Draft Statement from OECD (Mr. Koki TAKAKI, Administrator for PRTRs, Environmental Health and Safety Division)

> 4th Session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocl on PRTRs (22 October 2021)
>
> Agenda 3 (a): Coordination mechanisms and synergies

I would like to provide an update on the OECD's activities on PRTRs. Our projects mainly focus on 1) improving PRTRs, 2) enhancing the use of PRTR data, and 3) harmonising PRTRs across the world. In particular, I would like to present two examples of our activities on enhancing the use of PRTR data.

We recently published a report, "Using (PRTR) Information to Evaluate Progress Towards the UN SDG 12" (https://oe.cd/prtr-sdg). The SDGs Target 12.4 on environmentally sound management of chemicals and wastes appears to be the one for which the use of PRTR data is the most directly relevant. In this report, we demonstrated that PRTR datasets can be well-used to measure progress towards the reduction of releases to air, water and soil. Now I would play a short video to introduce it.

(Short video to be broadcasted for about 2 min)

Another activity on enhancing the use of PRTR data is information gathering on good practices of PRTR data application. PRTR data are being widely used in various cases including policy making, environmental performance assessment, risk assessment, education and research, advocacy, and environmental justice. Various stakeholders including National and local governments, industry, the investment community, NGOs, journalists and media, and academia have been involved in the use of PRTR data. After gathering such information, we are planning to develop an interactive web-based database to showcase the good practices of PRTR data application.

We invite all countries and other stakeholders to provide good practices of PRTR data application to be incorporated in our coming report and database.

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I would like to remind delegates about a technical resource for capacity building developed by the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) called the IOMC Toolbox for Decision Making in Chemicals Management and which contains a specific module on setting up PRTRs.

The IOMC Toolbox is an internet application that enables countries to identify the most appropriate and efficient national actions to address specific national problems related to chemicals management. It identifies the available tools that will help a country address the identified problems. The interface was fully updated last year and its user-friendliness was improved.

The PRTR module specifically provides guidance on:
- PRTR initiation: designing a PRTR system, gaining support from decision-makers, and establishing the PRTR
- PRTR operation: running a PRTR, including staffing and collecting, reviewing, and disseminating data
- Long-term success: expanding the benefits and activities of a PRTR and making future enhancements

We invite all countries who wish to set up or improve their PRTR to use this Toolbox.