

Economic and Industry Sector Engagement and Action to Implement the Global Framework on Chemicals (GFC)

***A multi-stakeholder workshop to develop a GFC Industry Implementation Programme
(with a dedicated day on disclosure, reporting, and financing)***

Hosted at the OECD, Paris, France

Boulogne – OECD, 46, quai Alphonse Le Gallo, 92100 Boulogne-Billancourt¹

Annotated Agenda (updated, 21 February 2025)

Global Framework on Chemicals, para. 24

The International Conference on the Global Framework on Chemicals – For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste may 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”. Such programmes should have their own focus and engage relevant sectors and stakeholders, and could include, in a flexible and dynamic format, the actions that the stakeholders intend to initiate or contribute to at the national, regional, and/or international levels in order to successfully meet the relevant targets identified in part V. Such programmes should also include any necessary mandates, terms of reference, workplans and/or other mechanisms, including actions to address identified issues of concern where relevant, to contribute to the success of the overall Framework and its strategic objectives.

Day 1 – Monday, 24 February 2025

Global Framework on Chemicals, Target D6

“By 2030, sustainable chemical and waste management strategies have been developed and implemented for major economic and industry sectors that identify priority chemicals of concern and standards and measures, such as the chemical footprint approach, to reduce their impact and, where feasible, their input along the value chain.”

Session 1: Opening and Introduction

09:00 Welcome and Opening

- Johannes Heister, World Bank and IOMC Vice-Chair
- Kumi Kitamori, Deputy Director, OECD Environment Directorate
- Kay Williams, Head, GFC Secretariat

¹ N.b. this is not the main location of OECD offices.

09:10 Introductory presentations

- Workshop objectives and methodology, UNITAR
- Development of a GFC Industry Implementation Programme: Proposals on mandate, TOR and workplan, Achim Halpaap, Senior Advisor, IOMC

Session 2: Stakeholder initiatives relevant for GFC Industry Implementation Programmes

09:30 Tour de table: Industry initiatives and perspectives

This tour de table provides an opportunity for representatives of industry associations and companies to make short statements concerning steps taken to implement the Global Framework on Chemicals (including Target D6) and their interest in advancing a GFC Industry Implementation Programme and specific Industry Sector Implementation Programmes. Given the number of participants, the time limit for the statement is 1 minute to share strategic, forward-looking points.

Guiding questions:

- What initiatives and activities of industry associations and companies are relevant for GFC implementation and a GFC Industry Implementation Programme?
- What are potential benefits of engaging in a GFC Industry Implementation Programme?

10:15 Tour de table: Government, IGOs, civil society, and labor organizations

This tour de table provides an opportunity for non-industry GFC stakeholders (e.g. Governments, IGOs, civil society, and labor organizations) to make short statements concerning their role in advancing a GFC Industry Implementation Programme. Given the number of participants, the time limit for the statement is 1 minute to share strategic, forward-looking points.

Guiding question:

- What enabling initiatives and activities of non-industry stakeholders are relevant for GFC implementation and a GFC Industry Implementation Programme?
- What are potential benefits of engaging in a GFC Industry Implementation Programme?

11:00-11:30 Coffee break

11:30 Initial exchange on the development of Industry Sector Implementation Programmes

- Introduction to Industry Sector Implementation Programmes, Achim Halpaap, Senior Advisor, IOMC

Health Care Industry Sector (20 min)

- Lesley Onyon, Unit Head, Chemicals, WHO, Introduction
- Susan Wilburn, WHO Consultant, Draft Terms of Reference for a Health Care Industry Sector Implementation Programme

- Melissa Nguyen, Senior Program Manager, Vizient and Medical Equipment Proactive Alliance for Sustainable Healthcare (MEPA)
- Ann-Lise Mikolajczak, Associate Director, Global Health and Access, International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations (IFPMA)
- Padma Kamath, Director, Regulatory & Scientific Affairs, Global Self-Care Federation
- Will Clark, International Supply Chain Transformation Director, Health Care Without Harm

Textile Industry Sector (20 min)

- Scott Echols, Chief Impact Officer, Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals Foundation (ZDHC)
- Sheila Willis, Head of International Programmes, Pesticide Action Network PAN UK
- Rakesh Vazirani, Director of Decarbonization, Supply Chain Sustainability Bureau Veritas Consumer Products Services
- Ludovic Bernaudat, Head of Unit, Chemicals and Health Branch, UNEP

Electronics Industry Sector (20 min)

- Ben Marks, Director of Environment, Health & Safety, Responsible Business Alliance (RBA)
- Pamela Brody Heine, Senior Director, Clean Electronics Production Network
- Rodica Ella Ivan, Industrial Development Officer, UNIDO
- Minseo Ju, Analyst and Programme Development Expert, Sustainable Electronics Sector, UNEP

Other potential industry sectors (10 min)

- Is there interest in initiating the development of other Industry Sector GFC Implementation Programmes? If so, in which sectors?

