems.

12. The labour component promotes the meaningful engagement of Governments and employers' and workers' organizations and supports implementation of relevant international labour standards relating to chemicals management and occupational safety and health.

# V. Eligible stakeholders

13. The programme is open to all stakeholders of the Framework, including Governments, regional economic integration organizations, international organizations, industry, workers' and employers' organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and development partners. It aims for balanced regional participation and representation across various levels of economic development.

14. Stakeholders interested in engaging in the programme will:

(a) Be committed to implementing the Framework and its objectives and targets;

(b) Be willing to share relevant initiatives, experiences and lessons learned;

(c) Identify support needs and opportunities for collaboration, where relevant;

(d) Be prepared to report on progress achieved and challenges encountered.

15. Stakeholders are encouraged to notify their participation through a mechanism to be established for Framework implementation programmes.

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# VI. Governance

16. An ad hoc working group on implementation programmes, or such other body as determined by the International Conference, will support the programme during the intersessional period. The composition of the ad hoc working group will reflect the structure of the extended Bureau of the International Conference of the Framework.3 The group will co-opt expertise as required.

17. The ad hoc working group will:

(a) Provide advice in support of the operation of the programme;

(b) Encourage active participation by stakeholders;

(c) Identify areas of duplication and synergies between implementation programmes and workstreams;

(d) Promote coherence and coordination across implementation programmes and related activities under the Framework.

18. The participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) will provide overall coordination services for the programme, working closely with the Framework secretariat.

# VII. Synergies

19. The programme is closely linked to, and will support, the proposed implementation programme on industry engagement and action along value chains.

20. In addition, strong linkages will be established with the issues of concern adopted by the International Conference.

# VIII. Monitoring and reporting

21. The use of relevant indicators developed under the Framework is encouraged to monitor progress and assess the impact of activities undertaken in support of the programme.

22. The programme will support the collection and sharing of information on lessons learned, good practices, implementation challenges and emerging issues to inform implementation efforts and provide feedback to the International Conference.

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[3] The ad hoc working group will consist of five government representatives from each of the five United Nations regional groups, five additional government representatives from each United Nations region serving as regional focal points and one representative from each of the five stakeholder groups: health, industry, trade unions, public interest organizations and IOMC.

# Appendix 1

## Overview of building blocks for national frameworks for the sound management of chemicals

The table below presents potential building blocks for comprehensive national frameworks for the sound management of chemicals. It is intended as an illustrative and voluntary reference tool to support dialogue, gap identification and coordination, and does not establish mandatory implementation pathways, minimum requirements, sequencing expectations or reporting obligations. Countries may adapt, reorder or selectively engage with its elements in keeping with their national circumstances and, within their respective jurisdictions, in accordance with applicable law.

