

## COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS AND ON THE GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally  
Harmonized System of Classification  
and Labeling of Chemicals

Fourteenth session, 12-14 December 2007  
Item 5(b) of the provisional agenda

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GHS

#### Cooperation with other international organizations

##### Providing an update on recent SAICM Quick Start Programme (QSP) activity

Transmitted by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)  
Secretariat for the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)

#### **A. Background**

1. An overview and update on progress with the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) is provided in UN/SCEGHS/14/INF9. This document sets out the relevance of SAICM for the Globally Harmonized System for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (the GHS) as well as the relevance of SAICM for supporting the achievement of the WSSD Plan of Implementation.
2. The SAICM Quick Start Programme (QSP) Trust Fund provides opportunities for project funding for developing countries, least developed countries, Small Island developing States and countries with economies in transition.

#### **B. Progress with SAICM QSP Trust Fund**

3. The third round of project applications for funding from the SAICM QSP Trust Fund closed on 14 September 2007. Twenty-one applications were received from fifteen (15) governments and six (6) non-government organizations. Applications were considered by the SAICM Trust Fund Implementation Committee at its meeting on the 30 October 2007. Eleven (11) projects were awarded with a combined value of approximately 2.2 Million USD.
4. The fourth round of project applications is now open and closes on 7 March 2008.
5. The replenishment of the SAICM Trust Fund is well underway. For the year 2007, the SAICM Secretariat has, so far, received pledges totalling approximately 4.5 Million USD. Additional pledges are expected to be finalized before the end of the year.
6. Further details of application procedures, eligibility and guidance are available on the SAICM web site <http://www.chem.unep.ch/saicm/qsptf.htm>. A handout which highlights the essential features of the QSP application procedure is also available for the Sub Committee (see annex).




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## Quick Start Programme (QSP) Trust Fund

Sub Committee of Experts on GHS

Fourteenth session  
Geneva, 12 – 14 December 2007




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- QSP overview, objective & strategic priorities, mandate and governance, institutional set-up
- QSP Trust Fund application process and materials, eligibility, key issues, TFIC appraisal, previous rounds and support to applicants
- Conclusion and contact information

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## Introduction: about SAICM

- The Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) is a global policy framework adopted in February 2006 in Dubai by the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM).
- SAICM supports the achievement of the goal agreed in 2002 at the World Summit on Sustainable Development of ensuring that, by 2020, chemicals are produced and used in ways that minimize significant adverse impacts on the environment and human health
- SAICM has three core texts:
  - Dubai Declaration on International Chemicals Management (political commitment)
  - Overarching Policy Strategy (scope, needs, objectives, principles, financial and implementation arrangements)
  - Global Plan of Action (work areas, activities, actors, timeframes and targets, indicators of progress)

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## QSP overview

- SAICM's Quick Start Programme (QSP) was established by the ICCM
- QSP aims to support initial enabling activities in developing countries, least developed countries, small island developing States and countries with economies in transition
- QSP consists of a trust fund, as well as bilateral, multilateral and other forms of cooperation
- SAICM QSP web page:  
[www.chem.unep.ch/saicm/qsp.htm](http://www.chem.unep.ch/saicm/qsp.htm)

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## QSP objective & strategic priorities

The QSP aims to mobilize resources for national priority initial enabling activities in keeping with the work areas set out in the strategic objectives of section IV of the OPS, in particular:

- a) Development or updating of national chemical profiles and the identification of capacity needs for sound chemicals management;
- b) Development and strengthening of national chemicals management institutions, plans, programmes and activities to implement SAICM, building upon work conducted to implement international chemicals-related agreements and initiatives;
- c) Undertaking analysis, interagency coordination, and public participation activities directed at enabling the implementation of SAICM by integrating – i.e., mainstreaming – the sound management of chemicals in national strategies, and thereby informing development assistance cooperation priorities

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## QSP mandate and governance

