

Chemical Leasing Joint Declaration of Intent

On 21 November 2016, the Joint Declaration of Intent on Chemical Leasing was signed by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, and the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment and UNIDO,. In doing so, the partners have taken concrete action to support the up-scaling and mainstreaming of new and innovative performance-based business models such as Chemical Leasing that can contribute to inclusive and sustainable industrial development and sound chemicals management around the globe.

The experiences gathered in more than 10 years of work at UNIDO’s Global Chemical Leasing Programmes prove that key contributions of Chemical Leasing include the reduction in the use of chemicals and promoting substitution of hazardous chemicals.

By doing so, Chemical Leasing provides clear linkage to UN Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 and the international Chemicals Conventions in particular. In fact, in many applications the business approach mirrors the three conventions’ mutual objective of protecting people and environment from harmful substances. Furthermore it has been found that Chemical Leasing can contribute and stimulate in particular

- 1) Engagement of industry and the public sector to translate the objectives of the three conventions into business oriented opportunities;
- 2) Fostering of innovation by acting as a concrete example of how to implement the conventions, and by building synergies at global, national and local level.

Taking into account that Parties to the three conventions have consistently emphasized an integrated approach of sound management of chemicals and wastes for implementation of activities under the conventions, Chemical Leasing can provide an important approach where this integrated approach is achieved through the involvement of industry. UNIDO invites all Parties to the three conventions and the Secretariat to join the Joint Declaration of Intent on Chemical Leasing. This legally non-binding declaration aims to increase awareness of [chemical leasing](#) at the political level and strengthens the cooperation of the partners in global chemical leasing promotion. The declaration is open for additional partners. Its exact wording is publically available from the official website of UNIDO’s Global Chemical Leasing Programme. I thank you for your attention.