Rio Summit, 1992

Chapter 19 Agenda 21

- Better information on chemical emissions
- Life cycle approach to chemicals management
- Right-to-know

Consistent with the macro-political developments

- Democratization processes
- Streamlining of government operations (public management)
- Window of opportunity

Success stories

- Toxic Release Inventory

Institutional initiatives and coordination on chemicals at the global level

- Life cycle approach to chemical management required new institutional models and coordination
- Governments established IFCS in 1994
- IPCS (UNEP, ILO, WHO) with OECD, UNIDO, and FAO led to IOMC
• UNITAR not original member but invited to discussion as observers

**PRTR initiatives at the international level**

• The concept PRTR did not exist
• 1993 informal IPCS meeting with UNEP, ILO, WHO, OECD,
• The term PRTR was born
  - Emission inventory
  - Pollutant inventory
  - Pollutant Release Inventory
  - Pollutant Release and Transfer Register
• OECD initiated development of a guidance document through a workshop series In parallel, UNITAR worked with three pilot countries, Egypt, Mexico, Czech Republic
• OECD guidance focused on substantive guidance
• UNITAR methodology focused on step-by-step guidance to assist countries in systematically going through a PRTR design process
• Pilot countries were systematically engaged in OECD workshops
• 1997: Series of regional workshops, including Mexico, Czech Republic with pilot countries playing major role
Major 1998 Conference on PRTR organized by Japan and OECD, in collaboration with UNEP and UNITAR

Given the momentum IOMC established a Coordinating Group,

International Policy Milestones at the International Level at the Turn of the Millennium

- 1998 Aarhus Convention and its first pillar on information
- 2000 Bahia Declaration of the IFCS: 2 PRTRs per region
- 2001 Stockholm Convention first substantive international agreement that discovered linkages with PRTR
- 2002 WSSD Outcome Document: PRTR and Sustainable Development
- 2003 PRTR Aarhus Protocol in 2003
- 2003 Forum III Special Session, Thailand
  - 13 countries with PRTR, 3 under development
  - Central and Eastern Europe, Asia and the Pacific
- 2006 Inclusion of PRTR in the SAICM Strategic Plan of Action: 2015
- PRTR initiatives at the regional level: NAFTA, European Inventory,
- Linkages of funding and capacity development at the national level
- 2009 GEF Global Project on PRTR
Establishment of the International PRTR Coordinating Group with the UNECE Servicing as Secretariat

- IOMC PRTR Technical Co-ordinating Group valuable dialogue, following IOMC Rules of Procedures
- Weakness was the lack of interaction with countries
- When IOMC streamlined operation, discussion took place in 2007 on how to create an international co-ordinating mechanism that would bring all PRTR activities together and facilitate dialogue between organizations and countries
- Back-to-back regular session meetings with OECD PRTR Task Force
- One concrete area advanced by the group is to explore linkages between PRTR and ME
- Interesting Side Event at the COP 15 In Copenhagen

Where are we heading?

- Clearly momentum is developing globally
- Increasing number of success stories
- Need to better understand challenge in countries
- This MOP provides excellent opportunity to enhance dialogue with countries, the bureau discussed the possibility of holding a special session of the Group
• Interested what further action could take at the global level, to advance SAICM targets, possible organization of a follow-up conference to the
• The agenda is full and we appreciate the commitment of the UNECE Secretariat and Jeremy Wates and Michael Stanley Jones to provide support to the international dialogue
• Look very much forward to the session this afternoon