

4th Berlin Forum on Chemicals and Sustainability Finance for a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste

7 October 2026 - online

Agenda as of 6 October 2026

Time (CEST)	Agenda Item
13:00 – 13:05	Welcome Moderator Ilka Hirt, Deputy Director General for Chemical Safety, Environment and Health, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Germany
13:05 – 13:15	Opening Statements Carsten Schneider, Federal Minister for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany Hilda Van der Veen (UNDP), Chair of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC)
13:15 - 13:25	Keynote Unlocking finance and investment opportunities for zero pollution business models - Enabling and accelerating the delivery of GFC targets Inger Andersen, UNEP Executive Director and UN Under-Secretary-General
13:25 – 14:45	Session 1: Public sector finance and policies in support of investments in chemicals management with a focus on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) <i>This session aims to explore strategies for optimizing the use of public funding, with a focus on successful public fiscal policies that attract private investment. Specifically, it will examine the potential of mechanisms like Extended Producer Responsibility schemes in mobilizing private finance, particularly in developing countries where innovative financing solutions can significantly improve chemicals management.</i> Introductory remarks by the moderator: Rolph Payet , Executive Secretary, BRS Conventions Secretariat

	Thought starter: Unlocking Public Finance for Sound Chemical Management: Opportunities and Challenges. Valerie Hickey, Director for Environment, World Bank Panel: - Claude Gascon, Director Strategy and Operations of the Council of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) - Musa Nyandusi, State Department of Labour and Skills Development, Kenya - Bob Diderich, Head of the Environment, Health and Safety Division, OECD Additional discussants: - Adalberto Felicio Maluf Filho, National Secretary of Urban Environment, Water Resources and Environmental Quality, Brazil - Sara Brosché, International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN) Closing Remarks by moderator Rolph Payet
14:45 - 15:00	Break
15:00 – 16:40	Session 2: Unlocking private investment for sustainable chemicals management Moderator: Michelle Gyles-McDonnough, Executive Director, UNITAR <i>This session will explore the risks and opportunities related to chemicals management for private actors, with a focus on the financial sector's role in promoting sustainable chemicals management. Key questions to be addressed include:</i> - <i>What regulatory frameworks and guidelines do private investors need to better recognize and manage risks related to chemicals management? How can IC1 contribute to this?</i> - <i>How can existing initiatives, such as the GFC finance workstream, or the Principles for Responsible Banking and Insurance be leveraged to support private investors in making informed decisions about chemicals management?</i> Thought starter How to overcome the challenges in integrating pollution and chemicals management into private investment decisions Rachel Crossley, Head of Stewardship, Europe, BNP Paribas Panel - Peggy Lefort, Pollution and Circular Economy Lead, UNEP Finance Initiative - Henriette Heine, Senior Claims Manager, Munich Re

	- Kamya Sharma, Project Lead for the Internal Chemical of Concerns track, ING Bank - Rolph Payet, Executive Secretary, BRS Conventions Secretariat Additional discussants: - Chris Marc Lilyblad, Policy Advisor, Environment and Development Finance, UNDP - Sylvie Lemoine, Cefic Deputy Director General, International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) Closing Remarks by moderator Michelle Gyles-McDonnough
16:40 – 16:50	Looking towards the First International Conference of the GFC Kay Williams, Head of the Secretariat of the Global Framework on Chemicals
16:50 – 17:00	Closing Bettina Hagedorn, Parliamentary State Secretary for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany

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No prior registration is required