- Overarching Policy Strategy paragraph 19, ICCM resolution I/4 and guidance from the QSP Executive Board and Trust Fund Implementation Committee
- Executive Board provides overall operational guidance
  - Members are QSP contributors and Government regional representatives (Belgium, US, Belarus, Georgia, Burundi, Egypt, Jamaica, Peru, Iran and Thailand)
  - Sub-committee of trust fund donors and regional representatives within the Executive Board
- Trust Fund Implementation Committee (TFIC) considers project proposals seeking trust fund assistance
  - TFIC= participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) + UNDP
  - IOMC= FAO, ILO, OECD, UNEP, UNIDO, UNITAR and WHO


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## QSP institutional set-up

- UNEP administers trust fund
- SAICM secretariat facilitates the application process and services the Executive Board and Trust Fund Implementation Committee


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## QSP Trust Fund: overview

- Aims to provide seed money to support the objective and strategic priorities of the QSP.
- Governments and, under exceptional circumstances, NGOs can receive support for projects from \$50,000 to \$250,000.
- Projects can be for a maximum of 2 years.
- All project proposals need the endorsement of the SAICM National Focal Point.
- Information and application forms available on [www.chem.unep.ch/saicm](http://www.chem.unep.ch/saicm)  
-> Quick Start Programme Trust Fund


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## QSP Trust Fund: application process

- There are two application rounds per year. Next round closes on 7 March 2008 and the following round in September 2008 (dates announced on web site).
- Applications are submitted in English only to the SAICM secretariat by post with all the required signatures
- Signed advance copies can be forwarded by e-mail or fax.
- After each application deadline the SAICM secretariat screens applications for eligibility
- Two months after each application deadline, the TFIC meets to review and make the appraisal of the applications
- After the meeting, the applicant is notified in writing by the SAICM secretariat of the Committee's decision.
- Implementation arrangements for approved projects are made between the project manager and UNEP
- Approved project documents are made publicly available on the SAICM website.


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## QSP Trust Fund: application materials

- I. Application form
  - Applicant information
  - Summary of the budget and project description
  - Focal point(s) endorsement(s)
- II. Budget tables
  - Excel template
  - Breakdown of the total costs and budget
  - Annexes (if relevant)
    - Job descriptions and description of the recruitment process
    - Information on group training, meetings or conferences
    - List of non-expendable equipment
- III. Project Description
  - Main document of the application
  - Project background, management and description
  - Workplan and evaluation plan
- Proofs of co-funding from other sources
  - Confirmations of co-financing or in-kind contributions
- Letter of support and other supporting information
  - Confirmation of multi-stakeholder and/or multi-sectoral support
  - Press articles
  - Etc.


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## QSP Trust Fund eligibility: Governments

- Governments of:
  - Developing Countries
  - Countries with Economies in Transition
- LDCs and SIDS have priority.
- Governments must have nominated a SAICM National Focal Point (NFP).
  - Official nomination procedure via Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
  - The list of focal points is available at [www.chem.unep.ch/saicm](http://www.chem.unep.ch/saicm)


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## QSP Trust Fund eligibility: NGOs (1)

- NGOs that have expertise in chemicals management
- NGOs that have the necessary resources and administrative capacity
- NGOs that have nominated a SAICM NGO focal point


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### QSP Trust Fund eligibility: NGOs (2)

- To be considered under on an “exceptional circumstances” NGO projects need to:
  - Address a significant need in chemicals management;
  - Address a gap – i.e. other stakeholders are not addressing the need; and
  - Demonstrate the value of the project being undertaken by an NGO.
- NGO projects need the endorsement of the official national focal point of the country (or countries) where the project will be implemented


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### QSP Trust Fund eligibility: regional projects

- Regional or multi-country project proposals may also be submitted by Governments and civil society networks.
- Proposals for such projects should be submitted in a single applications and seek a maximum total funding of \$250,000.
- Regional or multi-country project proposals need the endorsement of national focal points of all the countries where project activities would be undertaken.
- Multi-country or civil society projects can be submitted at the same time as individual Government projects are submitted or implemented.


