

IOMC Webinar Report

Regional consultations on GFC Implementation Programmes: Proposals for the First International Conference (IC-1)

IOMC Webinar Series in support of GFC
Implementation (webinar #7)

Convened by the IOMC with the support of the
Government of Switzerland

5–7 May 2026



Global Framework
on Chemicals



Report Prepared by: UNITAR

Webinar Report

INTRODUCTION

The [Global Framework on Chemicals \(GFC\)](#), adopted by ICCM5 in Bonn, Germany in 2023, provides a vision for a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste, for a safe, healthy and sustainable future.

The Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) is committed to supporting the implementation of the GFC and has accepted the invitation in [ICCM5 Resolution V/8](#) to work together with stakeholders in developing mandates, terms of reference, and workplans for possible “Implementation Programmes” (IPs) for consideration by the first International Conference in 2026.

The IOMC initiated a [series of webinars](#) in 2024 as a contribution to the implementation of the Global Framework on Chemicals. The webinars are open to all interested stakeholders participating in the GFC, as well as other stakeholders active or interested in the chemicals and waste management area.

ABOUT THIS WEBINAR

This seventh webinar in the series focused on regional consultations on the draft terms of reference and workplans for proposed GFC Implementation Programmes (IPs). These consultations were part of the ongoing stakeholder engagement process supporting the development of proposals for consideration by the first International Conference (IC-1) of the GFC, to be held from 16–20 November 2026 in Geneva.

The webinar series included three regional sessions held on 5, 6, and 7 May 2026 covering Asia Pacific; Africa, Central and Eastern Europe; and Latin America and the Caribbean. Representatives from other regions were invited to join their preferred session according to the different time zones.

The webinar focused on two proposed implementation programmes: (1) Strengthening Legal Frameworks and Institutional Capacities for Chemicals Management (IP1); and (2) Strengthening Economic and Industry Sector Engagement and Action for the Sound Management of Chemicals along Value Chains (IP2). Activities supporting a third work area on integrating chemicals and waste issues into sustainable development decision-making were also presented.

The sessions included presentations from the GFC Secretariat, OECD, UNITAR, ILO and other IOMC representatives. Stakeholders were invited to provide feedback, ask questions and share perspectives regarding the future operationalization of the implementation programmes under the GFC. Interpretation in English, French, Spanish, and Russian was available at the relevant webinar.

Agenda

Session	Speaker/Moderator
Welcome and introduction	Hilda van der Veen (IOMC Chair, UNDP) & Kay Williams (GFC Secretariat)
Overview of GFC Implementation Programmes (IPs) and cross-cutting work	Bob Diderich (OECD)
Strengthening Legal Frameworks and Institutional Capacities for Chemicals Management (IP1)	Bob Diderich (OECD)
Strengthening Economic and Industry Sector Engagement and Action for the Sound Management of Chemicals along Value Chains (IP2)	Achim Halpaap (IOMC/UNITAR)
Integrating Chemicals and Waste Issues in Sustainable Development Decision-making	Oliver Wootton (UNITAR)
Reflections from the World of Work	Halshka Graczyk (ILO)
Summary of discussion and next steps	Jorge Ocaña (UNITAR) & Kay Williams (GFC Secretariat)
Close of webinar	Hilda van der Veen (IOMC Chair, UNDP)

Links to available resources

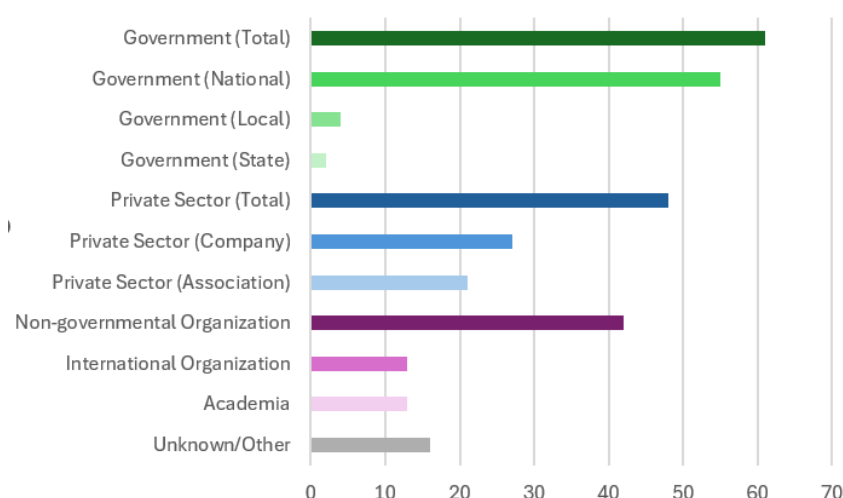
1. [Website](#)
2. [Flyer](#)
3. [Information Note and Agenda](#)
4. [Compilation of the presentations](#) (English)
5. [Compilation of the presentations](#) (French)
6. [Compilation of the presentations](#) (Spanish)
7. [Compilation of the presentations](#) (Russian)
8. [Recording](#)

Attendance breakdown and representation

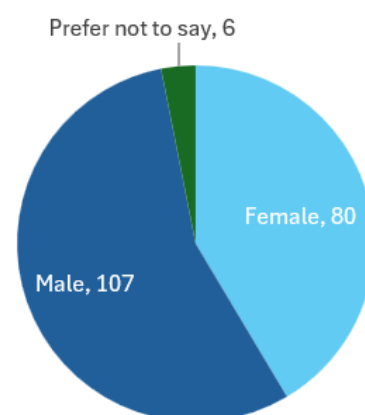
There was a total of **193 participants** connected for more than one hour¹

¹ The total number of participants was 395. The statistics below are based on a total of 193.

