Outcome of the Informal consultation under CG2, 19 November 15:30

Annex I of UNEP/GFC/IC.1/INF/6

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

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, incomplete in scope or insufficiently coordinated. Effective chemicals management requires integrated systems that include governance arrangements, access to relevant information, risk assessment and management mechanisms, occupational safety and health measures, and approaches that support risk prevention , reduction and management, 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 appropriate 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, revision or adoption 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 risks related to chemicals and waste;

(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 and waste management;

[1] References to « chemicals and waste » should be understood to reflect the scope, as per section III of the Global Framework on Chemicals - For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste.

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

(g) Other relevant initiatives.

7. The Programme does not:

(h) 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;

(i) Establish legally binding standards or benchmarks;

(j) Serve as a compliance or review mechanism;

(k) Provide detailed technical methodologies;

(l) Act as a financial mechanism;

(m) [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 and waste management. Activities of the global component can include, for instance:

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

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

(p) Exchange of experiences, lessons learned and best practices and case studies;

(q) [[Promotion] [Exploration] of [internationally recognized] [relevant and approporiate] tools [and guidance] [according to national priorities and circumstances];]

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

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

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

9. 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.

10. 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 and waste management and occupational safety and health, thereby supporting coherence between occupational safety and health frameworks and broader national chemicals management systems.

V. Eligible stakeholders

11. 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.

12. Stakeholders interested in engaging in the programme will:

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

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

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

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

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

VI. Operational Arrangements

14. The IOMC will:

(a) Encourage active participation by stakeholders;

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

(b) Promote coherence and coordination across implementation programmes and related activities under the Framework; and

(d) Provide overall coordination services for the programme, working closely with the Framework secretariat.

VII. Synergies

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

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

VIII. Monitoring and reporting

17. 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.

18. 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.

Appendix 1 – deleted.

Appendix 2

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

#	*Activity*	*Output*	*Timeframe (building on preparatory work in 2026)*	*Lead/partners*
1	Development 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 approporiate	2027–2029	IOMC
3	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
4	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
5	Targeted national workshops addressing national priorities	Interested countries organize national workshops of chemical legal frameworks and institution capacity-building	2027–2029 [c]	Countries/IOMC
6	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				
7	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
8	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 for consideration	2027–2029	ILO, in collaboration with labour constituents and stakeholders
[Workplans for Issues of concern mainstreamed into Implementation Programme 1 (to be inserted)]				

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.

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[2] requires action across the full lifecycle of chemicals, including increasingly complex and interconnected value chains and waste operations. 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 and waste operations. 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]. [The programme should be guided by Section IV of the Global Framework on Chemicals – for a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste.]

3. The programme is supported by 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 and waste operations, 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. 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. Activities within the scope of the programme include:

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

(b) Identification and management of priority chemicals of concern within value chains and waste operations;

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

(d) Development and possible implementation of methodologies for assessing chemicals and waste management performance;

(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;

[2] References to « chemicals and waste » should be understood to reflect the scope, as per section III of the Global Framework on Chemicals - For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste.

(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

7. 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.

8. 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

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

10. The cross-cutting activities focus on:

(a) Awareness-raising, outreach and capacity building;

(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 and waste operations.

11. 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 within value chains and waste operations (target D6)

(b) Transparency, traceability and disclosure along value chains and waste operations (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

12. 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.

13. 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

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

15. 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 within value chains and waste operations 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.

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

V. Eligible stakeholders

17. 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.

18. 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.

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

VI. Operational Arrangements

19. The IOMC will:

(b) Encourage active participation by stakeholders;

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

(b) Promote coherence and coordination across implementation programmes and related activities under the Framework; and

(d) Provide overall coordination services for the programme, working closely with the Framework secretariat.

VII. Synergies

20. 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).

21. .

The programme will also contribute, within its mandate and as appropriate, to addressing relevant issues of concern adopted by the International Conference of the Framework, including through activities undertaken under the programme and in coordination with other relevant initiatives under the Framework.

VIII. Monitoring and reporting

22. 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.

