

**ANNEX 9**

**List of acronyms**

*To be incorporated at a later date*

**ANNEX 10**

**Report of African Regional Group Meetings**

## **Report of African Regional Group Meetings 12-18 October 2000**

### **1. OPENING OF THE MEETING**

The meeting was opened at 9 a.m. on Wednesday 12 October 2000 by Mr Ousmane TOURE, National Director of Sanitation and of Pollution and Hazards Control of Mali, Vice-President of the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety (IFCS).

Mr Toure recalled the aims of Forum III and the need to harmonize the points of view of the African Group for the meetings of the Forum, at which important decisions would be taken for the following five years.

The representative of the Government of Brazil welcomed the African participants. He emphasized the importance of the meeting for his country, which shared the same concerns about chemical management as the other developing countries. Finally, he expressed the hope that the participants stay in Salvador would both pleasant and useful.

After the official opening, all the participants present in the room were introduced.

### **2. BUREAU**

The meeting elected the following members by consensus:

Chairman: Ousmane TOURE (Mali)

Rapporteurs: Dudley ACHU SAMA, Cameroon and Ibrahima SOW, Senegal.

The agenda for the meeting was adopted without amendment.

### **3. PARTICIPATION FROM THE AFRICAN REGION**

(see annex 16, Final Report of Forum III)

#### **Countries**

South Africa, Angola, Benin, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Comoros, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Malawi, Mali, Madagascar, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Togo, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

#### **NGOs**

International Union of Food, Agricultural and Allied Workers' Associations (IUFAW, Uganda Office), Voarisoa (Madagascar).

#### **Observers**

Hydrac company (Cameroon), OBEPAB (Benin).

#### 4. GENERAL

The summary presentations by countries on chemical safety activities were followed by a preliminary discussion which yielded the following conclusions:

(i) Despite the progress made with implementing the programmes of action of Forum II (increasing the number of national focal points, development of plans of action for management of chemicals, identification of priorities), it has to be recognized that much remains to be done:

- Some African countries have not yet produced their national profile and do not possess adequate environmental legislation;
- The capacity (human, technical, material and communications) required for ecologically sound management of chemicals is still weak, if not non-existent. Neither is coordination between the different actors very operational.

(ii) Since its creation, IFCS has made tremendous progress by developing a strong partnership on chemical management with the chemical industry, Governments, trade unions and NGOs, etc. Nevertheless, there are still a number of black spots: the potential impact on the health of populations and on the safety of workers involved with the production, manipulation and handling of chemicals is still considerable.

(iii) The impact of chemical pollutants on the environment (water, air, soil, etc.) and on the health of the population is still poorly understood in Africa.

(iv) Prevention of the illegal traffic in toxic and dangerous chemicals requires special attention at this Forum, and should be one of the main priorities for action.

In the light of the foregoing, the African countries must give careful consideration to the mechanism to ensure them access to the funding required for the implementation of the priority programmes identified within the framework of Forum III. IFCS should act as a catalyst in this respect.

#### 5. PARTICIPATION IN THE WORKING GROUPS

The group appointed the following delegates to represent it on the Election Facilitating Committee and on the working groups set up during Forum III:

- Guinea, for the election facilitating committee;
- Nigeria, for the Bahía Declaration;
- Zambia, for the illegal traffic in dangerous chemicals;
- Nigeria, for priorities for action for 2000 and beyond.

The African Group fully supports the resolutions adopted at these different meetings.

## 6. GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

At the conclusion of the debates, the African Group had identified recommendations, which were carried forward to the Working Groups and Plenary, relating to the following six programme areas:

- Activity A: Expanding and accelerating international assessment of chemical risks;
- Activity B: Harmonization of classification and labelling of chemicals;
- Activity C: Information exchange on toxic chemicals and chemical risks;
- Activity D: Establishment of risk-reduction programmes;
- Activity E: Strengthening of national capabilities and capacities for the sound management of chemicals;
- Activity F: Prevention of illegal international traffic in toxic and dangerous products.

## 7. NOMINATION OF IFCS OFFICERS AND FORUM STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Group nominated the following officers to represent Africa on the bureau and on the Standing Committee through Forum IV:

**Vice-President:** Senegal.

### **Members of the Standing Committee**

1. Nigeria
2. Madagascar

Malawi and Angola were designated as alternates for Nigeria and Madagascar.

