



Final Report for Sub-regional Workshop to Strengthen Implementation of the Rotterdam Convention

Held from
9 April 2024 – 11 April 2024
At *icipe*, Nairobi, Kenya

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	3
Day 1: Tuesday, 9 April 2024	5
Welcoming remarks	5
Introduction of meeting participants.....	5
1.1 Workshop objectives and structure	5
1.2 Overview and key provisions of the RC	6
2.1 Kenya.....	6
2.2 Rwanda.....	6
2.3 Tanzania	7
2.4 Uganda.....	7
2.5 Zambia.....	7
Day 2: Wednesday, 10 April 2024	8
3.1 Hazard, exposure and risk evaluation; chemicals management: legislation, registration and authorization systems.....	8
3.2 FAO pesticides registration toolkit.....	8
3.3 Notification of FRAs and proposals of severely hazardous pesticide formulations (SHPFs) toolkit	8
3.4 Globally Harmonized System (GHS) for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals	8
4.1 Identifying priorities and facilitating the next step towards the submission of IRs	8
4.2 Reporting back and discussion on priorities, and next steps toward the submission of IRs by DNAs of:	8
Day 3: Thursday, 10 April 2024	9
5.1 Gap analysis and NAPs: template and examples	9
5.2 National gap analysis and updating/development of the draft NAPs.....	9
5.3 Workshop evaluation.....	9
5.4 Wrap-up, next steps and closing remarks	9
ANNEX 1: WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS.....	11
ANNEX 2: WORKSHOP CONCEPT NOTE	13
ANNEX 3: WORKSHOP PROGRAM	15
ANNEX 4: COUNTRY PRESENTATIONS	18

Executive Summary

Date: 9th - 11th April 2024

Location: *icipe duduville* campus, Nairobi, Kenya

Moderator: Dr. Subramanian Sevgan, Head of the Environmental Health (EH) Theme, *icipe*

Overview

The sub-regional workshop aimed to strengthen the capacities of Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia to implement the Rotterdam Convention (RC) on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure (PIC) for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and to fully comply with its provisions. The workshop focused on enhancing capacities, sharing experiences, and fostering coordination for better regulation of hazardous chemicals and pesticides.

Key Sessions and Discussions

Opening Session

- **Welcoming Remarks:** Delivered by Dr. Subramanian Sevgan; emphasized the importance of regulating hazardous chemicals.
- **Official Opening:** Highlighted by remarks from various officials, including the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Pest Control Product Board (PCPB) and the Programme Management Officer of the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (BRS) Conventions.
- **Objective:** The workshop aimed to strengthen the capacities of Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia to implement the RC and to fully comply with its provisions.

National Situations and Challenges

- **Kenya:** Discussed their national chemicals management framework and challenges, such as insufficient funds and lack of procedures for industrial chemicals.
- **Rwanda:** Focused on their legal framework for environmental protection and the challenges in risk assessment technologies.
- **Tanzania:** Highlighted their import response system and challenges in risk evaluation and stakeholder information.
- **Uganda:** Noted the absence of a comprehensive national policy and technical capacity issues in preparing Final Regulatory Actions (FRAs).
- **Zambia:** Emphasized their life cycle approach to chemical management and the need to amend Regulation 40 for better clarity.

Risk Evaluation and Chemicals Management

Detailed presentations on hazard assessment, risk evaluation, and the FRAE Tool-kit (FRAE Toolkit).

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)'s Pesticides Registration Toolkit was introduced, assisting in pesticide registration and decision-making processes.

Key Outcomes

- **Enhanced Understanding:** Participants gained a deeper understanding of the RC's objectives, provisions, and mechanisms, including the submission of notifications of FRAs, transmission of Import Responses (IRs) and the role and responsibilities of the Designated National Authorities (DNAs).
- **Capacity Building:** Participants were familiarized with relevant tools and resources available to facilitate implementation of the Convention. Training sessions and discussions aimed at improving the preparation and submission of IRs and notification of FRAs, including risk evaluations.
- **Stock-taking:** An improved understanding was gained of where each Party stands in implementing the RC, including ongoing initiatives (such as of legal nature) and remaining challenges (e.g. missing IRs), thus facilitating the provision of further targeted technical assistance in the follow-up to the workshop.