| *Building block*[a] | *Primary objective* | *Building block components* | *Expected impact on the sound management of chemicals* |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 – Governance and enabling conditions | Establish durable institutional and systemic foundations across health, labour and environmental aspects of chemicals management | 1.1 Framework legislation/policy and institutional set-up<br>1.2 Sustainable financing and economic viability<br>1.3 International integration<br>1.4 Enforcement, compliance and trade controls<br>1.5 Governance and stakeholder coordination<br>1.6 Monitoring, evaluation and learning | Establishes the legal basis, competent authority, institutional responsibilities, financing mechanisms and enforcement capacity required to operate and implement a national chemicals management framework. Enables coordinated decision-making across competent authorities, ensures that regulatory obligations can be implemented and enforced, and provides mechanisms to monitor performance and adjust laws, regulations, policies or other measures over time as needed. |
| 2 – Information and transparency | Enable reliable and internationally accepted chemical safety information and studies for regulatory use | 2.1 Hazard classification and labelling: Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)<br>2.2 Harmonized data quality and mutual acceptance of data (Good Laboratory Practice (GLP), Mutual Acceptance of Data (MAD))<br>2.3 Pollutant release and transfer register (PRTR)<br>2.4 Transparency, disclosure and information systems | Implements frameworks for hazard classification, hazard communication and safety data generation that are internationally recognized. The GHS standardizes hazard classification criteria and communication through labels and safety data sheets, while GLP and the MAD system of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development ensure that safety studies are conducted according to recognized scientific standards and accepted across jurisdictions without duplication of testing. PRTRs provide systematic information on chemical releases and transfers, supporting transparency and regulatory oversight. Additional tools and approaches, including emerging transparency, disclosure and information systems, foster greater availability, traceability and sharing of information across value chains.<br>Together, such systems, tools, mechanisms and procedures, processes and approaches contribute to strengthening the reliability, comparability and cross-border usability of information on chemical hazards, uses and releases, supporting evidence-based decision-making and more effective, sound chemicals management. |
| 3 – Risk management and control | Reduce and control risks to health and environment | 3.1 Regulation of chemical products and industrial and consumer substances<br>3.2 Occupational safety and health<br>3.3 Chemical accident prevention, preparedness and response<br>3.4 Integrated pollution prevention and control<br>3.5 Public health management of chemicals | Establishes enforceable regulatory and operational mechanisms to identify, assess and control chemical risks across their life cycle. Through product and substance regulation, workplace- and facility-level safeguards and public health functions, reduces exposures, prevents accidents and pollution and protects workers, individuals or communities, in particular vulnerable ones, and the environment from adverse effects. |

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| *Building block*[a] | *Primary objective* | *Building block components* | *Expected impact on the sound management of chemicals* |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4 – Legacy management and market transformation | Avoid risks and drive systemic change | 4.1 Environmental and legacy management<br>4.2 Product and supply chain measures (product standards, circular economy)<br>4.3 Green and sustainable chemistry innovation | Addresses legacy contamination and long-term exposure risks while driving the transition to safer chemicals, products and production systems. Through prevention, substitution and innovation, reduces future risks, supports sustainable production and consumption patterns and limits the circulation of substances of concern in the economy. |

*Abbreviations:* GHS – Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals; GLP – Good Laboratory Practice; MAD – Mutual Acceptance of Data; PRTR – pollutant release and transfer register.

[a] For further details on the building blocks, see "Building blocks for national frameworks for the sound management of chemicals", available at https://iomcwebinars.org/ip1/.

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# Appendix 2

## 2027–2029 workplan: initial implementation activities for implementation programme 1

| # | *Activity* | *Output* | *Timeframe (building on preparatory work in 2026)* | *Lead/partners* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Finalization of document "Building blocks of a national chemicals management system" [a] | Guidance and benchmarking available to assist countries in systematically strengthening their chemicals legal frameworks and institutions | 2027 | Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)/IOMC |
| 2 | Update and maintenance of the IOMC toolbox for decision-making in chemicals management [a] | Existing toolbox modules are updated and new modules included (as outlined in the document "Building blocks of a national chemicals management system") | 2027–2029 | IOMC |
| 3 | Development of guidance to leapfrog innovative chemical risk management decision-making (working title) | Guidance document showcasing innovative ways to leapfrog and accelerate chemical risk assessment and risk management, based on country experiences and developments and focusing on needs and opportunities in developing countries | 2027 | United Nations Environment Programme |
| 4 | Development and testing of self-assessment by countries on strengthening chemical legal frameworks and institutions [a] | Online self-assessment tool developed, piloted and used by countries | 2027 | OECD/United Nations Institute for Training and Research, International Labour Organization (ILO), IOMC |
| 5 | Workshops addressing recurrent priorities identified by countries in their self-assessments [b] | Knowledge-sharing and guidance completed to address priority topics identified by countries | 2027–2029 [c] | Countries/IOMC |
| 6 | Targeted national workshops addressing national priorities | Interested countries organize national workshops of chemical legal frameworks and institution capacity-building | 2027–2029 [c] | Countries/IOMC |
| 7 | National case studies on how national priorities have been addressed | Case studies published (e.g. in the IOMC toolbox) | 2027–2029 | Countries/IOMC |
| **Labour component activities** | | | | |
| 8 | Aligning national occupational safety and health frameworks with international labour standards and ILO technical guidance on chemicals management [a] | Review and analysis of national labour and occupational safety and health frameworks conducted and technical reports published and disseminated | 2027–2029 | ILO, in collaboration with labour constituents and stakeholders |
| 9 | Landscape analysis to map stakeholder approaches, develop capacities and identify opportunities for alignment with thematic and industry sector action (implementation programme 2) [a] | Resource and capacity development document developed to highlight good stakeholder practices, analyse approaches and provide options/ guidance for decision-making | 2027–2029 | ILO, in collaboration with labour constituents and stakeholders |