**ANNEX 11**

**Report of Asia and the Pacific Regional Group Meetings**

## Report of Asia and the Pacific Regional Group Meetings 15-18 October 2000

Meeting Chair: Mr. Geum-Su Seog, Republic of Korea, Vice-President, Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety (IFCS), Asia and the Pacific Region  
Moderator: Mr. Suho Seong, Republic of Korea  
Rapporteur: Dr. Jarupong Boon-Long, Thailand

The regional group met on 15 October (09:00-12:30), 16 October (14:30-18:00), 17 October (09:00-12:30) and 18 October (09:00-12:30). The discussions were based around Forum III agenda item numbers 4, 6-8 and 11-13. Only the key points from the discussions are noted below.

### **Agenda Item 4: IFCS Terms of Reference**

The group felt that the current composition of the Forum Standing Committee (FSC) does not provide equitable regional and geographical representation. There should be greater representation from developing country regions.

It was agreed that the name of the region should be changed to Asia and the Pacific.

### **Election of Regional Representatives in the IFCS**

The group nominated Japan as IFCS regional Vice-President and the People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Iran as FSC members. Following the decision by the Plenary to increase regional representation, a fourth FSC member was selected. It was agreed that this should be a shared role between Republic of Korea and Papua New Guinea. The former country would hold office for the first half of the term and then PNG would take over through to Forum IV.

### **Agenda Item 6: Forum Priorities for Action beyond 2000**

There were many proposals for wording changes for this item arising out of the August regional meeting and discussions at Forum III. These were submitted to the Forum working group by the nominated representatives from Iran and Thailand.

The following were the key issues identified as important to the region:

#### Programme area A

- Addition of immunotoxicology, endocrine disruption and ecotoxicology to the list of toxicological endpoints for common principles for harmonized approaches
- The need for transparency and openness in hazard evaluations
- Involvement of developing countries in hazard evaluations
- Technical and financial support to enable developing country participation

#### Programme area B

- The proposed timetable should allow differences in capacities and capabilities

Programme area C

- Insertion of a longer-term target for exchange of information on hazardous chemicals

Programme area D

- IPM strategies should be ecologically sound
- Need to be clear about the types of data to be collected

Programme area E

- There is a need for a multilateral mechanism to enhance capacities of developing countries for participation in chemical safety activities

**Agenda Item 7: Prevention of Illegal International Traffic**

The meeting discussed and endorsed the regional position paper provided as a room document. The key recommendations from the paper were the need for an expert meeting on the subject, selected case studies, the role of NGOs in raising awareness and the importance of implementing the Rotterdam Convention.

**Agenda Item 8: Information Exchange**

The meeting discussed the meeting paper 11w and generally supported the proposals but felt that there was a need to include other communication systems such as fax, telephone and letter.

The meeting also supported paper 13w in general but some delegates were concerned about the reference to the Responsible Care initiative. It was felt that additional wording should be used in the recommendations to clarify the concept.

**Agenda Item 11: Capacity Building Network**

Discussion of this item centered around the proposed scope of the network, priorities for the network services. The general concept was supported.

**Agenda Item 12: Bahia Declaration**

The following additions and amendments were proposed:

- The need to recognize the wide diversity of needs of countries from developed to developing
- The need to recognize that protection of health and environment should be the primary consideration in dealing with chemical issues
- There was no need to specify target dates for individual goals
- The need for a multilateral mechanism to enhance capacities of developing countries for participation in chemical safety activities

A proposal to include reference to the precautionary principle was also considered. However, the meeting could not reach agreement on this matter.

**ANNEX 12**

**Report of Central & Eastern European Regional Group Meetings**

## **Report of Central & Eastern European (CEE) Regional Group Meetings 15-18 October 2000**

The meeting was attended by the representatives of 14 countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Croatia, Czech Republic, Georgia, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovak Republic and Slovenia.

Participants of the meeting expressed their gratitude to the Brazilian government, in particular, for the excellent preparatory work and organization of the meeting.

Prof. Ungvary, Vice-President of IFCS opened the meeting, and welcomed the participants.