- **Experience-sharing:** Participants exchanged information, experiences and lessons learned with regard to risk assessment, evaluation and management of industrial chemicals and pesticides at the national level.
- **Strategic Actions:** Strategic action and national coordination mechanisms at the national level to fully implement the RC was strengthened, including via the development of, and updating of the National Action Plans (NAPs).

Recommendations

- **Increased Training:** More training on the preparation of notifications of FRAs and risk evaluations.
- **Improved Coordination:** Strengthening national coordination and communication mechanisms between DNAs and the Secretariat.
- **Support for Capacity Building:** Providing technical and financial support to countries facing challenges in implementing the RC.
- **Timely completion of obligations under the Convention:** Submit pending IRs and relevant notifications of FRAs.

The workshop concluded with a commitment from all participating countries to enhance their efforts in regulating hazardous chemicals, ensuring better protection for human health and the environment.

Moderator: *icipe*'s head of the EH Theme; Dr. Subramanian Sevgan

Day 1: Tuesday, 9 April 2024

OPENING

Welcoming remarks

icipe's head of the EH Theme welcomed the participants to the sub-regional Workshop to Strengthen Implementation of the RC. Specifically, he welcomed the DNAs and representatives of Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia, and invited the Director of Compliance, National Environment Management Authority (NEMA); to give the opening remarks. In his speech, the Director emphasized the need to control and regulate the trade of highly hazardous chemicals and commended the BRS Secretariat, *icipe*, and all the participating country DNAs for agreeing to work together to control and regulate hazardous pesticides and industrial chemicals.

The CEO, PCPB, also had the opportunity to give his remarks; wherein he reiterated that the RC should have been implemented in Africa earlier, as it only entered into force in 2004. He said, "We gather here today to do what we should have done since the implementation of the RC 20 years ago," further stating that the PCPB regulates the importation of pesticides and industrial chemicals, thus preventing the dumping of illegal pesticides and industrial chemicals. He also pointed out that the workshop would facilitate the domestication of the RC articles in the participating parties and called upon all parties to help in reducing the negative effects of chemicals on the environment and on human lives, stating that a conservative estimate of two million people lost their lives due to chemical exposure as of 2019.

The Head of the EH Theme at *icipe* then introduced *icipe*'s activities in the four major themes: plant health, human health, animal health and environmental health; and thereafter invited the BRS Secretariat PMO to give his remarks.

In his speech, the PMO thanked the participants for attending the meeting; the European Union (EU) for generously supporting the workshop; and *icipe* for organizing it. He pointed out that by implementing the RC's objectives, human mortality as a consequence of hazardous pesticides and industrial chemicals would be reduced globally. He also added that it is possible to realize the full potential of the RC, but the effectiveness of the convention would be contingent on whether the parties would uphold and implement the regulations.

Introduction of meeting participants

Twenty-six participants attended the meeting (See list of attendants in Annex 1).

Session 1: The Rotterdam Convention

1.1 Workshop objectives and structure

A representative of the BRS Secretariat explained that the main objective of the workshop was to strengthen the capacities of Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia in implementing the RC, and to fully comply with its provisions. He elaborated that the specific objectives of the RC workshop were as follows:

1. Improving the understanding of the RC and its objectives;
2. Familiarizing all participants with all relevant tools and resources;
3. Improving the understanding of the Parties' current situation;
4. Exchanging information, experiences and lessons learned;
5. Strengthening strategic actions and national coordination mechanisms.

