

The Aichi Biodiversity Targets: Are approaches and lessons from the biodiversity cluster relevant for the management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020?

Organized by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) with support from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety of Germany

15-16 January 2018, Berlin, Germany

Brief summary report prepared for regional meetings on SAICM and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020

1. Workshop Summary

From 15-16 January 2018, more than 60 participants representing over 30 countries, and some 20 intergovernmental organizations, industry bodies, civil society organizations and academic institutions came together in Berlin to explore to what extent and how the lessons learned in developing, implementing and adjusting the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity could be relevant for the intersessional process on SAICM and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020. Through presentations, panel discussions and working groups, participants concluded that the organizing framework developed and being further refined in the biodiversity cluster - including its Vision, Strategic Goals and 20 Targets, and period assessment through the Global Biodiversity Outlook - is of value, and could be relevant in developing further the organizing framework for the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020. Further reflection is needed on how the possible development of potential international chemicals and waste goals and targets can be made compatible with the call by the fourth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM4) to consider measurable objectives.

2. Background

In September 2015, ICCM4, through resolution IV/4, initiated an intersessional process. This process is to prepare recommendations regarding the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020, and consider the need for and develop recommendations regarding measurable objectives in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The first meeting of the intersessional process was held in Brasilia, Brazil, on 7-9 February 2017. At the meeting, several representatives suggested that a chemicals and waste management framework beyond 2020 should include strategic goals and targets, both qualitative and quantitative. During the discussion, reference was made to the five strategic goals and 20 targets of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, that the goals and targets had helped to give focus to the biodiversity agenda and facilitated consolidated action under a single umbrella by a range of stakeholders. Taking these discussions into account, the Co-chairs' summary of the discussions during the first meeting in the intersessional process referred to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets as a potential model approach in the "scope" section

3. Workshop objective and structure

The workshop set out to explore, with stakeholders, to what extent and how the Aichi model and experience from the biodiversity cluster could be relevant for the management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020. Specific objectives of the workshop included the following:

- enhance understanding of the rationale for and the process leading to the adoption of the revised Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (2011-2020, see Annex 2);
- explore to what extent the Aichi model, and experience in revising targets, may be relevant for the management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020;
- review existing goals and targets in the chemicals and waste cluster and their relevance for the management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020; and
- identify actions to share the outcomes of the workshop with stakeholders in the intersessional process on the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.

The workshop had three main sessions:

- i. Understanding the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets
- ii. Review of Existing Goals, Objectives, Targets and Processes in International Management of Chemicals and Waste
- iii. Exploring Opportunities to Inform the Management of Chemicals and Waste Beyond 2020

The agenda of the workshop is attached as Annex 1.

4. Key Aspects of the Organizing Framework Under the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity of Relevance for International Management of Chemicals and Waste

The international governance of the biodiversity cluster, similar to the chemicals and waste cluster, includes autonomous legally-binding multilateral environmental agreements as well as voluntary approaches. Also, biodiversity requires action in many sectors of government, by different key actors, and at various levels of governance. In light of these similarities, the experience gained in structuring the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Aichi Targets has a number of valuable dimensions. These include the following:

An integrated approach with common ownership

The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020) with its vision, strategic goals and Aichi Targets has created an integrated and coherent international framework that has ownership from all multilateral environmental agreements, governments and key stakeholders, opening up new opportunities and complementing their work, without infringing on individual mandates.

A Vision complemented by strategic goals and targets

The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity has an overall aspirational vision of: “Living in Harmony with nature”. The development of five strategic goals under this long-term vision has helped to structure key issues, set priorities and develop more detailed targets.

Linking science with policy

The Global Biodiversity Outlook presents progress against the Strategic Plan and its Aichi Targets, with a clear link in the Outlook to each target. In addition, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services ensures objective scientific assessments support policy making.

Linked to country-based processes

The Strategic Plan is complemented by national biodiversity strategies and targets that are identified through a consultative process. These national processes contribute directly to reporting against the global achievements under the Plan.

Bottom-up approach

The approach taken in the biodiversity cluster has been accepted by a wide range of governments and stakeholders as a means of addressing a complex policy issue through global and national action. It also has proven to be an effective way to measure progress in achieving the overall vision of biodiversity conservation.

Aspiration

The aspirational nature of the strategic goals and the targets beneath them have helped drive awareness and commitment to maintain biodiversity, while allowing monitoring of progress against agreed targets.

5. Insights for Future International Management of Chemicals and Waste

Successes and Gaps

Having learnt about the biodiversity cluster, as well as current international chemicals and waste management targets included in SAICM, the BRS Conventions and other relevant agreements, participants discussed successes and gaps in the international chemicals and waste regime, both in plenary and working groups, before exploring possible strategic goals.