*Abbreviation*: ILO – International Labour Organization.

[a] Activity already partially or fully funded.

[b] The priorities could relate to the building block components outlined in appendix 1.

[c] The timeline chosen is the time foreseen between the first and second sessions of the International Conference. At its second session, the International Conference will review the progress made and discuss a new workplan. While the steps to improve the national chemicals management plan will be sequential at the national level, some countries may have already decided on their priorities and may therefore move immediately into implementation. In addition, capacity-building activities may address any aspect of chemicals management frameworks that countries have identified as priorities, in no specific order. Case studies on how national priorities have been addressed can also be submitted by any country at any time, including by countries that already have a functioning chemicals management framework.

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# Annex II

## Draft terms of reference and workplan for implementation programme 2, on industry engagement and action along value chains

## I. Background

1. The sound management of chemicals and waste requires coordinated action across increasingly complex and interconnected value chains. While many industries and actors along the value chain have developed and implemented initiatives to improve chemicals management, their efforts vary in scope, maturity and geographic coverage. This creates opportunities for learning, collaboration and scaling up of good practice.

2. The implementation programme on industry engagement and action along value chains (implementation programme 2) creates a structure for knowledge-sharing, learning and capacity development, analysis and coordination to promote action by industry and other stakeholders to implement the Global Framework on Chemicals – for a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste along value chains. Through enhanced engagement along value chains, the programme will contribute to the prevention and minimization of adverse impacts of chemicals and waste and support a just transition towards more sustainable production and consumption, contributing to decent work for all, social inclusion, protection of human rights and the eradication of poverty.

3. The programme is supported by a set of illustrative building blocks and components of a corporate chemicals and waste management system, contained in appendix 3, and an initial implementation workplan, contained in appendix 4.

## II. Objective

4. The objective of the programme is to support and scale up action by economic and industry sectors and other stakeholders to implement the Framework along value chains, in particular targets D6 and D3 and other relevant Framework targets, as well as relevant issues of concern adopted by the International Conference of the Framework.

## III. Principles and scope

5. The programme supports high-impact economic and industrial sectors in strengthening the sound management of chemicals and waste across their life cycle by fostering cooperation, facilitating knowledge exchange and peer learning, building capacity and promoting the use of internationally recognized tools and guidance.

6. The implementation of the programme is guided by the following principles:

(a) Data and information on chemicals along supply chains are available, accessible, transparent and comprehensible, to the extent possible.

(b) Harm to workers, the public and the environment from hazardous chemicals is prevented or, where prevention is not feasible, minimized.

(c) Compliance with relevant national and international obligations is met, including through actions that may exceed minimum standards.

(d) Priority chemicals of concern are identified and replaced with safe and sustainable alternatives and risks are prevented or, where prevention is not feasible, minimized.

(e) A commitment to transparent performance improvement and reporting is upheld.

(f) It is recognized that stakeholders in different regions and countries face different contexts, have different starting points, and may follow different pathways toward implementation.

7. Activities within the scope of the programme include:

(a) Development and implementation of sustainable chemical and waste strategies for major economic and industry sectors;

(b) Identification and management of priority chemicals of concern and promotion of safer alternatives;

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(c) Development of sustainable supply chain policies and due diligence approaches;

(d) Development and implementation of methodologies for assessing chemicals and waste management performance, such as chemical footprint approaches;

(e) Development of measures that promote green and sustainable chemical innovation;

(f) Development and use of sustainability reporting standards that include chemicals and waste management considerations;

(g) Mobilization of private and public financing for the scale-up, commercialization and adoption of safe, green and sustainable chemistry innovation and other sustainable technologies and solutions, including support for capacity-building and market transition;

(h) Development of campaigns, guidance and other forms of technical assistance designed to foster sustainable transformation of industry sectors;

(i) Chemicals and waste management education and training programmes, including for workers, to ensure their protection.