The BRS Secretariat PMO then proceeded to explain the structure of the workshop, featuring the following sessions:

1. The RC
2. National situations and challenges
3. Risk evaluation, chemicals management and FRAs
4. IRs
5. NAPs

1.2 Overview and key provisions of the RC

Representatives of the BRS Secretariat provided a presentation explaining the key provisions and mechanisms of the RC. The presentation included the following sections:

1. Background, concepts, definitions and scope
2. Key obligations
3. Listing of chemicals under Annex III
4. Key mechanisms, actors and benefits

Subsequently, a quiz was held to test participants' understanding and clarify any further questions.

1.3 Questions and Answers

Question: Several DNAs/representatives raised the concern that they were facing challenges in preparing FRAs, more specifically evaluating the physio-chemical, toxicological and eco-toxicological properties of hazardous chemicals. Some voiced their inability to undertake risk evaluation of certain hazardous chemicals, for example, Tanzania, and Uganda.

Response: The representatives of the BRS Secretariat explained that the preparation of notifications of FRAs and IRs would be covered in more detail later during the workshop. They also highlighted that countries lacking the capacity to undertake risk evaluations could rely on the information from other Parties/international organizations and could bridge information to carry out risk evaluations.

Question: Parties requested clarification about FRAs, the PIC, IRs, Export Notifications, their definitions, and their applications.

Response: The FAO representative explained the FRAs, the PIC, IRs and Export Notifications (please refer to Annexes)

Session 2: NATIONAL SITUATIONS AND CHALLENGES

Presentations on the national situations (domestic processes and mechanisms for management of industrial chemicals and pesticides, including implementation of the RC; FRAs taken, status of IRs, status of NAPs challenges faced)

2.1 Kenya

The presentation was done by PCPB's Senior Pesticide Registration Officer and NEMA's Principal Compliance and Enforcement Officer.

The main topics of discussion included:

- a National Chemicals Management Framework which involves assessing, processing and issuing import or export permits through the PCPB. They stated that they have put in place measures to assess the risk caused by pesticides in both human and animal health, and the environment. They stated that the PCPB website has a list of all banned, restricted and withdrawn chemicals.
- Industrial chemicals: NEMA is the DNA for industrial chemicals in Kenya. It was noted that currently there are no FRAs prepared for industrial chemicals, and that no law has a specific procedure for the chemicals. There is therefore a need to develop procedures to prepare FRAs. Further, there are no IRs for industrial chemicals. They pointed out that there is a need to review the environmental laws in Kenya. The Kenyan DNAs have several challenges including insufficient funds to implement the RC, they therefore requested support. Furthermore, the Kenyan DNAs requested support to monitor the health and environmental impacts of chemicals, conduct risk assessment, in order to handle PIC among others.

2.2 Rwanda

The DNA from Rwanda gave an overview of the RC in Rwanda. He highlighted that the Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) is the DNA of the RC. In his presentation, he stated that Rwanda has a working law to protect the environment. In Rwanda, before authorizing pesticide usage, the person has to make sure

the chemical is not banned; they have to communicate with the REMA to confirm the safety of the chemical or pesticide. Rwanda has reported 20 highly hazardous pesticides and 31 industrial chemicals to RC for the committee as Rwanda IRs. Rwanda reported that they have had training for custom clearing agents to control entry for illegal chemicals to promote the implementation of RC. The main challenge in Rwanda is the low capacity regarding chemicals and the insufficient risk assessment technologies.

2.3 Tanzania

Tanzania has laws that govern the importation of chemicals and permits have to be issued. Out of the 55 chemicals (under Annex 3), Tanzania has issued IRs to 47 chemicals and pesticides. The challenges that Tanzania is facing on the implementation of the RC include, a limited capacity to conduct risk evaluation, inadequate information to the majority of stakeholders to submit FRAs, among others. However, Tanzania has promised to promote and implement the RC, where this includes legalizing the pending FRAs.

