

**Special Programme  
to support  
institutional strengthening at the  
national level for implementation of  
the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm  
conventions, the Minamata  
Convention and the Strategic  
Approach to International Chemicals  
Management (SAICM)**



# Background Information

## 1. Integrated approach to financing sound management of chemicals and waste

- Outcome of process initiated by UNEP Executive Director at Stockholm COP4
- To address finance challenges of chemicals and waste agenda
- Composed of three elements: mainstreaming, industry involvement and dedicated external financing

## 2. Special Programme

- Adopted by Governments at UNEA 1 in June 2014
- One of the two elements of dedicated external financing under the integrated approach (with the GEF)
- To **support country-driven institutional strengthening at the national level**

# Background Information (cont'd)

## **Institutional strengthening:**

Enhancing the sustainable institutional capacity of Governments to develop, adopt, monitor and enforce policy, legislation and regulation, as well as to gain access to financial and other resources, to ensure sound chemicals and waste management throughout their life cycle (cf. ToRs for the Special Programme).

## **Key activities:**

- Development and monitoring of the implementation of national policies, strategies, programmes and legislation
- Adoption, monitoring and enforcement of legislation and regulation frameworks
- Mainstreaming of chemicals and waste sound management into national development plans, national budgets, policies, legislation and implementation frameworks
- Promotion of multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder cooperation and coordination
- Promotion of involvement, responsibility and accountability of the private sector

# Status of the Special Programme

- UNEP ED initiated process to establish the Special Programme Trust Fund and a secretariat
- A Special Programme UNEP Internal Task Team was established in October 2014
- Chemicals and Waste Branch of UNEP DTIE appointed to provide the secretariat of the Special Programme

## Trust Fund and pledges

- Trust Fund expected to be formally established by August 2015
- Special Programme will be open for contributions and applications for **seven years**
- As of 7 July 2015, the following financial pledges have been received:
  - European Commission: EUR 11 million (~USD 13 million) (EUR 1 million from DG Environment, EUR 10 million from DEVCO)
  - Sweden: SEK 1,500,000 (~USD 180,000)

# Governance arrangements

**Decision-making body** will be an **Executive Board** composed of:

- **Five donor representatives**
- **Four representatives of recipient countries**
- **One representative from LDC or SIDS**

Observers may participate.

## Executive Board establishment

Deadline for nomination was 30 May 2015. Nominations received from:

- **Representatives of recipient countries:**
  - Africa: Egypt and Kenya
  - Asia and the Pacific: Iran, Pakistan, and The Philippines
  - Central and Eastern Europe: Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
  - Latin America and the Caribbean: Argentina and Brazil
- **Representatives of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States:**  
one nomination (Yemen)

Executive Board expected to be established by July 2015.

# First meeting of the Executive Board

1<sup>st</sup> meeting expected to be held in August 2015, to discuss, inter alia:

- Rules of procedure
- Application procedures and project arrangements
- Project application package
- Criteria for appraisal of project applications by the secretariat
- Criteria for prioritization and approval of projects
- Secretariat workplan and arrangements

1<sup>st</sup> round of applications expected to be launched by end 2015 or early 2016.

# Summary of next steps

## ESTABLISHMENT OF A TRUST FUND

March – August 2015

## ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EXECUTIVE BOARD

April 2015

- UNEP Executive Director's invitation for nominations by Governments, in line with the Terms of Reference
- Deadline for nomination was 30 May 2015

June – July 2015

- Appointment of Executive Board members

August 2015

- First meeting of the Executive Board

## OPERATIONAL PHASE OF THE SPECIAL PROGRAMME

April - July 2015

Secretariat work

- Draft meeting documents for consideration by the Executive Board at its first meeting, in line with the Terms of Reference, including project application forms and guidelines
- Plan for outreach activities towards donors
- Develop resource mobilisation strategy and plans

August 2015

First meeting of the Executive Board

- Adoption of rules of procedure
- Review and approval of project application package
- Identification of criteria for appraisal of project applications by the secretariat
- Identification of criteria for prioritisation and approval of projects by the Executive Board
- Approval of secretariat workplan and arrangements

# Information resources

- UNEA 1 resolutions and decisions, including the ToRs for the Special Programme, available at: [http://www.unep.org/unea/UNEA\\_Resolutions.asp](http://www.unep.org/unea/UNEA_Resolutions.asp).
- Information regarding the Special Programme available on the UNEP Chemicals and Waste Branch website at: <http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/>

For any further information, the secretariat of the Special Programme is available at:

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