Successes

- Multi-stakeholder, multi-sector and voluntary approach of SAICM
- Measurable progress made through some EPIs and chemicals included in MEAs
- Significant funding mobilized through the GEF and Quick Start Programme
- SAICM provides a common platform that supports broad communication

Gaps

- Lack of a simple and common vision and framework
- Lack of aspirational common goals that are coherent with national implementation
- Weak science-policy interface to cover chemicals not addressed through MEAs
- Weak consideration of socio-economic dimensions aspect
- Lack of engagement of some key sectors and stakeholders

Possible Options for Strategic Goals/ Objectives

Throughout the workshop, participants showed support for a post-2020 framework that would include a broad vision and goals, and targets that would contribute to them. Working groups started to explore possible options for strategic goals/ objectives under a broader vision, with a long-term time horizon, such as 2050.

The outcomes of the working groups on possible options for strategic goals/objectives:

Working Group A (2 strategic goals):

Vision: Non-toxic/pollution- free world in 2050

- *Goal 1:* Prevention or minimization of significant adverse effects from chemicals and waste, using a life cycle approach
- *Goal 2:* Improving use of chemicals and substituting “bad” with “good”, using innovation and new business models (keeping in mind justice, governance, capacity, socio-economic benefits)

Working group B (5 Strategic Goals)

Vision: (along the lines of SDG12.4, but more simplified and with 2050 in mind)

- *Goal 1:* Reduction and prevention of adverse impacts of chemicals use and production in the environment and on human health [through mainstreaming]
- *Goal 2:* Awareness and knowledge of hazardous properties of chemicals and chemicals in products
- *Goal 3:* Maximize benefits through sustainable production and use of chemicals
- *Goal 4:* Ensure that the most hazardous substances are no longer in use in products across the life-cycle and avoid waste
- *Goal 5:* Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building

Concrete targets could be developed under these goals, with milestones to reach them.

6. Conclusion

The workshop fulfilled its objective of learning from the Aichi Targets and its framework, and using this to consider possible options for strategic goals/ objectives for the management of chemicals and waste. Participants at the workshop and other interested stakeholders are invited to take these lessons and information to their next meetings and deliberations in support of the intersessional process.

A common understanding was developed of a desire for one overarching, bold vision, with a range of goals (two and five were presented by the working groups, respectively) in support of this, that would cover certain management themes.

A more thorough meeting report will be produced to serve as an information document for the second meeting of the intersessional process, to be held in Stockholm, Sweden, 13-15 March 2018.

The raw notes from the working groups are available to interested parties, upon request. Please email: cwm@unitar.org

Annex 1: Agenda

The Aichi Biodiversity Targets: Are approaches and lessons from the biodiversity cluster relevant for the management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020?

15-16 January 2018, Berlin, Germany

Time	Item	Contributor/Comment
Day 1 (Monday, 15 January 2018)		
13:30-14:00	Registration	N/A
Welcome and Introduction Session Moderator, Jorge Ocaña, UNITAR		
14:00-14:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome statement, UNITAR Welcome statement, Germany Introductory comments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jorge Ocaña, UNITAR Jutta Emig, Germany Achim Halpaap, UN Environment
14:15-14:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction of participants and workshop expectations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jorge Ocaña, UNITAR
14:30-15:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of the intersessional process on chemicals and waste management beyond 2020 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brenda Koekkoek, SAICM Secretariat, UN Environment
Session 1. Understanding the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Aichi Targets Objective: Enhance understanding of the rationale, process, implementation, and review of an overarching framework on biodiversity through the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and start exploring its potential relevance (or of certain aspects) for chemicals and waste management beyond 2020. Moderator: Jacqueline Alvarez, UN Environment		
15:00-16:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets: Process, Implementation and Lessons Learned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Cooper, Deputy Executive Secretary, CBD Secretariat (via video/skype) Neville Ash, Director, UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre John Scanlon, Secretary-General, CITES (via video/skype) <p><u>Additional reflections</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finn Katerås, Norway Carl Fiati, Ghana
16:15-16:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coffee Break 	
16:30-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Biodiversity Strategies: Links to International Framework and Experience Gained from Implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carl Fiati, Ghana <p><u>Additional reflections</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finn Katerås, Norway
17:00-17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity Science-Policy and Global Biodiversity Outlook Aichi Target Interface 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finn Katerås, Norway <p><u>Additional reflections</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neville Ash, WCMC Michel Tschirren, Switzerland
17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> End of day 	