2.4 Uganda

In Uganda, a comprehensive national policy on chemical management is missing, though there are several pieces of legislation. The National Environment Management Policy covers chemical management. Broadly, the management of agro-based chemicals is under the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), while the Ministry of Water and Environment manages Industrial chemicals. Together, the two act as DNAs for pesticides and industrial chemicals, respectively and are involved in the preparation of national action plans and programmes pertinent to the chemical conventions.

It was noted that Uganda has several challenges, including a lack of technical capacity and awareness on the process of reporting the FRAs to the Secretariat. There are no regulations governing industrial chemicals and therefore no clear mechanism for reporting. So far, no notifications of FRA have been submitted to the Secretariat. The DNA receives Export notifications to Uganda but no export notification from Uganda has been sent to other parties since Uganda does not export chemicals.

2.5 Zambia

In Zambia, the RC is managed by the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment, Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA). The two are the DNAs for pesticides and industrial chemicals. Management of chemicals in Zambia is based on the life cycle approach of sound management of chemicals. Zambia became a party and was ratified in 2017, although the RC came into force in 2004. It was noted that Zambia is more advanced in terms of preparing the FRAs and has banned or severely restricted the use of 19 chemicals.

Their challenge is inadequate capacity to evaluate risks or hazards associated with Article 7 of Annex 3 of the RC and SHPF (i.e., the proposed National FRAs for purposes of banning and restriction). Indeed, the current regulation (Regulation 40) on restrictions and bans is too general and does not provide the means through which the Minister can ban, severely restrict or restrict the use or production of a pesticide or toxic substance. Therefore, there is a need, for purposes of clarity, to amend Regulation 40.

Session 3: Risk Evaluation, Chemicals Management & Final Regulatory Actions

Day 2: Wednesday, 10 April 2024

3.1 Hazard, exposure and risk evaluation; chemicals management: legislation, registration and authorization systems

A representative of the BRS Secretariat provided a presentation on 'Hazard, exposure and risk evaluation; chemicals management: legislation, registration and authorisation systems'. Among others, he explained the concepts of hazard (including hazard assessment), exposure (including exposure assessment) and risk (including risk assessment); elaborated on risk evaluation under the RC; noted potential strategies to prioritize chemicals for risk reduction; and highlighted options for risk reduction.

3.2 FAO pesticides registration toolkit

Another representative of the Secretariat provided a presentation on the FAO Pesticide Registration Toolkit. Among others, he explained what the toolkit was, its purpose/justification and where to locate it. He presented the main elements of the toolkit. He concluded by highlighting that the toolkit could support RC DNAs in evaluating risks and taking a decision on national regulations of a given pesticides, deciding on future pesticide importation, and collecting evidence on exposure/poisoning incidents.

3.3 Notification of FRAs and proposals of severely hazardous pesticide formulations (SHPFs) toolkit

Another representative of the Secretariat provided a presentation on:

- a. notifications of FRA, including the FRAE Toolkit; and
- b. proposals for severely hazardous pesticide formulations (SHPFs), including the SHPF toolkit.

Among others, he explained the obligations under Article 5 with regard to notifying the Secretariat of FRAs; provided an overview of relevant definitions; noted the information requirements; presented the forms; explained the criteria by which the Chemical Review Committee (CRC) evaluated FRAs and SHPFs etc.

3.4 Globally Harmonized System (GHS) for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

This virtual presentation was given by Sandra Molenkamp, a representative from the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). In her presentation, she discussed the relevance of GHS to the management of chemicals, applicable to all sectors including health, labor, agriculture, environment, transport, and trade. She emphasized the need to adhere to the GHS-recommended guidelines to label pesticides and added that this is enforced by other partner organizations like the FAO and WHO. The GHS classification includes physical hazards, for example, flammability, health hazards, toxicity, carcinogenicity, environmental hazards, and hazards to the aquatic environment.

