



for a toxics-free future

Thank you, Madam Chair for giving me the floor.

I am Chinkie Peliño-Golle from EcoWaste Coalition based in the Philippines, and I am speaking on behalf of (the International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN), a global network of public interest, civil society organizations in more than 120 countries.

IPEN believes that the main focus of the future panel should be on chemicals and that the panel should work complementarily with existing policy frameworks and expert bodies.

The working document on scope suggests the establishment of an objective to help guide the discussion on the scope. However, we do not believe that the proposed objective is in-line with what was adopted in the UNEA resolution, or that it would be sufficient to achieve the intended purpose of this panel, since 1) The suggested wording omits chemicals, which is a principal focus of the resolution; 2) It proposes an approach “...through evaluation of relevant value chains,” which is not a function included in the resolution and indicates a focus on products rather than the impact of chemicals throughout their lifecycle; and 3) It focuses on assessing sources of waste and pollution, a focus that would neglect the prevention of harm from toxic chemicals

Therefore, we believe that a more suitable approach would be to center the objective on the aim of the panel, similar to already existing science-policy bodies.

Thank you