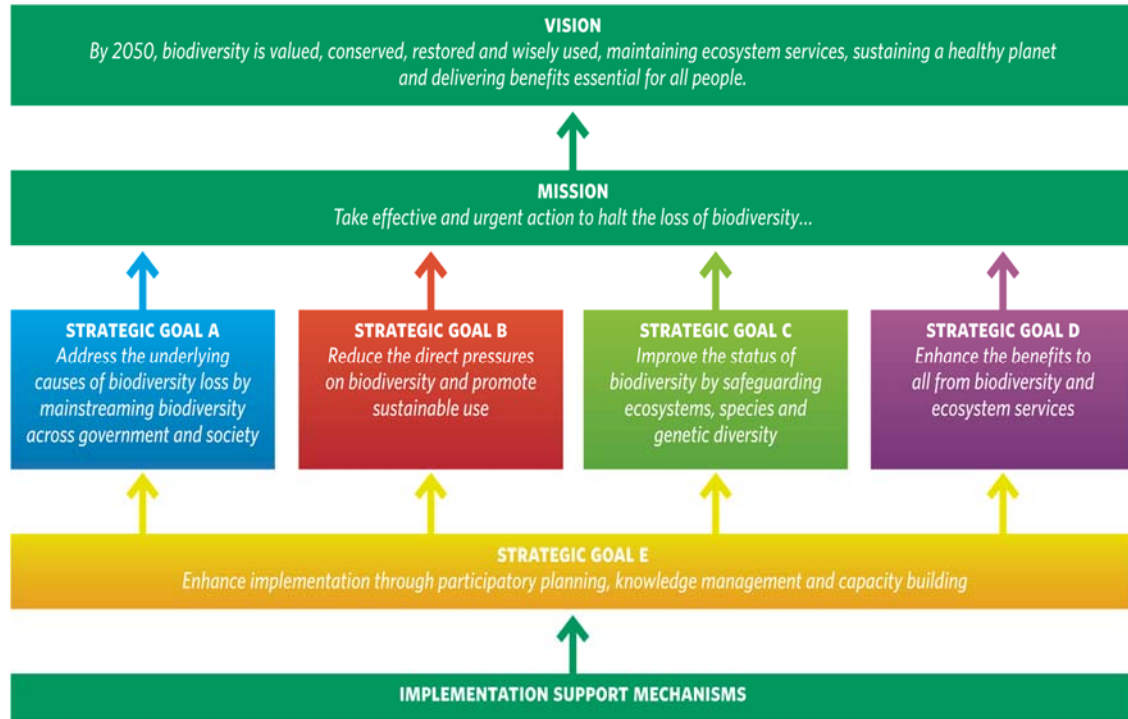
Day 2 (Tuesday, 16 January 2018)		
09:00-09:15	Review of day 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jorge Ocaña, UNITAR
09:15-10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panel Discussion: Is the Experience in the Biodiversity Cluster Relevant for Chemicals and Waste Management Beyond 2020? 	Panel Moderator: Achim Halpaap, UN Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gertrud Sahler, Germany Neville Ash, WCMC Florencia Grimalt, Argentina Christoph Neumann, CroLife Andrea Rother, University of Cape Town Sofia Tingstorp, Sweden
10:30-10:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coffee Break 	
Session 2. Review of Goals, Objectives, Targets and Processes in International Chemicals and Waste Management Objective: Based on insights developed in session 1, reflect on strengths and gaps in international chemicals and waste management taking into account existing goals, objectives, targets and processes in the cluster. Moderator: Rob Visser		
10:45-11:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chemicals and Waste Management in Global Conferences: From the Rio Summit to the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals 	Brief Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oliver Wootton, UNITAR
11:15-11:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maria Cristina Cárdenas-Fischer, BRS Secretariat
11:30-11:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development and Implementation of SAICM: 2006-2017 	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jacqueline Alvarez, UN Environment <u>Additional reflections</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Kapindula, Zambia Jürgen Helbig, European Commission Veronique Garny, CEFIC/ICCA Melissa Wang, Greenpeace
11:45-12:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working groups: Understanding the Past to Inform the Future 	Two working groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group one: Identification of successes of the past (including why, and key principles) Group two: Identification of gaps of the past (including why and key principles to remedy)
12:45-14:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lunch break 	
14:00-14:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting Back from Working Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rapporteurs
Session 3: Exploring Opportunities to Inform Chemicals and Waste Management Beyond 2020 Objective: To explore options for strategic themes/goals for the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 Moderator: Paul Hohnen		
14:15-14:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Session 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paul Hohnen
14:30-16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working Groups 	Two working groups: Exploring options for strategic themes/goals for chemicals and waste beyond 2020? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How many strategic themes/goals? What could their focus be? Who to be involved, and how? Explore topics under each strategic theme/goal
16:00-16:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting Back from Working Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rapporteurs

Session 4: Summary and Way Forward

Moderator: Paul Hohnen

16:30-17:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Discussion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All
17:15-17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflections on the Way Forward 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including open discussion
17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of Workshop 	
17:30-19:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reception 	

Annex 2: Organizing Framework of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets



Aichi Targets

- | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|----------------------|--|-------------------------|
|  | Understand values |  | Reduce pollution |  | Enhance resilience |
|  | Mainstream biodiversity |  | Reduce invasive spp. |  | Implement Nagoya Prot. |
|  | Address incentives |  | Minimize reef loss |  | Revise NBSAPs |
|  | Sustainable production |  | Protected areas |  | Respect and conserve TK |
|  | Halve rate of loss |  | Prevent extinctions |  | Improve knowledge |
|  | Sustainable fisheries |  | Conserve gene pool |  | Mobilize resources |
|  | Manage within limits |  | Restore ecosystems | | |