She demonstrated the six required sections of a GHS-compliant chemical container label including:

- Product identifiers
- GHS pictograms
- Signal words
- Hazard statements
- Precautionary statements
- Supplier identification

Session 4: Import Responses

4.1 Identifying priorities and facilitating the next step towards the submission of IRs

The participants gathered in small working groups by Party and identified the chemicals for which IRs were pending, discussed what the IRs for those chemicals could be and, for some of them, prepared draft IRs with the support of the Secretariat.

4.2 Reporting back and discussion on priorities, and next steps toward the submission of IRs by DNAs of:

4.2.1 Kenya:

The Kenyan delegation looked for the low-hanging fruits, the short-chain chlorinated paraffin (SCCP) an industrial chemical (used in oil and leather production) mainly used by one company. The proposed way

forward was to transmit an interim response to consent to import subject to specified restrictions, namely use in leather and oil production only. The representative noted that further consultation was required with NEMA and other stakeholders using the chemicals before proceeding and that caution was needed to communicate alternatives and not harm production.

A representative of the Secretariat applauded the Kenyan delegation for the good work in developing a draft IR swiftly and advised them to refer to relevant work under the Stockholm Convention on SCCP.

4.2.2 Rwanda

The Rwandese delegation drafted an IR for *terbufos* and two industrial chemicals. They said that the three IRs would be submitted following a law amendment.

4.2.3 Tanzania

The Tanzanian delegation stated that they had drafted an IR for carbofuran. They took an interim decision of no consent to import in order to restrict its usage, mainly because there are pending legal processes regarding the importation of this chemical. The same decision was taken for an industrial chemical called *decabromodiphenyl ether* (decaBDE).

The Secretariat asked if a final decision was under active consideration, which the Tanzanian delegation confirmed. The representatives further added that they had so far submitted 47 IRs to the Secretariat. Following the presentation from Tanzania, a Secretariat representative urged all members to regularly revise old IRs, ideally once a year, to reflect potential changes in regulations.

4.2.4 Uganda

The Ugandan delegation worked on the pesticide *endosulfan*. The proposed IR was not to consent to import since it is restricted for use under the Stockholm Convention and the Ministry's rules provide for banning all products listed in the Stockholm convention.

4.2.5 Zambia

The Zambian delegation developed a draft IR for chlordane, a chemical listed in the Stockholm Convention. The IR was to ban the chemical because it is listed under the Stockholm convention and the Zambian law provides for banning of products flagged as harmful to human and environmental health. They also added that 28 IRs were submitted to the Secretariat and comments were received. The next action would be to address these comments.

Session 5: National Action Plans

Day 3: Thursday, 10 April 2024

5.1 Gap analysis and NAPs: template and examples

A representative of the Secretariat presented the template available for use by Parties to undertake a gap analysis as well as to develop a NAP across the key provisions of the RC. An example was also provided.

5.2 National gap analysis and updating/development of the draft NAPs

The representatives gathered in working groups by Party to start drafting their NAPs. Subsequently they reported back on the outcomes of their work. It was agreed that the NAPs would be further developed subsequent to the workshop and that the Secretariat would assist the Parties in doing so.

5.3 Workshop evaluation

The participants were asked to complete an online survey to evaluate the workshop.

5.4 Wrap-up, next steps and closing remarks

On behalf of the DG of *icipe*, the head of the EH Theme thanked all the participants, and especially the Secretariat for organizing the workshop. He appreciated the representatives of the BRS Secretariat from UNEP and FAO for their contribution in building the capacity of the parties. He also thanked the various

ministries and governments from the participating Parties for permitting the DNAs/representatives to be present.

He also extended his gratitude to the organizing committee for steering the meeting successfully, especially; *icipe's* Grants, Partnerships and Projects Manager, *icipe's* Grants Officer, *icipe's* scientific team, the students from capacity building, and *icipe's* head of Communication for the great visibility of the meeting.

