

Workshop on Case Studies in the Sound Management of Chemicals
Summary of Group 1 Discussion: Obstacles, Challenges and Constraints
Geneva, Switzerland, 3-4 December 2009

Topic

Obstacles, challenges and constraints – to be highlighted at CSD of global agenda on chemicals.
Items to be part of the discussion at CSD

Challenges

- Lack of awareness on chemical management issues
- Inadequate political commitment
- Lack of information on chemicals
- Lack of technical capacity and expertise
- Lack of funding
- Varieties of existing conventions, activities, regulations
- Problems with outreach to developing countries
- One institution can not singly achieve the goal

Identify the strategies how to address these challenges

- Improve the availability of reliable information on chemicals;
- Increase monitoring efforts and research on existing and emerging issues
- Increase awareness on chemical management issues;
- Assess and quantify the benefits of sound management of chemicals – long perspective
- Communicate the positive effects of chemicals to all stakeholders highlighting-how effective chemicals management can support meeting MDGs, e.g. energy and climate goals, fight world hunger / prevent children's death
- Integrate chemicals management into national development programmes;
- Promote knowledge and skills transfer in line with countries' needs;
- Establish integrated /harmonized approaches to chemicals management
- Establish baseline in the country;
- Enhance coordination between relevant ministries and stakeholders at national level;
- Partnerships – one can not achieve all;