

**Remarks by Dr. Nance Dicciani**  
**President and CEO, Honeywell Specialty Materials**  
ICCA Side Event at UNEP International Council on Chemicals Management  
Sunday 5 February

Thank you, Dr. Töpfer for your thoughtful comments. The ICCA and its member associations and companies look forward to continuing to work with UNEP.

My name is Dr. Nance Dicciani and I am the President and CEO of Honeywell Specialty Materials. In addition, I currently serve on the Executive Committee and Board of Directors for the American Chemistry Council.

You've heard a little bit about Responsible Care<sup>®</sup> in the introductory remarks from Peter Elverding.

My brief remarks will focus on the Responsible Care Global Charter. The charter arose from an examination of the global chemical industry's practices and performance, and was shaped by considering the recommendations of independent stakeholders worldwide.

The charter extends and builds upon the original successful elements of Responsible Care<sup>®</sup> and focuses on new and important challenges facing the chemical industry and society. These challenges specifically include sustainable development, the effective management of chemicals along the value chain, greater industry transparency, and greater global harmonization and consistency among the national programs.

In short, the charter catapults Responsible Care<sup>®</sup> into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

The charter contains nine key elements. Allow me to briefly describe several of them.

The first element describes a new and common set of core principles for all national Responsible Care programs. Adoption of these principles will enable us to establish uniformity around the world and set the stage for strong partnerships with national programs and their member companies.

Another element addresses Sustainable Development. It calls for the whole of the industry to advance its environmental, social and financial values through improved transparency and performance and to extend and expand economic opportunities. It also calls on the industry to continue to develop innovative solutions to societal and product-related issues.

There also is an element that addresses the very core of the Responsible Care<sup>®</sup> initiative: that of continuous improvement in performance and reporting. In particular the charter commits us to:

- measure global performance using a common set of measures to track progress on charter goals;
- adopt a management system approach that will enable better operations while at the same time using clean and safe technologies and processes;
- a verification process, beyond self-assessment, that can be carried out by associations; assessors from other companies; government bodies; or external organizations such as third party auditors.

This moves us beyond self-assessment, something our stakeholders and customers have long called for.

Another key element of the charter is product stewardship and the extension of the Responsible Care<sup>®</sup> principles and practices along the value chain, including suppliers and customers.

This element details strengthening our approach to chemical products management; one in which decisions are taken on the basis of risk supported by scientific knowledge. Inclusion of product stewardship into the overall management systems approach is important to ensure that everyone throughout the value chain is safely using our products.

This will lead to improved transparency with our customers and suppliers, and facilitate partnerships with governments and NGOs in providing information that solves, rather than poses, problems. The Global Product Strategy, which grows out of this commitment to product stewardship, will be introduced by our next speaker, Alain Perroy.

Let me close with a brief mention of the last three elements of the charter:

- Governance,
- Stakeholder interaction, and
- Resourcing

The governance process will be strengthened to enable us to demonstrate that we are committed to doing a responsible job - in a more transparent way. Effective governance is important to our stakeholders. We will monitor the implementation of Responsible Care<sup>®</sup> obligations, help companies and associations achieve their commitments and take appropriate action when those commitments are not achieved.

Next, the charter specifically addresses stakeholder expectations. It commits us to listen to and understand stakeholder concerns. We will have dialogue with stakeholders regularly as part of a concerted program.

Commitment to the charter will help to ensure the employment of resources necessary to its success.

We are asking the CEOs of companies and the heads of national associations around the world to sign the charter. It is a unique moment for the owners of Responsible Care<sup>®</sup> to reaffirm their support to this vital initiative.

To date, more than 70 company CEOs have signed a Declaration of Support to the charter; a tremendous commitment indeed.

For a more detailed explanation of the charter, I encourage all of you to read the charter itself and the background documents in your briefing folder ...

Ladies and gentlemen, in conclusion, Responsible Care<sup>®</sup> has already done much to advance and improve the chemical industry and to address the concerns and suggestions of our stakeholders. I am convinced that through the Global Charter, Responsible Care will, in the years to come, continue to contribute real value not only to our industry but also to society as a whole.

Thank you.