Thereafter, he invited the Secretariat to provide closing remarks. Their representative thanked everyone on behalf of the Secretariat for attending, urged all the members to keep the momentum, and appreciated everyone's commitment.

Following the usual exchange of courtesy's, the meeting was declared closed.

ANNEX 1: WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

	PARTICIPANT NAMES	ORGANIZATION	COUNTRY	PASSPORT/ID NUMBER
1.	John Mwanja	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry, and Fisheries (MAAIF)	Uganda	B1231948
2.	Jeniva Kamuhabwa	Tanzania Plant Health and Pesticides Authority (TPHPA)	Tanzania	TAE242661
3.	Daniel Ndiyo	Government Chemistry Laboratory Authority (GCLA)	Tanzania	TAE146956
4.	John Mumbo	NEMA (NEMA)	Kenya	13206642
5.	David Ongáre	NEMA (NEMA)	Kenya	
6.	June Aluoch	Pest Control Products Board (PCPB)	Kenya	22209743
7.	Fredrick Muchiri	Pest Control Products Board (PCPB)	Kenya	7010179
8.	Tano Hangali	Tanzania Plant Health and Pesticides Authority (TPHPA)	Tanzania	TAE288830
9.	Kenneth Orengo	Veterinary Medicine Directorate (VMD)	Kenya	21963925
10.	Stephen Mugabi	Ministry Of Water and Environment	Uganda	C00001484
11.	Fred Muzira	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF)	Uganda	A00472869

12.	Tibonge Mfunne	Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA)	Zambia	ZN975830
13.	Silvester Nguni	Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA)	Zambia	ZN594077
14.	Aggrey Atuhaire	FAO (FAO)	Uganda	A00231115
15.	Leon Hakizamungu	Rwanda Agriculture Board (RAB)	Rwanda	PC751060
16.	Edward Chipoka	Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA)	Zambia	ZN733747
17.	Annah Njui	icipe	Kenya	
18.	Robert Ndungu	icipe	Kenya	
19.	Subramanian Sevgan	icipe	Kenya	
20.	Phyllis Mwanzi	icipe	Kenya	
21.	Nelly Ndungu	icipe	Kenya	
22.	Jost Dittkrist	BRS Secretariat	Switzerland	
23.	Aleksandar Mihajlovski	FAO (FAO)	Italy	
24.	Maryselah Nelima	icipe	Kenya	
25.	John Bwire	icipe	Kenya	
26.	Rehemah Gwokyalya	icipe	Kenya	

ANNEX 2: WORKSHOP CONCEPT NOTE

Sub-regional Workshop to Strengthen Implementation of the RC

Tuesday 9 April 2024 - Thursday 11 April 2024; Nairobi, Kenya

Logistics

- **Organizers:** Secretariat of the BRS Conventions (BRS Secretariat); Stockholm Convention Regional Centre located in Kenya and hosted by International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (SCRC-ICIPE Kenya)
- **Date and time:** Tuesday 9 April 2024 - Thursday 11 April 2024; approximately 09:00-17:00 (GMT +3) each day
- **Location and format:** The International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology, *icipe* Duduville Campus, Nairobi, Kenya; face to face with possibility of remote participation
- **Focal points for substantive matters:** Mr. Jost Dittkrist (jost.dittkrist@un.org), Mr. Aleksandar Mihajlovski (aleksandar.mihajlovski@fao.org), Dr. Sevgan Subramanian (ssubramania@icipe.org),
- **Focal points for logistical matters:** Ms. Annah Njui (anjui@icipe.org), copy Mr. Jost Dittkrist (jost.dittkrist@un.org)
- Working language: English

Context and rationale:

The RC (RC) on the PIC Procedure (PIC) for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade is a legally binding multilateral environmental agreement, which entered into force in 2004. As of February 2023, the RC has 165 Parties. The objectives of the RC are to promote shared responsibility and cooperative efforts among Parties in the international trade of certain hazardous chemicals in order to protect human health and the environment from potential harm; and to contribute to the environmentally sound use of those hazardous chemicals, by facilitating information exchange about their characteristics, by providing for a national decision-making process on their import and export and by disseminating these decisions to Parties.

