

NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR

DIOXINS

FURANS

HEXACHLORALBENZENE

North American Working Group on the Sound
Management of Chemicals

October 2002

Cuernavaca, Mexico

Terms of Reference

- **Authorization:**

Council Resolution 95-05

Council Resolution 99-01

- **Purpose of the Task Force**

Develop a North American Regional Action Plan (NARAP) on Dioxins, Furans, and Hexachlorobenzene

CHARACTERIZATION OF DIOXIN

Chemicals that are “dioxin-like” as regards chemical structure, physical-chemical properties and which invoke a common battery of toxic responses

- 7 polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins
- 10 polychlorinated dibenzofurans, and
- 13 polychlorinated biphenyls

HEXACHLORALBENZENE

POLLUTION PREVENTION

“a central feature of the NARAP will be recommendations aimed at promoting pollution prevention measures for sources identified within North America, so as to reduce exposure to Dioxins and Furans, and Hexachlorobenzene”

CAPACITY BUILDING

- **Improving capacity and capabilities of the three parties**
- **Coordinate with NARAP on environmental monitoring and assessment**
- **Identify practical opportunities for cooperation, and sharing expertise, experience and technology**
- **Encourages complementary national approaches**
- **Develop a North American emission inventory**
 - **Major individual sources of emissions**
 - ,
 - **Uncontrolled combustion**
 - **Reservoir sources**

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Actively seek and take into account public comments received on the public review drafts on NARAP

TASK FORCE OPERATING PARAMETERS

- **Two regular members appointed by each country, and one alternate.**
- **Four participating observer-members one each from the environmental community, indigenous organizations, industry, and academia**
- **Consult with the International Air Quality Advisory Board of the International Joint Commission**
- **Consult broadly with experts and stakeholders**

ISSUES UNDER CONSIDERATION

- **What are key information needs common to the three countries and what can be done collectively to meet these needs?**
- **What is the character and nature of the dioxin problem in Mexico and what can be done in the short and long term to improve characterization?**
- **What specific actions can be taken to strengthen the capacity of the governments to characterize and address D/F/HCB problems ?**
- **How should the NARAP address its charge to develop and promote outreach and communication of environmental monitoring and assessment results to stakeholders?**

ISSUES UNDER CONSIDERATION

- **What additional mechanisms should be created for information sharing and expert exchanges on: assessments, technologies and management procedures?**
- **How can the dioxin NARAP process support the three countries in strengthening their domestic dioxin strategies and plans?**
- **What are the emission and exposure reduction actions to which each country is committing and what can the NARAP do to achieve better coordination and efficiency in these actions?**
- **What additional mechanisms should be created for progress reports on achievement NARAP objectives, in particular, exposure reductions of humans and the environment.**

DIOXIN FURAN HEXACHLOROBENZENE NARAP DEVELOPED IN TWO PHASES

Phase Two NARAP will strive to provide a comprehensive and integrated approach to managing D/F/HCB releases and exposure for North America

Phase One NARAP will focus on identifying capacity building actions which can be initiated now without waiting for the development of a comprehensive framework

DIOXIN FURAN HEXACHLOROBENZENE PHASE ONE NARAP DEVELOPMENT PLAN

- **Dioxin/Furan/Hexachlorobenzene Taskforce Formed — November 2000**
- **Terms of Reference Adopted by SMOC Working Group — March 2001**
- **Government to Government Workshop — June 19-20, 2001**
- **Stakeholder Consultation Workshop Mexico City — October 23-24, 2001**
- **Draft Phase One NARAP Approved by SMOC Working Group— July 2002**
- **Draft Phase One NARAP to Public Review and Consultation — Winter 2002/3**
- **Revised Draft Phase One NARAP to SMOC Working Group— Spring 2003**
- **Revised Draft Phase One NARAP to Member Countries for Approval — Spring 2003**
- **Revised Draft Phase One NARAP to NACEC Council for Adoption — Summer 2003**

DIOXIN FURAN HEXACHLOROBENZENE PHASE TWO NARAP DEVELOPMENT PLAN

- Draft Phase Two NARAP to SMOC Working Group for Approval — Dec 2003
- Draft Phase Two NARAP to Public Review and Consultation — Early 2004
- Revised Draft Phase Two NARAP to SMOC Working Group — Spring 2004
- Draft Phase Two NARAP to Member Countries for Approval — Summer 2004
- Draft Phase Two NARAP to NACEC Council for Adoption — End 2004