23. 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.

Appendix 3 - deleted

Appendix 4

2027–2029 workplan: initial implementation activities for implementation programme 2

#	*Activity*	*Output*	*Timeframe (building on preparatory work in 2026)*	*Lead/partners*	*[linkages to Targets of the GFC (to be inserted)]*
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 and waste operations	● 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] ● Transparency, traceability and disclosure along value chains and waste operations (target B1) ● Priority chemicals of concern within value chains and waste operations (target D6)	● Resource and capacity development documents to highlight good stakeholder practices, analyse commonalities and differences of approaches and provide options/guidance for decision-making ● Based on these, opportunities for alignment, harmonization or standard development are identified ● Outputs inform further development of detailed workplans for thematic workstreams under implementation programme 2	● 2027	Multi-stakeholder working group convenors: ● Transparency, traceability and disclosure along value chains and waste operations (target B1) – United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) ● Priority chemicals of concern within value chains and waste operations (target D6) – United Nations Environment	

#	*Activity*	*Output*	*Timeframe (building on preparatory work in 2026)*	*Lead/partners*	*[linkages to Targets of the GFC (to be inserted)]*
	• Chemical footprint approaches (target D6) • Green and sustainable chemistry innovation (targets D1, D4)			Programme (UNEP) and the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions • Chemical footprint approaches (target D6) – UNEP • 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 [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 about the Framework[a]	• Awareness-raising materials to engage additional private sectors investors are produced]. • Additional investors engaged in the Framework	• 2027–2028	• UNEP/IOMC	
8	Mapping and analysis of corporate sustainability reporting practices and frameworks [a]	• Review of existing sustainability reporting practicesto assess how and to what extent the Framework targets and chemicals and waste management are covered.	• 2027	• UNITAR/UNEP/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 • Outputs inform further development of a detailed operational industry sector workplan • New industry stakeholders engaged and methodology tested for certain aspects of target D6 implementation	• 2027–2028	• Multi-stakeholder working group convenor: UNEP	

#	*Activity*	*Output*	*Timeframe (building on preparatory work in 2026)*	*Lead/partners*	*[linkages to Targets of the GFC (to be inserted)]*
11	Advancing industry sector programmes – electronics [a]	• Mapping of stakeholder initiatives, knowledge-sharing, raising industry awareness and piloting innovative approaches • Outputs inform further development of a detailed operational industry sector workplan • New industry stakeholders engaged and methodology tested for certain aspects of target D6 implementation	• 2027–2028	• Multi-stakeholder working group convenor: UNEP	
10	Advancing industry sector programmes – healthcare [a]	• Promoting innovation for safer and more sustainable healthcare value chains without compromising safety, care and affordability • Mapping stakeholder initiatives, sharing of good practices, implementation gaps and opportunities for alignment and scaling • Broader participation of industry and other healthcare value-chain stakeholders achieved, including stakeholders from developing countries and lower-middle-income country contexts • Innovative approaches piloted and evaluated to advance target D6 and other relevant Framework targets, generating lessons and models for wider implementation and scale-up • 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	• 2027–2028	• Multi-stakeholder working group convenor: UNEP	

#	*Activity*	*Output*	*Timeframe (building on preparatory work in 2026)*	*Lead/partners*	*[linkages to Targets of the GFC (to be inserted)]*
		• Outputs inform further development of detailed operational industry sector workplan • New industry stakeholders engaged and methodology tested for certain aspects of target D6 implementation			
[Workplans for Issues of concern mainstreamed into Implementation Programme 2 (to be inserted)]					

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

[a] Activity already partially or fully funded.

Annex III

On draft resolution GFC-1/[--]: implementation arrangements

3. *[Establishes* 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), to facilitate voluntary actions and cooperation by stakeholders; [3]]

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. *[*Invites the Extended Bureau to provide advice in support of the operation of the implementation programmes;]

6. *deleted by the informal;*

[3] [Implementation programme 1 covers, including but not limited to, target A1; implementation programme 2 covers, including but not limited to, targets B2, D1, D3 and D6.]