The RC provides Parties with tools and information to prevent unwanted trade of hazardous chemicals through the PIC procedure. There are a total of 55 chemicals listed in Annex III and subject to the PIC procedure (36 pesticides, including 3 severely hazardous pesticide formulations (SHPFs), 18 industrial chemicals, and 1 chemical in both the pesticide and the industrial chemical categories).

Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia are all Parties to the RC. They have been identified among Parties in need of technical assistance in the context of the EU-funded Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) project 'Implementation of activities approved by the Conference of the Parties to the RC in 2019 for the biennium 2020-2021'.

The identified Parties face partly common and partly different challenges in fully implementing the RC. For example, the listed Parties are at various stages in terms of the submission of IRs (IR), with some of them not yet having submitted the IRs for most Annex III chemicals. Challenges include, to varying degrees, preparation and submission of notifications of FRAs (FRAs), proposals for SHPFs, and IRs; implementation of the PIC procedure etc. The invited Parties developed initial National Action Plans (NAPs); however, these date back to 2007-2012 and need updating. Some workshop participants may be new and/or not yet fully familiar with the key provisions and processes under the RC.

Workshop structure objectives:

The overarching objective of this workshop is to strengthen the capacities of Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia to implement the RC and to fully comply with its provisions.

Specifically, taking into account the challenges described above, this workshop aims to achieve the following:

- Improve understanding of the RC and its objectives, including to familiarize participants with the role and responsibilities of the DNA and relevant provisions and procedures under the Convention, such as FRAs, the PIC procedure, IRs, etc.
- Familiarize participants with relevant tools and resources available to facilitate implementation of the Convention and train participants in topics such as risk assessments and registration systems.
- Gain an improved understanding of where each Party stands in implementing the RC, including ongoing initiatives (such as of legal nature) and remaining challenges (e.g. missing IRs), thus facilitating the provision of further targeted technical assistance in the follow-up to the workshop.
- Exchange information, experiences and lessons learned among Parties with regard to risk assessment, evaluation and management of industrial chemicals and pesticides at the national level.
- Strengthen strategic action and national coordination mechanisms to fully implement the RC, including via the development of NAPs/updating of existing NAPs.

In order to achieve these goals, the workshop features a mix of presentations, working groups and peer-to-peer exchanges of insights and lessons learned. It is structured across the following sessions:

1. The RC
2. National situations and challenges
3. Risk evaluation, chemicals management and FRAs
4. IRs
5. NAPs

Participants:

The workshop brings together stakeholders with a role in chemicals management:

- DNAs (DNAs): The respective DNAs for industrial chemicals and pesticides are invited to attend the workshop. The DNAs are encouraged to ensure, as appropriate considering national institutional structures, adequate representation of the relevant Ministries responsible for the management of industrial chemicals and pesticides at the national level, which often includes the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Health.
- Staff of the SCRC-ICIPE Kenya.
- Representatives of the BRS Secretariat (Geneva and Rome offices); representatives of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Health Organization (WHO) regional/national offices
- Remotely: United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), International Labor Organization (ILO) and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), representative(s) of the EU (EU) and/or the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA).