12:45 -14:00 Lunch

14:00 A GFC Industry Implementation Programme comprising global activities and Industry Sector Implementation Programmes: Multi-stakeholder reflections

Multi-stakeholder discussion panel:

- Suki Kuroda, Ministry of Environment, Japan
- Santos Virgilio, Technical Advisor, Ministry of Environment, Angola
- Juergen Helbig, Senior Expert - International Chemicals Policy Coordinator, EU
- Chrysanthi Sofokleous, Manager, Product Stewardship, ICCA (International Council of Chemical Associations)
- Rico Euripidou, Chemicals and Campaigns Support, Groundwork
- Melissa Wang, Senior Scientist, Greenpeace International
- Nathan Hauch, National Representative, Health, Safety and Environment, Canadian Labour Congress

Open discussion

15:00-15:30 Coffee break

Session 3: Shaping guidance to develop sustainable chemicals and waste management strategies in economic and industry sectors – Target D6

Session 3 provides an opportunity for stakeholders to provide input on the further development of draft guidance to support the development of industry strategies called for by GFC Target D6. Working groups will discuss specific elements of the guidance. An important aspect of these discussions will be to identify the objectives and key action areas to be addressed through sustainable chemical and waste management strategies to help ensure that they meet the GFC call for ambition and are fully compatible with the GFC. Some of these action areas are also relevant for Tuesday's discussion of sustainability reporting and sustainable financing. Further aspects relevant for developing D6 guidance include identifying priority chemicals of concern in industry sectors; chemical footprint approaches; advancing green and sustainable chemistry solutions; and ensuring that the guidance is practical and of value to industry.

15:30 Introductory presentation in plenary

- Implementing Target D6: Elements of draft guidance to support Development of Sustainable Chemicals and Waste Management Strategies in Economic and Industry sectors, IOMC

16:00 Parallel Working Groups

1. Defining objectives and action elements/checklist question for D6 strategies
2. How do we ensure that D6 guidance is user friendly and of value to industry?
3. Identifying priority chemicals of concern in industry sectors along value chains
4. What approaches help to measure chemical footprints and steer action along value chains?
5. Advancing green and sustainable chemistry solutions and knowledge sharing

17:30 Reporting back to Plenary

17:50 Reflections of day 1 and preview of day 2

1800: Close of day 1

Day 2 – Tuesday, 25 February 2025

Thematic day: Chemical pollution disclosure, sustainability reporting, and sustainable financing

Global Framework on Chemicals, Target D3

“By 2030, the private sector, **including the finance sector**, incorporates strategies and policies to implement the sound management of chemicals and waste in its finance approaches and business models and applies **internationally recognized or equivalent reporting standards**.”

Session 4: Understanding and strengthening the chemicals and waste dimensions of disclosure and reporting standards

Disclosure and reporting by companies on their sustainability performance has become a key aspect of sound corporate management to inform stakeholders, including investors. Session 4 provides an opportunity to present and learn about recognized reporting standards relevant for advancing sustainability and GFC objectives. Representatives from standard-setting organizations will be invited to present relevant standards and discuss opportunities to consider and align with GFC targets, as appropriate. The session will also explore possible activities under a global GFC Industry Implementation Programme to strengthen sustainability reporting that takes into account the GFC.

Guiding questions:

- What is the landscape of sustainability reporting standards relevant for the GFC?
- What chemicals and waste parameters should be addressed in sustainability reporting?
- To what extent are existing standards and guidance compatible with the GFC?
- How could a GFC Industry Implementation Programme advance this topic?
- Are relevant stakeholders ready to engage?

09:00 Introductory presentation

- The sustainability reporting, disclosure and rating landscape relevant to the GFC, Mark Rossi, Independent Expert

09:15 Sustainability reporting, disclosure and ratings relevant to the GFC

- Tamar Zijlstra, Senior Standards Manager, Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)
- Jenny Bofinger-Schuster*, Board Member, International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB)
- Aleksandra Malyska*, Policy Officer, EU Commission - EU Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and financial tools to support transition to sustainable chemicals
- Angela Pinilla, Chemical Footprint Reporting, Clean Production Action

10:30-11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00 Sustainability reporting, disclosure and ratings (cont.)

- Kristof Douçot*, Environmental Affairs Officer, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) – Industry reporting under Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTRs) and Right-to-Know Schemes
- Sonja Haider, Senior Business and Investors Advisor, ChemSec - ChemScore

11:15 Beyond knowledge-sharing on reporting standards: How could we move forward?

- Stakeholder input and interactive discussions to identify possible activities under a GFC Industry Implementation Programme to strengthen the chemical and waste dimension of sustainability reporting and standards.

12:00-13:30 *Lunch*

Session 5: Strengthening engagement of financial stakeholders and investors to implement Target D3

Public and private financial stakeholders play a key role in ensuring that financial investments are compatible with the GFC and stimulate green and sustainable chemistry innovation. Relevant stakeholders include public investors such as development banks, global funds or governments, private investors (e.g. banks, asset managers, and hedge funds), and insurance companies.