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### QSP Trust Fund eligibility: focal point endorsement

- Nomination of national (or NGO) focal points should be finalised prior to the submission of the application
- Focal point endorsements should be coordinated as early as possible
- Additional information and documents on focal points and the nomination process are available on the SAICM website:  
[www.chem.unep.ch/saicm/focalpoints.htm](http://www.chem.unep.ch/saicm/focalpoints.htm)


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### QSP Trust Fund: project key issues (1)

- Applications should also highlight the direct links between the project and the QSP objective and strategic priorities
- *Reminder:* QSP focus on national priority initial **enabling activities**, in particular:
  - a) Chemical profiles and identification of capacity needs;
  - b) Chemicals management institutions, plans, programmes and activities, building upon work conducted to implement international agreements;
  - c) Integrating – i.e., mainstreaming – chemicals in national strategies and development priorities


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### QSP Trust Fund: project key issues (2)

- Project objectives and activities should be consistent with identified national priorities
- Projects should be linked with existing or previous projects, including
  - Stockholm convention NIPs
  - Waste management
  - Other POPs & PICs projects
  - Pesticide management
  - Cleaner Production
- Projects should have a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder scope and involvement
- Project should highlight a sustainable follow-up


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### QSP Trust Fund: appraisal by TFIC

- Compatibility with QSP objectives and strategic priorities (see ICCM 1/4)
- Geographical balance
- Sectoral balance
- Priority for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS)
- Other relevant factors identified by the TFIC and Executive Board
  - co-funding
  - multisectoral impact
  - participation of stakeholders
  - etc


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## QSP Trust Fund application process: first round

- The first round of applications to the trust fund closed on 18 August 2006.
  - 44 applications were received from
    - 32 Governments
    - 12 from NGOs
- 31 Applications were reviewed by the TFIC on 18 October
  - 27 Governments
  - 4 NGOs
- 8 projects were approved or conditionally approved
  - 7 Government and 1 NGO applications
  - Covering activities in 20 countries
  - 19 Applications were suggested for resubmission
  - 4 projects were declined


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## QSP Trust Fund application process: second round

- The second round of applications to the trust fund closed on 16 April 2007.
  - 35 applications were received from
    - 30 Governments
    - 5 from NGOs
- 31 Applications were reviewed by the TFIC on 29-30 May 2007
  - 28 Governments
  - 3 NGOs
- 21 projects were approved or conditionally approved
  - 20 Government and 1 NGO applications
  - Covering activities in 21 countries
  - 5 applications were recommended for further development and resubmission
  - 5 projects were declined


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## QSP Trust Fund application process: third round

- The second round of applications to the trust fund closed on 14 September 2007.
  - 21 applications were received from
    - 15 Governments
    - 6 from NGOs
- 16 Applications were reviewed by the TFIC on 30 October 2007
  - 13 Governments
  - 3 NGOs
- 11 projects were approved or conditionally approved
  - 9 Government and 2 NGO applications
  - Covering activities in 17 countries
  - 3 applications were recommended for further development and resubmission
  - 2 projects were declined


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## QSP Trust Fund: support to applicants

- Application Guidelines are available with the application documents on the SAICM website: [www.chem.unep.ch/saicm/qsptf.htm](http://www.chem.unep.ch/saicm/qsptf.htm)
  - Provides essential information on the application process and package
  - Available in English, French, Spanish and Arabic
- The secretariat is available:
  - to provide guidance on the application procedure
  - to answer questions on the applications forms
  - to review applications
  - to provide further advice of applications
- Do not hesitate to send an email to [saicm@chemicals.unep.ch](mailto:saicm@chemicals.unep.ch)


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## Conclusion

- The fourth round of applications is already open and will close in March 2008.
- The next round is expected to open in June and close in September 2008
- Applications should be developed as early as possible to ensure the meet all requirements and the deadline for submission
- Advance drafts should be sent to the SAICM secretariat as early as possible for an initial assessment of their completeness and eligibility

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## Contact Information

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