

## How can the mandatory GMTS help various stakeholders?

By accepting a GMTS approach, countries and stakeholders will obviously benefit because:

- GMTS will help countries request clear information from suppliers;
- GMTS will ensure equality before the law and eliminate double standards;
- GMTS will facilitate safe recycling as waste managers will have key information on the chemical composition of waste and can take informed decisions for secondary raw materials.
  - what is inside waste and what will be inside secondary raw materials;
- GMTS will inspire innovation and safe product design;
- GMTS is a tool for improving access to information;
- and a step towards a progressive ban of hazardous chemicals in products.

### Governments

- Helps countries to access information on hazardous chemicals in materials/products from suppliers. Can save funds for costly customs control and national market surveillance systems for tracking hazardous and regulated chemicals. This is a particular advantage to low- and middle-income countries which face lack of financial resources to sustain costly control at borders while at the same time depend on products from various supply chains.
- Eliminates double standards for the most hazardous chemicals. In some markets, companies refer to confidential business information about chemicals that are regulated or mandatory for disclosure in other markets where the same companies are also involved in sales. A GMTS will ensure equality before the law in all jurisdictions.
- Eliminates industry standards with no, or limited transparency for the most hazardous chemicals to stakeholders outside the supply chains. Such standards do not fully support informed management of the chemicals integral to materials throughout their life cycles.
- Creates a condition for transparency of chemical information in products, which is essential for safe recycling or reuse. This can help the smooth transformation towards a circular economy that reduces the need for virgin raw materials and also saves energy, water and other resources in production processes.
- Provides data that can be used in national health registers to establish links between exposure via various routes and health effects.

### Manufacturers

- Promotes informed choices about selection of materials/components when products are manufactured, without the need for setting up separate costly control systems for tracking hazardous chemicals in materials/components from upstream suppliers.
- Facilitates sharing of information on the presence of the most hazardous chemicals in materials/components within the supply chain for the product.
- Facilitates transfer of information on the presence of the most hazardous chemicals in products to downstream buyer, and consumers.

- Levels the playing field for all manufacturers on the global market, because all stakeholders will have access to the same information. At present, only companies with enough resources to set up their own control systems for upstream suppliers, and large order volumes, can possibly access the information to be provided by a GMTS.
- Can simplify international trade. Suppliers in product supply chains will only have one standard for the most hazardous chemicals to consider, in contrast to multiple parallel industry standards.
- Does not prevent companies from establishing more progressive standards for information disclosure.
- Puts in place the precondition – transparency for hazardous chemicals – for the establishment of high health and environmental safety standards for reused/recycled materials. This can help manufacturers that want to establish circular economy models for their products.

#### Retailers

- Ensures that retailers know if any of the most hazardous chemicals are in the products that they buy and place on the market, without the need for setting up their own costly control systems.
- Facilitates transfer of information on the presence of the most hazardous chemicals in products to the customers.

#### Waste collectors/sorters/reusers and recyclers

- Promotes informed choices for how waste should be handled and treated safely.
- Promotes informed choices for which materials to reuse or recycle. This will help building market trust in the health and environmental safety of secondary raw materials (i.e. reused/recycled) that to a large part will drive a circular economy.

#### Consumers

- Realizes the right to know principle.
- Promotes informed choices when buying products.
- Promotes better product safety, as more manufacturers most likely will make informed choices to remove materials and product components with hazardous chemicals when information about the presence of hazardous chemicals is disclosed from their upstream suppliers.