



May 11, 2009

To: The Second Session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM2), Geneva, Switzerland, 11-15 May 2009

**Proposal for a Global partnership to promote the implementation of the measures contained in paragraph 57 of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development on phasing out the use of lead in paint<sup>1</sup>**

**INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF DOCTORS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, ISDE  
STATEMENT OF SUPPORT**

The International Society of Doctors for the Environment, ISDE is an environmental NGO of medical professionals. It is an independent, non-governmental non-profit organization. It was created on 25 November 1990 and has now national and regional member organization in over 38 countries globally. ISDE has Consultative Status with the World Health Organization and Consultative General Status with ECOSOC. ISDE is independent of commercial interests.

Lead is a pervasive environmental hazard and affects importantly children's health with great impacts long life. Lead may cause irreversible but preventive health damage, specially affecting brain development and IQ. Despite great progress in reducing lead exposure, lead toxicity remains a major health problem. Lead poses serious hazards to Public Health and in special to the health of infants and children. Recent research has proven conclusively that lead can cause permanent damage to human health and injury to multiple organ systems at relatively low levels of exposure that previously were considered "safe". Moreover serious, previously unrecognized hazards to health are now understood to result in both adults and children from chronic, cumulative low-level exposure to lead.

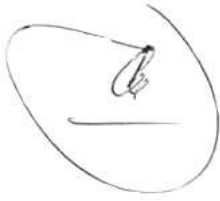
To eliminate the global burden of disability, disease and death caused by lead and other heavy metals, ISDE have been disseminating information, working in capacity building to the health professionals and in special to pediatricians. ISDE calls for a worldwide ban on all non-essential uses of lead and for coordinated action in countries around the world to reduce lead exposures through source identification, control, and elimination.

ISDE, therefore, strongly supports the *Proposal for a Global partnership to promote the implementation of the measures contained in paragraph 57 of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development on phasing out the use of lead in paint* as a valuable and effective effort to contribute to the control of the global epidemic of environmental and occupational lead poisoning.

---

<sup>1</sup> Proposed actions on emerging policy issues (SAICM/ICCM.2/10/Add.1) and Background information in relation to the emerging policy issues of lead in paint (SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/38)  
<http://www.saicm.org/index.php?content=meeting&mid=42&def=3&menuid=9>

Sincerely,



Lilian Corra, MD  
ISDE International Secretary

cc: Dr M. Gubb, Coordinator, SAICM Secretariat, Chemicals Branch, UNEP  
([MGubb@chemicals.unep.ch](mailto:MGubb@chemicals.unep.ch))  
ICCM2 Emerging Issue Lead in Paint: Proponents and facilitators:  
Mr R. Agarwal, Toxics Link, India ([ravig1@toxicslink.org](mailto:ravig1@toxicslink.org))  
Dr J. Stober, Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety (IFCS) ([stoberj@whpo.int](mailto:stoberj@whpo.int))  
Dr M. Doa, US Environmental Protection Agency ([Doa.Maria@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:Doa.Maria@epamail.epa.gov))