

Civil Society Conference in preparation for the World Chemicals Conference (ICCM5)

22nd of September 2023 // 3pm – 7pm

**At the Federal Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety
and Consumer Protection (Robert-Schuman-Platz 3, 53175 Bonn)**

Timetable

2:00pm // Registration and arrival

3:00pm // Welcome and Opening

3:10pm // **Panel Discussion: What needs to be done to
achieve a sound management of chemicals and
waste?**

4:10pm // Break

4:30pm // **Workshop-Session**

5:30pm // Break

6:00pm // **Fishbowl discussion: Joint discussion about
our future work on global Chemicals and Waste
Management**

7:00pm // Closing and joint dinner

Panel Discussion

3:10pm - 4:10pm

What needs to be done to achieve a sound management of chemicals and waste?

Speakers:

- Bettina Hoffmann, *Parliamentary State Secretary, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection.*
- Mohammed Khashashneh, *Secretary General, Ministry of Environment Jordan*
- Ana Paula Souza, *Human Rights Officer, Executive Office United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights*
- Rory O'Neill, *Occupational health and labor standards adviser, International Trade Union Confederation*

Moderator: Sascha Gabizon, *Women Engage for a Common Future*

Workshops

4:30pm – 5:30pm

1. Workshop: Identify, Address, Solve – sustainable solutions to pressing chemical and waste threats

In this workshop, we will discuss rising global chemicals and waste issues and develop strategies and identify what needs should urgently be addressed.

Moderator: Susan Haffmans (PAN Germany) & Janna Kuhlmann (BUND)

Chemical production will increase in the future and with it the negative impacts on human health, biodiversity loss and the environment. Already now we face multiple urgent problems caused by chemicals for which we need international solutions, among those are forever chemicals, plastics, highly hazardous pesticides, endocrine disrupting chemicals or heavy metals. As long as binding conventions are lacking, a sustainable international chemical and waste management must find and initiate solutions - very quickly. Finally, we need to address increasing chemical use and production and pave the way towards a sustainable transformation that includes non-chemicals alternatives.

SAICM works on specific Emerging Policy Issues and Issues of Concern which have not delivered up to the expectations. The problems are still not resolved, and new ones emerge on a daily basis. What are the urgent issues and problems for which international solutions are needed? What can be done without legally binding agreements? What is the role of the future international chemicals and waste management, and can it initiate solutions? What is our role as civil society in initiating new issues?



2. Workshop: Raise political commitment – the Bonn High level Declaration on track

In this Workshop we work on the requirements and needs of the new High Level Declaration (HLD).

Moderator: Olga Speranskaya (HEJ Support) & Johanna Hausmann (WECF)

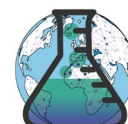
At the high-level segment of the World Chemicals Conference (28.-29.9.23), governments will agree on a new high-level declaration. This new Bonn Declaration will replace the current „[Dubai Declaration](#)“, the current founding document of SAICM. It will serve to mobilize political commitment and resources and will be an important part of the future sound management of chemicals and waste. The declaration will be drafted during the first days of ICCM5 by a working group based on earlier drafts. Together we want to make clear how important such a declaration is and also discuss the requirements for such a high-level declaration from a civil society perspective. Together with our different perspectives, knowledge and background, we will identify multiple requirements that we will bring to the working group.

3. Workshop: Strengthening multi-sectoral engagement – Moving towards a strong and global collaboration on chemicals and waste management

With this Workshop, we want to share experiences and discuss best practices on how to collaborate with new partners.

Moderator: Giulia Carlini (CIEL) & Florian Schulze (EnvMed)

Chemicals are part of our daily life and industrial processes. But we urgently need to phase out the most hazardous chemicals and use more sustainable alternatives, including non-chemical alternatives. This is a big task and can only be successful if the chemicals and waste management is not only recognized as an environmental issue. SAICM has improved collaboration between the health, labor and environmental sector, but there might still crucial actors missing. There are important actors who are interested, but for them, we need easy access to the process and onboarding activities. For example, the Youth Group is still quite new to the process and brings in important aspects according to age and an intergenerational perspective. A Gender and Chemicals Group is an important actor to address the different exposure by gender. The goal of the workshop is to discuss best practices for meaningful and successful collaboration with actors outside the NGO world. What do different actors need to enhance their engagement? Where do participants of the workshop see ways to improve cooperation, what can they contribute?



Fishbowl discussion

6:00pm – 7:00pm

Joint discussion about our future work on global chemicals and waste management

Moderator: Alexandra Caterbow, Health and Environment Justice Support

These questions should guide us in a joint discussion at our closing session:

- What are the take home messages today?
- How can we strengthen our further collaboration and what should we focus on in the future?
- What perspectives, stakeholders and issues are missing?

A fishbowl discussion is a method with changing speakers. Therefore, empty chairs will be provided. Everyone can take part in the discussion by entering a chair, bring in their perspective and leaving the chair to make room for new participants. We want to have a joint discussion where everyone can contribute their perspective.



Path from the Regionals Meeting to the Civil Society Conference on 22nd of September

[Tour on google maps](#)



The conference is funded by the German Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection. The organizers are solely responsible for the content.

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