# IV. Programme components and activities

8. The programme consists of (a)a global component that includes cross-cutting and thematic workstreams and (b) an industry sector component. Both components may include outreach, facilitation, knowledge-sharing, capacity-building and coordination across health, labour and environmental aspects of chemicals management. Labour issues, including occupational safety and health, may be integrated throughout the programme.

9. A set of possible building blocks and components of a corporate chemicals and waste management system can be found in appendix 3. It is intended as an illustrative and voluntary reference tool to support dialogue, gap identification and coordination and does not establish mandatory implementation pathways or obligations.

10. Initial activities for implementation of the programme are set out in the workplan in appendix 4. The workplan may be reviewed and updated as appropriate.

## A. Global component

11. The global component of the programme comprises cross-cutting activities and thematic workstreams that support the industry sector programmes.

12. The cross-cutting activities focus on:

(a) Awareness-raising, outreach and guidance;

(b) Identification and engagement of economic and industry sectors;

(c) Monitoring and analysis of progress, challenges and needs related to industry engagement and action along value chains.

13. The thematic workstreams address topics where a common understanding and coherency across the industry sectors is important. A workplan consistent with the terms of reference of implementation programmes 1 and 2 may be developed for each thematic workstream. The thematic workstreams are:

(a) Identification of priority chemicals of concern (target D6)

(b) Transparency, traceability and disclosure along value chains (target B2)

(c) Chemical footprint approaches (target D6)

(d) Green and sustainable chemistry innovation (target D1)

(e) Reporting standards and frameworks (target D3)

(f) Private sector financing and investment (target D3)

## B. Sector component

14. The industry sector programmes of implementation programme 2 bring together relevant stakeholders to advance implementation within specific sectors. Each industry sector programme may have its own terms of reference and workplan, consistent with the global terms of reference and subject to review by a body supporting implementation programmes during the intersessional period.

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15. The initial industry sector programmes are:

(a) Construction industry sector programme

(b) Electronics industry sector programme

(c) Healthcare industry sector programme

(d) Textile industry sector programme

16. Additional industry sector programmes can be proposed by any stakeholder for review by a body supporting implementation programmes intersessionally.

17. The workplans of each industry sector programme will be aligned, where relevant, with the following activities:

(a) Awareness-raising and outreach to engage relevant industry sector stakeholders at the global, regional and national levels;

(b) Mapping, knowledge-sharing and landscape analysis of implementation initiatives and activities;

(c) Development of sustainable chemicals and waste management strategies that include self-assessments that reflect sectoral and national contexts;

(d) Identification of priority chemicals of concern and piloting of approaches for their replacement along the value chain;

(e) Review of sectoral standards, including reporting standards, and identification of opportunities to strengthen alignment with the Framework;

(f) Analysis of implementation gaps, capacity needs and other challenges.

18. Industry sector workplans may be periodically updated and include other relevant activities that contribute to the implementation of the Framework

# V. Eligible stakeholders

19. The programme is open to all stakeholders of the Framework, including industry associations, companies, Governments, regional economic integration organizations, international organizations, industry, workers' and employers' organizations, development partners, financial institutions, civil society organizations, academic institutions and other relevant stakeholders. Particular attention should be given to balanced regional participation and the engagement of developing countries.

20. Stakeholders interested in engaging in the programme will:

(a) Be committed to implementing the Framework and its objectives and targets;

(b) Share relevant initiatives, experiences and lessons learned;

(c) Identify support needs and opportunities for collaboration, where relevant;

(d) Be prepared to report on progress achieved and challenges encountered.

21. Stakeholders are encouraged to notify their participation through a mechanism to be established for Framework implementation programmes.