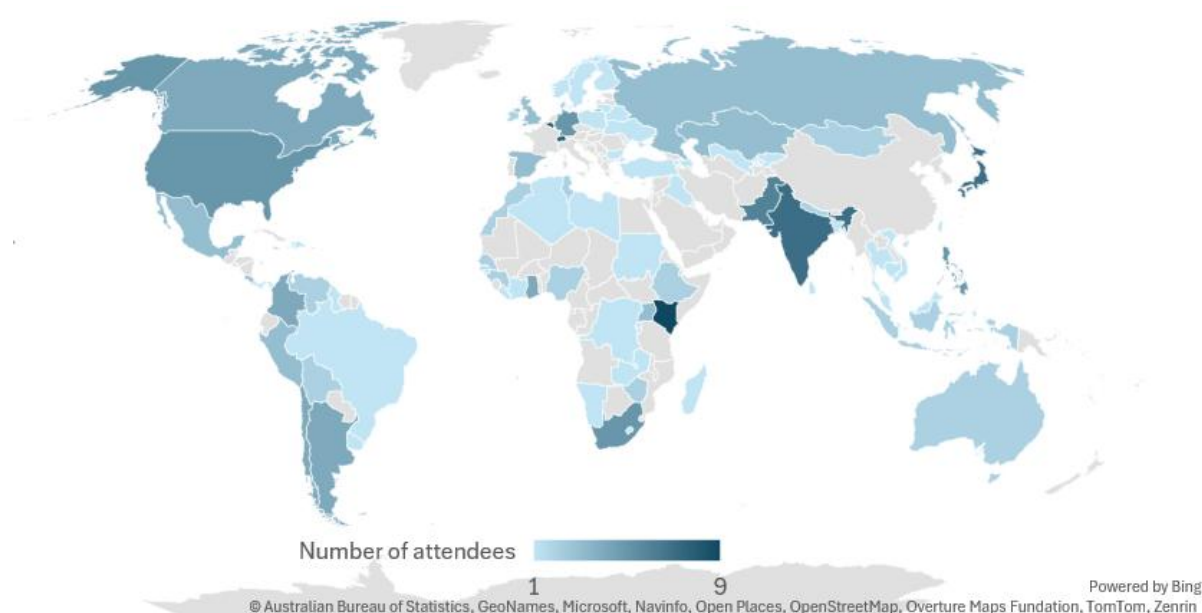
Sectors



Gender



Countries



Satisfaction Survey Results*

*74 Total responses by 20 May 2026

- Overall feedback was highly positive, with most participants rating the webinar as “Excellent” (58%) or “Very good” (31%). Speakers’ performance was also strongly appreciated, with 68% rating presentations “Extremely well” and 28% “Somewhat well”.
- Participation opportunities were considered valuable by almost all respondents, with 76% rating them “Very useful” and 22% “Somewhat useful”. A strong majority of participants (91%) expressed preference for maintaining the same methodology in future events.
- Overall, the survey results indicate high participant satisfaction with the webinar content, delivery, and interactive structure.
- Highlight:

“The webinar helped me better understand the proposed GFC implementation programmes, especially the importance of stronger legal frameworks, institutional capacity, and multi-stakeholder enaaagement for sound chemicals manaement”

Key Messages

- The webinar series highlighted the importance of implementation programmes as a delivery mechanism for achieving the objectives and targets of the Global Framework on Chemicals (GFC). Presenters emphasized that implementation programmes should include clear mandates, workplans, and open participation from all relevant stakeholders.
- Significant attention was given to the development of Implementation Programme 1 (IP1) on strengthening legal frameworks and institutional capacities for chemicals management. Discussions focused on building blocks for national chemicals management systems, self-assessment tools, pilot testing activities, and harmonized approaches to chemicals legislation.
- Discussions on Implementation Programme 2 (IP2) emphasized engagement with economic and industry sectors along value chains, including sector programmes for electronics, healthcare, textiles, and building and construction, as well as cross-cutting themes such as chemical footprinting, transparency and traceability, occupational safety and health, reporting standards, and sustainable chemistry.
- Speakers highlighted the importance of integrating chemicals and waste management into broader sustainable development decision-making processes, including climate change, biodiversity, education, health and labour-related policies.
- The webinars underscored the importance of labour and occupational safety and health issues within chemicals management, highlighting the role of labour legislation, occupational exposure prevention, and engagement with workers and employers across value chains.
- Participants raised questions related to stakeholder engagement, governance structures, industry participation, harmonization of regulatory approaches, benchmarking methodologies, and thematic workstreams.

Next steps:

- Participants were invited to continue providing feedback, comments, and suggestions. Inputs received during and after the webinars will inform the further revision of the draft terms of reference, workplans and supporting materials for the proposed implementation programmes ahead of IC-1.
- The feedback received will be considered in the report submitted by the IOMC to the International Conference, supporting possible decisions on the way forward under the GFC.
- On the work area of integrating chemicals and waste in sustainable development decision-making, three primers are being prepared (on climate change, biodiversity, and education). A discussion paper will be presented at IC-1, and a community of practice and a webinar are planned in 2027.

- Stakeholders interested in engaging with specific industry sector programs or thematic work streams under IP2 are invited to contact the IOMC Secretariat at iomc@unitar.org to be linked with the relevant focal points and multi-stakeholder working groups.

