INTER-ORGANIZATION PROGRAMME FOR THE SOUND MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS (IOMC)

INTER-ORGANIZATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE (IOCC)

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 32nd MEETING

The 32nd meeting of the Inter-Organization Coordinating Committee (IOCC) of the IOMC was held on 14-15 October 2009, at the World Bank, Washington D.C., United States. Craig Boljkovac, UNITAR, chaired the meeting.

The IOCC received an update from the SAICM (Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management) Secretariat on the latest developments in SAICM, e.g. QSP Trust Fund, regional meetings, and planning for ICCM3 (third session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, in 2012). IOMC participants also reviewed the outcomes of ICCM2 that was held on 11-15 May 2009, and discussed their involvement in future work on each of the SAICM Emerging Policy Issues.

UNITAR and the SAICM Secretariat provided updates on the finalization of the IOMC Guidance for Developing SAICM Implementation Plans (SIP). The draft document was announced at ICCM2, following which there was a two-month comment period for SAICM focal points and other SAICM stakeholders. The revised guidance is now translated into UN languages for consideration during regional SAICM meetings in late 2009- early 2010.

The IOMC met with a representative of the Division for Sustainable Development (DSD) of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA) to discuss activities in the 2010-2011 CSD cycle on chemicals. DSD welcomed IOMC participation and involvement in a range of events to be held during this two-year cycle.

IOMC organizations described their new and future activities. During this regular agenda item, IOMC organizations exchanged information about their new activities and events. In summary: WHO reminded the meeting of the health sector strategy adopted at ICCM2 and mentioned new projects on ten chemicals of public health concern and global burden of disease attributable to chemicals; the OECD reported on the recently-agreed "green growth" strategy; UNEP mentioned the development of its global chemicals outlook; UNITAR mentioned new pilot projects on nanotechnology/manufactured nanomaterials and its mercury inventory work; UNIDO informed the meeting of a joint UNIDO/UNEP/UNESCAP International Conference on Green Industry that took place in Manila in September 2009 (http://www.unido.org/index.php?id=1000319). The World Bank mentioned the preparation of its environment strategy, including the development of analytical papers. Finally, FAO reported on its various activities related to the Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides, including some activities in cooperation with WHO.

The 33rd IOMC meeting will be hosted by UNITAR in Geneva. Switzerland, on 21-23 April 2010.