# VI. Governance

22. An ad hoc working group on implementation programmes, or such other body as determined by the International Conference, will support the programme during the intersessional period. The composition of the ad hoc working group will reflect the structure of the extended Bureau of the International Conference of the Global Framework on Chemicals.[4] The group will co-opt expertise as required.

[4] The ad hoc working group will consist of five government representatives from each of the five United Nations regional groups, five additional government representatives from each United Nations region serving as regional focal points, and one representative from each of the five stakeholder groups: health, industry, trade unions, public interest organizations and IOMC.

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23. The ad hoc working group will:

(a) Provide advice in support of the operation of the programme;

(b) Encourage active participation by stakeholders;

(c) Identify areas of duplication and synergies between the implementation and sector programmes and workstreams;

(d) Promote coherence and coordination across the implementation and sector programmes and related activities under the Framework.

24. The participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) will provide overall coordination services for the programme, working closely with the Framework secretariat.

## VII. Synergies

25. The programme is closely linked to, and will support, the proposed implementation programme on legal frameworks and institutional capacities for the sound management of chemicals and waste (implementation programme 1).

26. In addition, strong linkages will be established with the issues of concern adopted by the International Conference.

## VIII. Monitoring and reporting

27. The use of relevant indicators developed under the Framework is encouraged to monitor progress and assess the impact of activities in support of the programme.

28. The programme will support the collection and sharing of information on lessons learned, good practices, implementation challenges and emerging issues to inform implementation efforts and provide feedback to the International Conference.

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# Appendix 3

## Possible building blocks and components of a corporate chemicals and waste management system

**1. Corporate governance and enabling conditions**

1.1 Implementation of the Global Framework on Chemicals

1.2 Corporate chemicals policy and governance

1.3 Respect for rights-based, labour, social and environmental standards

1.4 Performance assessment and sustainability reporting

1.5 Other corporate measures

**2. Fostering transparency, traceability and disclosure along value chains**

2.1 Identification of hazardous chemicals in supply chains, production and products

2.2 Implementation of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

2.3 Fostering of transparency, traceability and disclosure along value chains

**3. Risk management and operational control**

3.1 Occupational safety and health system

3.2 Emergency prevention, preparedness and response

**4. Assessment, footprinting and target-setting**

4.1 Identification and assessment of priority chemicals of concern

4.2 Assessment of the chemical footprint and impact of priority chemicals along value chains

4.3 Reduction or phase-out targets for priority chemicals of concern

**5. Prevention, innovation and market transformation**

5.1 Sustainable procurement and supply chain management

5.2 Green and sustainable chemistry innovation

5.3 Sustainable business models and product design

5.4 Advancement of production process sustainability

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# Appendix 4

## 2027–2028 workplan: initial implementation activities for implementation programme 2

| # | *Activity* | *Output* | *Timeframe (building on preparatory work in 2026)* | *Lead/partners* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **A. Global component – cross-cutting activities and thematic workstreams** | | | | |
| | **Cross-cutting activities (outreach, guidance and monitoring)** | | | |
| 1 | Development of guidance on target D6 implementation and an industry self-assessment and benchmarking tool: building blocks and checklist questions [a] | • Practical guidance and self-assessment tool to support companies, associations and other stakeholders in self-learning and benchmarking their Framework implementation and identifying actions to achieve target D6 and other industry-relevant Framework targets. | • 2027 | • IOMC |
| 2 | Pilot testing of the industry self-assessment and benchmarking tool: building blocks and checklist questions [a] | • Feedback on the draft tool to allow adjustments based on user feedback | • 2027 | • Industry and other relevant stakeholders |
| 3 | Awareness-raising and outreach to highlight the importance and value of industry action and encourage steps to implement the Framework in different contexts | • Relevant industry sector stakeholders are engaged at the global, regional and national levels | • 2027–2028 | • IOMC and other relevant stakeholders |
| 4 | Monitoring and analysis of progress, challenges and needs related to industry engagement and action along value chains | • Data and information generated to allow analysis of progress, implementation gaps, capacity needs and other challenges | • 2027–2028 | • IOMC and other relevant stakeholders |
| **Activities to advance thematic workstreams** | | | | |
| 5 | Series of landscape analyses to map stakeholder approaches, develop capacities and identify opportunities for alignment on thematic topics cutting across industry sector programmes: [a]<br>• Transparency, traceability and disclosure along value chains (target B1)<br>• Priority chemicals of concern (target D6)<br>• Measuring chemical footprints and impacts (target D6)<br>• Green and sustainable chemistry innovation (targets D1, D4) | • Resource and capacity development documents to highlight good stakeholder practices, analyse commonalities and differences of approaches and provide options/guidance for decision-making<br>• Based on these, opportunities for alignment, harmonization or standard development are identified<br>• Outputs inform further development of detailed workplans for thematic workstreams under implementation programme 2 | • 2027 | Multi-stakeholder working group convenors:<br>• Transparency, traceability and disclosure along value chains (target B1) – United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)<br>• Priority chemicals of concern (target D6) – United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions<br>• Measuring chemical footprints and impacts (target D6) – UNEP |

