

Great Lakes Binational Toxics Strategy Stakeholder Forum

June 4, 2008

**Canadian Centre for Inland Waters
Burlington, Ontario**

GLBTS Substance and Sector Workgroups

Substance Workgroup Co-Chairs:

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Summary of Comments

- **Comments on framework**
 - ◆ **Need for context**
 - ◆ **Tolerance level for considerations**
 - ◆ **Quality and adequacy of data**
- **Need to consider additional stakeholder participation**
- **Need to consider who else needs to be engaged**
- **Alignment with national programs**
- **Need to operationalize how we move forward (strategic plan)**

Strategic Plan

■ Mission

- Article II a) and Annex 12 of GLWQA
- Broad – “toxic substances in toxic amounts”
- Exploring threats to the Great Lakes basin
- Complementary to national programs

■ Scope

- The governance model contained within the GLBTS Agreement (4-step process) will serve as a model
- Consider, but not be limited by, full scope of chemicals being examined by national programs
- EC and USEPA in cooperation with their partners will periodically examine progress of meeting current obligations and exploring whether new substances may present threats to the Great Lakes ecosystem and therefore should be considered

■ Objectives

- Defined in TORs

■ Operating Principles

- Defined in TORs
- Further discussion after next slide

Strategic Approach

- Decision framework for comment – *September 2008*

- Two pronged approach
 - 1) Seek to Identify Candidate Substances for which Existing Information is Available (“Now”)
 - Looking at available information
 - Followed by proposal for substances based on framework (consistent with national programs)
 - Consider management options
 - Recommendations for substances / actions
 - 2) Seek to Identify Candidate Substances for which Additional Information Needs to be Developed (“Future”)
 - Monitoring, surveillance and research programs

Monitoring & Surveillance

- **Present an overview of pertinent programs which will have Great Lakes basin data**
 - ◆ **Outline how resulting GL data will fit in**

- **Develop work plan for Screening and Surveillance program (Howard/Muir)**
 - ◆ **Scope**
 - ◆ **Objectives**
 - ◆ **Details**
 - ◆ **Timelines**

Stakeholder Participation

■ Stakeholder Participation

- ◆ **Continue to engage stakeholders as this process proceeds**
- ◆ **Commit to face-to-face meetings concurrent with Integration Meetings**
- ◆ **Commit to one teleconference call between quarterly GLBTS meetings**

■ Public Engagement

- ◆ **What more public engagement do stakeholders feel is necessary?**
- ◆ **A valuable role of GLBTS stakeholders is to further engage their constituents and provide feedback**