

Background Information

Precaution Open Information/Discussion Session on Tools and Approaches for Applying Precaution

Structured Information Questionnaire Tabulated Summary of Responses

(as at 4 September 2006)

Groups	AFRICA	A&P	C&EE	LAC	WEOG
Number of countries having completed the questionnaire	9	5	9	8	9
Number of NGOs	6				

Note: one Asia and Pacific country responded in different format

National chemicals policy or management	AFRICA	A&P	C&EE	LAC	SubTotal	WEOG	Total	NGOs
1. a In the country constitution	2	1	3	1	7	2	9	6
1. b In legislation	7	3	7	8	25	9	34	5
1. c In agency/ministry/organization policy	8	3	7	6	24	9	33	5
1. d In specific guidance documents	3	2	3	4	12	6	18	1
1. e Applied in specific cases	6	1	1	4	12	1	13	5
1. f Not applied at all	1	0	0	2	3	0	3	0

2. Tools and approaches for applying precaution	AFRICA	A&P	C&EE	LAC	SubTotal	WEOG	Total	NGOs
2. a YES	2	3	6	3	14	3	17	3
No	6	2	1	5	14	5	19	3
2. b1 Data collection	4	4	6	6	20	2	22	5
2. b2 Prioritization of substances	2	3	4	4	13	2	15	3
2. b3 Uncertainty characterization	4	0	3	2	9	3	12	2
2. b4 Socio-economic analysis	2	3	2	4	11	3	14	4
2. b5 Risk assessment/management options	3	4	7	3	17	6	23	2
2. b6 Screening, comparison of alternatives, informed substitution	2	1	3	2	8	4	12	4
2. b7 Stakeholder and Public involvement	2	4	4	5	15	3	18	4
2. b8 Other	1	0	1	2	4	0	4	2
2. c1 Though conservative risk assessment assumptions	1	2	3	1	7	8	15	4
2. c2 Through safety factors	3	0	4	0	7	7	14	4
2. c3 Through modeling techniques	0	0	4	1	5	5	10	4
2. c4 An assumption that lack of information is indication of potential harm	4	3	3	5	15	3	18	3
2. c5 Through requesting additional research	3	2	4	8	17	6	23	3
2. c6 Gaps are not addressed	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	3

3. What stimulated/initiated the precaution process/action	AFRICA	A&P	C&EE	LAC	SubTotal	WEOG	Total	NGOs
3. a1 Government concern over hazards and/or exposures	7	4	4	6	21	7	28	2
3. a2 Stakeholder concerns over the particular threat	5	2	3	2	12	4	16	7
3. a3 International policy requirements/pressures	2	3	5	4	14	1	15	4
3. a4 Negative impacts/experience(s) from not acting on a previous chemical risk	3	1	1	1	6	0	6	3
3. a5 Other	2	0	0	0	2	1	3	3
Positive								
3. c1 Ecological or Health benefits	4	3	4	2	13	7	20	7
3. c2 Economic benefit	1	4	2	0	7	1	8	5
3. c3 Improved government/industry image	4	4	3	6	17	6	23	0
3. c4 Improved government/public morale	1	2	3	5	11	6	17	3
3. c5 Improvements to scientific tools/decision processes	2	3	2	4	11	2	13	1
3. c6 Other	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	3
Negative								
3. c7 Ecological or health impacts	2	3	0	0	5	0	5	2
3. c8 Economic impacts	0	1	2	0	3	2	5	2
3. c9 Substitutes/alternatives did not work	2	1	0	0	3	0	3	1
3. c10 Negative public reaction	2	1	0	1	4	0	4	2
3. c11 Other	1	0	0	1	2	0	2	1
3. d Positive consequences	3	4	2	5	14	1	15	2
3.d Negative consequences	3	2	0	1	6	0	6	4

4. Particular cases where precaution was not applied	AFRICA	A&P	C&EE	LAC	SubTotal	WEOG	Total	NGOs
Yes	1	2	1	2	6	2	8	5
No	7	3	6	6	22	3	25	2

5. Governments with processes in the face of uncertainty	AFRICA	A&P	C&EE	LAC	SubTotal	WEOG	Total	NGOs
Yes	4	3	4	2	13	4	17	1
No	5	2	3	6	16	2	18	5

6. Biggest challenges on application of precaution	AFRICA	A&P	C&EE	LAC	SubTotal	WEOG	Total	NGOs
Scientific capacity	7	1	3	6	17	1	18	5
Lack of scientific information	5	2	5	2	14	6	20	5
Legal challenges	5	2	2	7	16	1	17	5
Technical challenges	5	5	4	8	22	2	24	4
Financial challenges	7	3	6	7	23	2	25	4
Trade Challenges	2	2	2	4	10	4	14	3
Other?	2	1	1	2	6	3	9	5
Yes challenges also applicable to decision-making and actions	3	5	4	8	20	6	26	5
No	3	0	2	0	5	4	9	0

7. Most important needs for more effectively applying precaution	AFRICA	A&P	C&EE	LAC	SubTotal	WEOG	Total	NGOs
7. 1 Data on chemical toxicity/risks	6	5	3	6	20	4	24	5
7. 2 Tools for prioritization	5	3	4	4	16	4	20	3
7. 3 Tools for risk assessment	8	4	4	8	24	1	25	5
7. 4 Decision-making tools/frameworks	5	4	4	5	18	2	20	3
7. 5 Technical assistance in risk assessment processes	9	4	4	8	25	1	26	6
7. 6 Technical assistance in risk management processes	9	3	3	8	23	0	23	6
7. 7 Financial support for implementation	9	2	5	9	25	1	26	6
7. 8 International dialogue	5	3	2	4	14	3	17	5
7. 9 Information sharing to facilitate understanding of the issues	7	3	6	6	22	1	23	5
7. 10 Other	4	0	1	2	7	1	8	5