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| # | *Activity* | *Output* | *Timeframe (building on preparatory work in 2026)* | *Lead/partners* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | • Green and sustainable chemistry innovation (targets D1, D4) – UNEP |
| **Activities to advance thematic work on target D3: private sector financing and reporting frameworks** | | | | |
| 6 | Review of current investment criteria/practices and identification of data and knowledge needs of private investors to foster Framework-compatible investment decisions [a] | • Through this mapping and review of existing investment criteria/practices, private investors are engaged (survey, focus group, etc.) to identify their data and knowledge needs and actions for meeting those needs. | • 2027–2028 | • UNEP/IOMC |
| 7 | Development of awareness-raising materials for private investors to support integration of Framework-related considerations into investment decisions [a] | • Awareness-raising materials to engage additional private sectors investors are co-created with leading private finance stakeholders.<br>• Additional investors engaged in the Framework | • 2027–2028 | • UNEP/IOMC |
| 8 | Mapping and analysis of corporate sustainability reporting standards and frameworks [a] | • Review of existing sustainability reporting standards (e.g. Global Reporting Initiative, International Sustainability Standards Board) to assess how and to what extent the Framework targets and chemicals and waste management are covered. An important aspect of this work involves taking into account the needs of financial investors (see activity 6). | • 2027 | • UNITAR/UNEP/IOMC |
| 9 | Engagement with reporting-standard-setting organizations to integrate key aspects of the Framework in existing sustainability reporting standards [a] | • Proposals are discussed with reporting standards organizations (e.g. Global Reporting Initiative, International Sustainability Standards Board) regarding how corporate sustainability reporting can be made compatible with the Framework. An important aspect of this work involves addressing the needs of financial investors (see activity 6). | • 2027–2028 | • UNITAR/IOMC |
| **B.** | **Industry sector programme activities** | | | |
| 13 | Advancing industry sector programmes – construction [a] | • Mapping of stakeholder initiatives, knowledge-sharing, raising industry awareness and piloting innovative approaches<br>• Outputs inform further development of a detailed operational industry sector workplan<br>• New industry stakeholders engaged and methodology tested for certain aspects of target D6 implementation | • 2027–2028 | • Multi-stakeholder working group convenor: UNEP |
| 11 | Advancing industry sector programmes – electronics [a] | • Mapping of stakeholder initiatives, knowledge-sharing, raising industry awareness and piloting innovative approaches | • 2027–2028 | • Multi-stakeholder working group convenor: UNEP |

