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We are concerned about the financial sustainability of projects and programmes. Several studies have been undertaken at the local and regional levels, but there are few mechanisms for implementation. Greater emphasis needs to be placed on mobilizing financial resources at the country level for integrated chemicals and waste management through the application of economic incentives and instruments. There is also the need to strengthen our enforcement and compliance mechanisms at the national level for all aspects of chemicals and waste management, not only in relation to import/export controls.

We should develop databases and establish networks at the regional level to share experiences, including best practices, and expertise in addressing common chemicals and waste management issues. The examples given by Costa Rica in this regard are good.

It is important that the international community recognizes the particular challenges and constraints of small island developing states in respect of chemicals and waste management, given our inherent economic and environmental vulnerabilities.