Synthesis – Session 2
Key Themes

• Current BTS structure adds value:
  – Coordination
  – Facilitates earlier action
  – Information sharing
  – Forum for reconciling differences
  – Existing mechanism to focus attention on substances
  – Relationship capital
  – Nurture synergies
Key Themes

• Current structure suitable to managing risk; not suitable to assessing risk
• Current structure not appropriate to selecting new chemicals for action
  – That is a responsibility of the Parties; don’t ask stakeholders to take the Parties’ responsibility
• Be mindful of balance – ensure that zeal to add value does not stifle new investment
Key Themes

• BTS a testing ground for new approaches – given its prior work with innovative approaches

• Possible approaches:
  – Hybrid: BTS identifies chemicals first, workgroups pursue a sector approach
  – Market-based
  – Sustainable manufacturing
  – Behaviour modification
Key Themes

- Green chemistry
- ‘Practical’ precaution
- Geographical; state-based

• Approaches aren’t necessarily mutually exclusive
• ‘Lessons learned’ must inform approach selection; i.e., how do we improve
• Selection of any approach must be grounded in explicit criteria; transparency
• In any approach, must name and prioritize substances
Key Themes

• Cannot consider implications of any approach in the abstract; articulate the goal
  – Clear definition of the problem (i.e., the risk management objective) drives decisions about approach(es); includes consideration of sources, nature of risk, etc.
  – Any BTS approach must be flexible

• One substance at a time not necessarily efficient; high transactional costs
Key Themes

• Be mindful of language when describing an approach; i.e., “go after” chemicals, not sectors.
• Any approach must engage the appropriate stakeholders; cannot ignore the ‘marketing’ dimension supporting any approach
• Combination of approaches likely the appropriate way to proceed