ANNEX 3: WORKSHOP PROGRAM

Agenda for the Sub-regional Workshop to Strengthen Implementation of the RC

Moderator: Dr. Sevgan Subramanian

Day 1: Tuesday 9 April 2024

Time	Activity	Facilitator
09:00 - 09:20	Registration	
09:20 - 09:40	Opening of the workshop	Government of Kenya, SCRC-ICIPE Kenya, BRS Secretariat
09:40 - 10:00	Round of self-introduction	All participants, facilitated by the moderator
Session 1: The RC		
10:00 - 10:30	Objectives, key provisions, and mechanisms of the RC	BRS Secretariat
Coffee break and group photo		
11:00 - 12:00	Objectives, key provisions, and mechanisms of the RC	BRS Secretariat
12:00 - 12:30	Quiz/exercise on the RC	All participants, facilitated by the BRS Secretariat and SCRC-ICIPE Kenya
Lunch		
Session 2: National situations and challenges		
13:30 - 15:30	Presentations on the national situation (domestic processes and mechanisms for management of industrial chemicals and pesticides, incl. implementation of the RC; FRAs taken, status of IRs etc.; status of NAPs challenges faced)	DNAs of Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia; ca. 20-25 minutes each, ca. 5-10 minutes for Q&A each
Coffee break		
16:00 - 17:00	Presentations on the national situation (domestic processes and mechanisms for management of industrial chemicals and pesticides, incl. implementation of the RC; status of FRAs taken, IRs etc.; challenges faced) (continued)	DNAs of Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia; ca. 20-25 minutes each, ca. 5-10 minutes for Q&A each

Day 2: Wednesday 10 April 2024

Time	Activity	Facilitator
Session 3: Risk evaluation, chemicals management and FRAs		
08:40 - 09:00	Remarks by the DG of <i>icipe</i> ; meet and greet	SCRC-ICIPE Kenya (Dr Abdou Tenkouano)

09:00 - 09:40	Hazard, exposure, and risk evaluation; chemicals management: legislation, registration, and authorization systems	BRS Secretariat
09:40 - 10:10	Notifications of FRAs (FRA toolkit), proposals for SHPFs (SHPFs toolkit)	BRS Secretariat
10:10 - 10:30	FAO pesticides registration toolkit	BRS Secretariat
Coffee break		
11:00-11:30	Open discussion on challenges in preparing and notifying FRAs	All participants, facilitated by the moderator
11:30 - 12:10	Implementation of the RC in the EU; discussion on implementation of PIC procedure, export notifications etc.	EU/ECHA (TBC)
12:10 - 12:30	Globally Harmonized System for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) and the Inter-Organization	UNITAR
Time	Activity	Facilitator
	Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) toolbox	
Lunch		
Session 4: IRs		
13:30 - 15:45	Identifying priorities and facilitating next step towards the submission of IRs	All participants, facilitated by the BRS Secretariat and SCRC-ICIPE Kenya
Coffee break		
16:00 - 17:00	Identifying priorities and facilitating next step towards the submission of IRs	All participants, facilitated by the BRS Secretariat and SCRC-ICIPE Kenya

Day 3: Thursday 11 April 2024

Time	Activity	Facilitator
09:00 - 10:00	Reporting back and discussion on priorities and next step towards the submission of IRs	DNAs of Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia (ca. 10 min each)
Session 5: NAPs		
10:00 - 10:30	Gap analysis and NAPs: template and examples	BRS Secretariat
Coffee break		
11:00 - 12:30	National gap analysis and updating / development of the draft NAPs	All participants, facilitated by the BRS Secretariat and SCRC-ICIPE Kenya
Lunch		
13:30 - 15:00	National gap analysis and updating / development of the draft NAPs	All participants, facilitated by the BRS Secretariat and SCRC-ICIPE Kenya

15:00 - 16:00	Presentations on the draft (updated) NAPs	DNAs of Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia; ca. 10 minutes each
Coffee break		
16:15 - 16:40	Workshop evaluation	All participants, facilitated by the BRS Secretariat and SCRC-ICIPE Kenya
16:40 - 17:00	Wrap-up, next steps and closing remarks	Government of Kenya, SCRC-ICIPE Kenya (Dr Abdou Tenkouano), BRS Secretariat

ANNEX 4: COUNTRY PRESENTATIONS



Kenya.pptx



Tanzania.ppt



Rwanda.pptx



Uganda.pptx



Zambia.pptx

