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Date: 30 October 2006

Beverly Miller
UNEP

RE: Chemicals Management Report

Dear --Sir/Madame,

Thank you very much for sending us the advanced copy of the Report of the Executive Director on Chemicals Management. We find the document comprehensive and informative, capturing the tremendous amount of work that has been undertaken by the UNEP and other stakeholders in this field. We have some additional general inputs that may be useful in the November 2 meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

First of all, there should be more stress on **country reporting** on chemicals management. This should be encouraged to form the basis for future actions and as a gauge if current policies are being undertaken. This report should include listing of regulations, management strategies, related chemical disasters and incidents to name a few.

There should be further focus on the south perspective on chemical management to highlight the steps being undertaken by developing countries in managing their chemical industry, demands and actual use. Priority funding should be given to benchmark projects focusing on regional and national approaches to better manage and monitor chemical utilization. In relation to this an **industry specific** (mining, manufacturing, construction...) approach should be developed to identify and engage the top users of monitored chemicals.

Lastly it would be good to find strategies to engage the private companies in the discussion as there is very little stress on their involvement in the paper. An alternative approach to sound chemical management is through corporate social responsibility strategies e.g. adequate health, safety and environment systems.

I look forward to our involvement in future UNEP discussions.

Best regards,

Habiba Al Marashi
Chairperson
Board Member, UN Global Compact

Together for a better environment
NGO with accredited status with UNEP and UNCCD

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