### **Appointing rapporteurs for the group**

Dr. Rusnak of Slovakia and Dr. Tompa of Hungary were proposed and elected as rapporteurs for the CEE regional group.

### **Adoption of the Agenda**

The programme of the Meeting was carried out according to the "Detailed Time Schedule" (04w Agenda item 3) and the President's instructions (Briefing Note for Vice-Presidents).

### **The program of the meetings:**

1. Work schedule
2. Appointing a rapporteur for the group
3. Introduction and discussion of agenda items 3 and 4
  - (a) Forum Standing Committee (FSC) Terms of Reference
  - (b) Election Process
  - (c) Role of the President
  - (d) Regional Roles and Responsibilities of Vice-Presidents
  - (e) Guidelines for National Focus Points
  - (f) Forum Standing Committee
4. Election Facilitating Committee
5. Nomination of officers and members of the FSC
6. Agenda item 6 (Priorities for Action Beyond 2000)
7. Agenda item 7 (Illegal International Traffic in Toxic and Dangerous Products)
8. Agenda item 8 (Barriers to Information Exchange for the Sound Management of Chemicals, and Information Exchange for Chemical Production Decision - Making)
9. Agenda item 9 (Emission Inventories)
10. Agenda item 10 (Raising Awareness and Raising the Priority of Chemicals Management Capacity Building Issues at Political Levels)
11. Capacity Building Network

### **Election Process**

Ms. Manuela Godden (IFCS Secretariat) and the Vice-President acquainted the participants with the process for the election on the basis of the relevant Room Document (IFCS/FCS/00.44).

Mr. Fran Marovic (Croatia) was elected to the Election Facilitating Committee. Hungary was nominated as Vice-President. Russian Federation and Slovenia were nominated as the members of the Forum Standing Committee. Participants took into consideration the sub-regional distribution of the region.

### **The tone of the meeting**

The tone of the meeting was co-operative and friendly. Each document was presented briefly by the Vice-President or another member of the group, then discussed in detail. Discussion was constructive and lively.

Some members of the Region participated in different *ad hoc* working groups (e.g. Priorities for Action beyond 2000, Bahia Declaration, Illegal International Traffic in Toxic and Dangerous Products). Azerbaijan gave a report on the oil industry in the country. Rapporteurs prepared reports on the daily activity of the regional group. These reports were presented to the FSC or the Plenary session.

In the case of those topics that were prepared by the CEE countries (e.g. Priorities for Action beyond 2000, Illegal International Traffic in Toxic and Dangerous Products in CEE, Raising Awareness and Raising the Priority of Chemical Management Issues within countries with economies in transition), the interest was particularly high. For these topics the members of the CEE Region attached modifying and new recommendations.

### **Closing remarks**

The Vice-President gave a brief summing-up and noted the meeting's success in helping to prepare participants for their future activities in the field of chemical safety. He expressed his appreciation to the rapporteurs, to Mr. Karel Blaha for his active help in the coordination of regional meetings; to Dr. Kovacicova for the active contribution in preparation of one of the room documents (Illegal International Traffic in Toxic and Dangerous Products in CEE). Finally, the Vice-President expressed his hope that Hungary would be able to organize FORUM IV, and his appreciation to each member of the region for their active work, for their support and confidence in electing him as a Vice-President, and for their unanimous support for Hungary in obtaining the right to host FORUM IV.

**ANNEX 13**

**Report of Latin American & Caribbean Regional Group Meetings**

## **Report of Latin American and Caribbean Regional Group Meetings 15-18 October 2000**

The Latin American and Caribbean Regional Group held several meetings during Forum III. The meetings were attended by representatives of Argentina, the Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela, representatives of other regions and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

The meetings were coordinated by Argentina and Brazil. Brazil also served as rapporteur at the working sessions of the regional group.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the agenda items of the Third Meeting of the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety (IFCS), with a view to agreeing on common positions to be put forward at the third session of the Forum, and to elect the regional Vice-President and the members of the Standing Committee and their alternates.

The regional group reaffirmed the Forum's status as a valuable mechanism for fostering cooperation to integrate national and international efforts on behalf of chemical safety. The Forum is not an international agency and its recommendations are not legally binding. Consequently, its documents should reflect this spirit of cooperation and not constitute texts for negotiation between delegations.

