

**Ad hoc open-ended working group on a science-policy panel
to contribute further to the sound management of
chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution**

First session

Nairobi, 6 October 2022 and Bangkok, 30 January–3 February 2023

Agenda item 6

**Preparation of proposals for the establishment of a science-policy
panel**

Outcome of the contact group one on scope and functions

The OEWG decided on the following outcomes with respect to the objective and functions of the panel:

[The **objective of the panel** is to strengthen the science policy interface to contribute to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution for the protection of human health and the environment, with the following **functions**:]

- a) Undertaking “horizon scanning” to identify issues of relevance to policymakers and, where possible, proposing evidence-based options to address them;
- b) Conducting assessments of current issues and identifying potential evidence-based options to address, where possible, those issues, in particular those relevant to developing countries;
- c) Providing up-to-date and relevant information, identifying key gaps in scientific research, encouraging and supporting communication between scientists and policymakers, explaining and disseminating findings for different audiences, and raising public awareness;
- d) Facilitating information-sharing with countries, in particular developing countries seeking relevant scientific information;
- e) Capacity building¹

The OEWG further decides that the following two texts will serve as the basis for further consideration to describe the capacity building function at the second session of the ad hoc open-ended working group.

- Provide capacity-building through all the functions of the panel and facilitate technology transfer, in particular to developing countries, to improve the science-policy interface at appropriate levels, including activities to ensure effective, geographically balanced and gender-responsive participation of scientists in the assessments of the panel, strengthen data generation capacity, enhance knowledge and skills that will support country infrastructure and human capacity, and facilitate connection and matchmaking of capacity-related needs and potential solutions.²
- To build capacity to support the functions and work of the panel in order to strengthen the science policy interface for sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution.³

¹ It was agreed by the OEWG that a fifth function on capacity building will be added but that further discussions were needed to finalize the text of the function.

² Text proposal proposed by the Africa Group/GRULAC

³ Text proposal proposed by the European Union

ADVANCE