Some facts
- 19 countries (18 Spanish, 1 Portuguese)
- 522 million people

Trade in chemicals
2014 values in thousands of USD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Products</th>
<th>Imports</th>
<th>Exports</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inorganic</td>
<td>7,808,030</td>
<td>10,377,224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic</td>
<td>31,087,481</td>
<td>9,526,681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuels</td>
<td>163,143,663</td>
<td>214,608,291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmaceuticals</td>
<td>26,081,065</td>
<td>6,384,886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>18,415,568</td>
<td>5,603,349</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prevention and preparedness to deal with accidents involving dangerous chemical substances are insufficient.

Lack of information is still a barrier to effective management of chemical products, accident prevention and response.

This situation poses unacceptable risks for workers and for communities close to industrial areas.

Investment is needed in education and spreading knowledge and information about the importance of proper management of chemical products.

A cultural problem
(as the grassroots)

“Occupational hazards”

OH&S is part of the job
A cultural problem (in practice)

Ignorance of hazards

Underestimating risks

Emphasis on protection (vs. prevention)
An idea

STP Regional Focal Point (Latin American)

EDUCATION

Faculties of chemistry

INDUSTRY

Chemical companies

Future professionals

Trainees
**Location**
Uruguay, Montevideo (Faculty of Chemistry, Universidad de la República).

**Timeframe**
Two courses (one for the university and the other for industry) of two weeks, with a maximum of four participants per course.

**Methodology**
Master classes, exercises, visits to companies, carrying out an applied project of knowledge acquired.

**Contents**
- Basic concepts (damages, hazards, risk, risks control, prevention, protection).
- Hazards classification and communication of chemicals (GHS).
- Risks assessment.
- Risks controls for chemicals during handling, storage, transport and disposal.
- Waste management.
- Emergency preparedness and response.
- SHE Management (ISO 14001, OHSAS 18000/ISO 45001, ICCA Responsible Care).
For the university
- Better trained professionals.
- Lower OH&S risks.

For industry
- Better trained professionals.
- Improve the OH&S management → Lower OH&S risks.
- Lower losses.

For IUPAC
- Strengthening the STP (more candidates, lower travel and subsistence costs, training in the same language of trainees).
- Integration of areas (education/industry).
- Strengthen regional presence in Latin America.
“Each new illness or death of a worker shows that we have delayed too long in putting science, technology and morality at the service of human beings”

10th National Congress of Occupational Safety, Medicine and Hygiene (Spain, 1994)
Thank you for your attention

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