Guiding questions:

- What is the business case for the private sector, including the finance sector, to include sound management of chemicals and waste in its finance approaches and business models?
- What are lessons-learned from other sustainability finance areas (e.g. climate change and biodiversity)?
- What is the landscape of relevant finance stakeholders and what initiatives already exist to implement Target D3 of the GFC?
- What information or criteria do investors currently use (or would like to see in place) to assess if investments are compatible with the GFC?
- What chemical related action (or inaction) is financially material, i.e. affects the profits and financial valuation of a company?
- What activities could be included in the workplan of a GFC Industry Implementation Programme or other initiatives to help scale-up Target D3 implementation and sustainable financing along value chains?
- Is there stakeholder interest in considering a GFC Industry Sector Programme for the Finance Sector focusing on implementation of Target D3?

13:30 Introductory presentations

- The private sector financing landscape and its relevance to the GFC, Alexandra McPherson*, Director of the Investor Environmental Health Network (IEHN) - 10 min
- Financial materiality of chemical pollution, Mark Rossi, Independent Expert – 10 min
- Reflections on the implementation of Target D3, Rachel Crossley*, BNP Paribas Asset Management – 10 min
- Discussion

14:15 Input from finance sector stakeholders on implementing Target D3

- Caroline Boden*, Director of Shareholder Advocacy, Mercy Investment Services
- Aarti Ramachandran*, Climate and Environment Lead, UBS Sustainable Investing
- Sonja Haider, Senior Business and Investors Advisor, ChemSec - Investor Initiative on Hazardous Chemicals (IIHC)
- Susan Baker, Lessons from the Investor Environmental Health Network
- Tsitsi Griffiths, Engagement Manager, Federated Hermes Limited
- Peggy Lefort, Pollution and Circular Economy Lead, UNEP Finance Initiative
- Tanya Cox, Manager - Biodiversity & Nature, Chronos Sustainability

15:30 -16:00 Coffee break

16:00 Enabling support to advance sustainable finance to implement GFC Target D3

- Arzu Nihan Ertugrul* and Zhixi Zhu*, International Finance Corporation - IFC's Performance Standards on Environmental and Social Sustainability
- Anil Sookdeo, Coordinator, Chemicals and Waste, Global Environment Facility, GEF
- Ludovic Bernadat, Head of Knowledge and Risk Unit, UNEP, UNEP's Green and Sustainable Chemistry Objectives and Guiding Principles
- Rakesh Vazirani, Director of Decarbonization, Supply Chain Sustainability Bureau Veritas Consumer Products Services – An investors case for financing green and sustainable chemistry innovation
- Joel Tickner*, CEO, Change Chemistry

17:00 Beyond knowledge-sharing on specific investors initiatives? How could we move forward?

- Stakeholder input and interactive discussions on possible activities under a GFC Industry Implementation Programme to help scale-up sustainable financing along value chains and possible development of a specific GFC Industry Sector Programme for the Finance Sector focusing on implementation of Target D 3.

17:30 Reflections on day 2 and preview of day 3

- Johannes Heister (World Bank), IOMC Vice-Chair
- Kay Williams, Head, GFC Secretariat
- Others

1800: Close of day 2

Day 3 – Wednesday, 26 February 2025 (*morning only*)

Session 6: Developing a GFC Industry Implementation Programme

Session 6 provides an opportunity to develop further a draft mandate, terms of reference, and workplan for an overall GFC Industry Implementation Programme comprising global activities and specific Industry Sector Implementation Programmes. Discussions are informed by a draft IOMC discussion paper circulated in advance to stakeholders. Ideas generated during the workshop and during this session will be taken into account in revising the discussion paper, prior to sharing with GFC stakeholders and the OEWG meeting in June 2025 for feedback.

Guiding questions:

- What should be the mandate, TOR, and workplan of the Industry Implementation Programme?
- What specific topics and activities could be included in the global workplan of the Programme (e.g. transparency and data disclosure)?
- What can be done to engage other industry sectors and foster knowledge sharing?
- How can stakeholders in developing countries be engaged in sector programmes and what partnerships can be established?

09:00 Introduction in Plenary

09:15 Parallel working groups

1. Review of draft TOR, workplan, and governance of an Industry Implementation Programme
2. Engaging additional industry and non-industry stakeholders and fostering knowledge sharing
3. Electronic Industry Sector Implementation Programme
4. Health Care Industry Sector Implementation Programme
5. Textile industry Sector Implementation Programme

10:45-11:10 Coffee break

11:15 Reporting back to Plenary

Session 7: Next Steps Towards OEWG, June 2025

Session 7 will summarize workshop outcomes and next steps leading to the OEWG meeting in June 2025 and the next International Conference in 2026.

12:00 Closing Plenary

- Summary of workshop outcomes
- Input to the OEWG, June 2025
- Stakeholder statements/ observations

13:00 Close of Workshop