The region expressed its intention to make every possible effort to fulfil the Forum's goals and to attain the objectives identified based on the understanding that the Forum is a valuable tool for achieving chemical safety. The importance of sub-regional and regional coordination and cooperation were reiterated as being of strategic importance to balanced progress on all issues relating to chemical safety.

The regional group reviewed all the decision documents relating to priorities for action, emission inventories, illegal traffic, barriers to information exchange, exchange of information for decision-making, the harmonized classification and labelling system and training, and agreed on objective proposals for all the texts and their recommendations. The Group also actively participated in the discussions on the Bahía Declaration, the main policy document from this session of the Forum.

The Region also evaluated and approved the documents on the organization of work, the terms of reference of the Forum and Standing Committee, guidelines for national focal points and on the role and responsibilities of the Vice-Presidents. On the basis of these documents, and reiterating the need for the support of all countries to enable the representatives to perform their functions in a coordinated and effective manner, the Region adopted the following decision:

Vice-President – Ecuador

Standing Committee – Honduras (member) El Salvador (alternate)  
Trinidad and Tobago (member) Argentina (alternate)

**ANNEX 14**

**Report of Western and European and Other Groups Meeting**

## **Record of Decisions Western Europe and Other Groups (WEOG) Regional Meetings 15-18 October 2000**

1.

The WEOG had regional meetings at Forum III on October 15, 16, 17 and 18, 2000.

2.

The IFCS President, Mr. Roy Hickman, pointed out that the role of the President was one of representing the Forum, and not a particular region. It was agreed, therefore, that Dr. William Sanders of the United States would preside over the WEOG regional meetings.

3.

Designation of WEOG Representatives to Forum III Working Groups

It was approved that the WEOG representation would be as follows:

Election Facilitating Committee:	France (Laurence Musset)
Prevention of Illegal Traffic:	United States (Pep Fuller)
Bahia Declaration:	Australia (Pamela Harris)
	Germany (Wilfrid Malhmann)
	United States (David Strother)
Priorities for Action:	Canada (Jean-Louis Wallace)
	Denmark (Lisbet Seedorff)

4.

Nominees for IFCS Officers and Forum Standing Committee (FSC)

It was agreed that WEOG would submit the following:

President:	no nominee
Vice-President of WEOG:	Sweden
FSC members:	Australia (Switzerland as alternate)
	Germany (United Kingdom as alternate)
	United States (Canada as alternate)

5.

Rapporteur: Canada (Steve Clarkson) accepted the role.

6.

The members of WEOG appreciated the offers of both Thailand and Hungary to host Forum IV in 2003. It was agreed that Belgium would represent WEOG on the informal group, established by the Forum Standing Committee, to seek resolution of the host country for Forum IV. The members were of the view that time was not so short that a decision was required before the conclusion of Forum III.

7.

The WEOG discussed the meeting documents for Forum III. Although there was general support for the themes expressed in the documents, a number of revisions were proposed to them. These proposals were conveyed to the drafters of the documents or the appropriate working group. A significant proportion of the WEOG deliberations were devoted to document 09w, "Priorities for Action".

**ANNEX 15**

**IFCS Elected Officers and Forum Standing Committee Members**

## FORUM III

### ELECTED IFCS OFFICERS AND FORUM STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

#### OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Brazil
VICE PRESIDENTS	Ecuador Hungary Japan Senegal Sweden

#### FORUM STANDING COMMITTEE

REGION	MEMBER	ALTERNATE
Africa	Madagascar Nigeria	Malawi Angola
Asia & the Pacific	China Iran Republic of Korea/ Papua New Guinea <sup>1</sup>	<i>To be announced</i> <i>To be announced</i>
Central & Eastern Europe	Russian Federation Slovenia	Czech Republic Slovakia
Latin America & the Caribbean	Honduras Trinidad & Tobago	El Salvador Argentina
Western Europe & Other Groups	Australia Germany United States of America	Switzerland United Kingdom Canada

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<sup>1</sup> Shared term with change of representative at mid-term

**ANNEX 16**

**List of Participants**

*To be incorporated at a later date*