

### **ICCA Case Study**

# The Responsible Care Global Charter (RCGC) and the Global Product Strategy (GPS) in Action

Sound Chemicals Management is a Global Responsibility

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### Challenges and how to address them

- In today's world of globalized product flows, problems related to product safety are no longer restricted to their country of origin.
- Our world is drawing doser together, not just economically but also on political and environmental issues.
- As a response the chemical industry has expanded and intensified



#### **Chemicals Policy and Health**



# 1. 'Promote knowledge and skills transfer in line' with companies needs

- Longer term capacity building efforts to improve the competency of SMEs and developing countries (e.g. Product Stewardship workshops and Value Chain outreach). Specialists from leading chemical companies provide training and knowledge transfer.
- Comprehensive set of guidance materials for risk assessment and risk management. This guidance particularly addresses small and medium sized enterprises in developing economies to develop risk management measures for safe handling of substances throughout their life cycle (incl. value chain activities).
- ICCA GPS network of experts, who will answer technical questions about risk assessment or on GPS safety summaries.



## 2. Improve the availability of reliable information on chemicals

Under GPS a Base



# 3. Increase awareness on chemical management issues and integrate multiple approaches

 The development of national chemicals policies should be based on common principles and elements to foster greater consistency and transparency in regulatory systems

#### "Principles for Chemical Management Systems"

- Science and risk based decision making
- Tiered, intelligent risk based approach to chemical evaluations
- Leveraging existing information to reduce animals and redundant testing
- Transparency and shared responsibility along the value chain
- Improved public confidence in chemical



#### Lessons learned and next steps

- One of the biggest challenges is the lack of capacity in certain parts of the developing world to effectively manage chemicals.
  - » lack of appropriate expertise, lack of data and scientific information, lack of resources, and lack of infrastructure.
  - ICCA is working with other SAICM stakeholders to address these gaps through capacity building and other relevant initiatives.
- A further challenge is to ensure effective chemicals management across the supply chain and throughout the product lifecycle.
  - ICCA has made important progress in strengthening Product Stewardship and developing sustainable business practices through Responsible Care, but more remains to be done