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | • Outputs inform further development of a detailed operational industry sector workplan<br>• New industry stakeholders engaged and methodology tested for certain aspects of target D6 implementation | | |
| 10 | Advancing industry sector programmes – healthcare [a] | • Advancing coordinated action and innovation for safer and more sustainable healthcare value chains<br>• Mapping stakeholder initiatives, sharing of good practices, implementation gaps and opportunities for alignment and scaling<br>• Healthcare industry sector programme implemented, including priority actions and opportunities for coordinated action across healthcare value chains<br>• Broader participation of industry and other healthcare value-chain stakeholders achieved, including stakeholders from developing countries and lower-middle-income country contexts<br>• Innovative approaches piloted and evaluated to advance target D6 and other relevant Framework targets, generating lessons and models for wider implementation and scale-up<br>• Opportunities identified to strengthen alignment of procurement practices, standards, policies and market incentives in support of innovations for safer and more sustainable chemicals, products and healthcare value chains | • 2027–2028 | • Multi-stakeholder working group co-convenors: World Health Organization/Health Care Without Harm (Projeto Hospitais Saudáveis) |
| 12 | Advancing industry sector programmes – textiles [a] | • Mapping of stakeholder initiatives, knowledge-sharing, raising industry awareness and piloting innovative approaches<br>• Outputs inform further development of detailed operational industry sector workplan<br>• New industry stakeholders engaged and methodology tested for certain aspects of target D6 implementation | • 2027–2028 | • Multi-stakeholder working group convenor: UNEP |

*Abbreviations:* UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme; UNITAR – United Nations Institute for Training and Research.

[a] Activity already partially or fully funded.

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# Annex III

## Draft resolution GFC-1/[--]: implementation arrangements

*The International Conference,*

*Recalling* section VI, part A, of the Global Framework on Chemicals – for a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste, which provides for the International Conference to adopt programmes to support the implementation of the Framework in order to achieve its strategic objectives as presented in part V, "Strategic objectives and targets", and to establish ad hoc working groups to provide direction and momentum for the work, as well as to mobilize engagement,

*Recalling also* section X, part A, of the Framework, which provides for the International Conference to promote cooperation and coordination among international instruments and programmes relating to chemicals and waste, and to consider relevant outcomes of the work of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution,

1. *Welcomes* with appreciation the development of guidelines for focal points and their early implementation to support new focal points by equipping them with the skills and tools needed to fulfil their responsibilities in implementing the Framework;

2. *Also welcomes* the capacity-building strategy and encourages stakeholders to make use of the voluntary self-assessment tool to help identify capacity strengths, gaps and priority needs;

3. *Adopts* two implementation programmes, one on legal frameworks and institutional capacities for the sound management of chemicals and waste (implementation programme 1) and the other on industry engagement and action along value chains (implementation programme 2);

4. *Takes note* of the terms of reference, workplans and arrangements prepared for the two implementation programmes as a basis for implementation during the intersessional period;

5. *Decides* to establish an ad hoc working group for implementation programmes, to provide direction and momentum for the implementation programmes, the sector programmes and the cross-cutting thematic workstreams in order to create coherence, uphold the principles of the Framework and reduce duplication, on an interim basis, pending a review by the International Conference at its second session;

6. *Also decides* that the composition of the ad hoc working group will reflect the composition of the extended Bureau of the International Conference and that the group will co-opt expertise as necessary;

7. *Requests* the ad hoc working group to seek views from the Open-ended Working Group of the Framework and provide recommendations to the International Conference, at its second session, on the progress of the implementation programmes, including in addressing issues of concern, where appropriate, including engagement with the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution;

8. *Invites* participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals to work closely with the secretariat to provide coordination services and support the work of the ad hoc working group;

9. *Encourages* all stakeholders, within their capacities, to participate in the implementation programmes and provide support, both financial and in-kind, for work under the programmes;

10. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution in Punta del Este, Uruguay, on 20 June 2025, and expresses its interest in establishing a partnership with the Panel to advance work on reaching the objectives of the Framework;

11. *Requests* the secretariat to cooperate closely with the secretariat of the Panel, seek observer status in the Plenary of the Panel and provide information on key priorities emerging from the first session of the International Conference, including [...] that the Panel could consider to support the implementation of the Framework;

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12. *Invites* the Panel, within its mandate, to contribute, as appropriate, to the achievement of the objectives and targets of the Framework;

13. *Encourages* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme 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 Framework.

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