

SCOPE AND FUNCTIONS_BRAZIL'S INTERVENTION

Thank you for giving us the floor, Madame Chair, and congratulations on your election. We also congratulate Ms Valentina Sierra, from Uruguay, for her elegant work this morning. Brazil would also like to express its appreciation to the government of Thailand for hosting this meeting and to the donor countries for funding it.

Regarding the panel's scope, Brazil supports an approach aimed at integrating topics related to chemical and waste management and pollution prevention.

Brazil would also welcome approaches aimed at global value chains in different industries that use chemicals that require strict control, produce waste, including hazardous waste, and generate pollution. A global value chain approach should also take into consideration life-cycle perspectives of chemicals and waste.

However, we understand these approaches must not restrict the scope in a way that it risks neglecting topics of direct interest to developing countries, such as those related to urban solid waste (including "food waste") and issues related to domestic sewage and basic sanitation, for example.

Therefore, Brazil believes that the scope could be defined in broad and general terms, granting the SPP flexibility to define topics and workflows, through decision-making processes centred on Member States. It should also consider, in addition to the environmental and human health impacts of chemicals and hazardous waste, socioeconomic assessments of both current scenarios and alternative management proposals.

The panel's assessments should focus on practical issues and challenges with a view to informing the design of appropriate public policies, avoiding, however, prescriptive recommendations or analyses. In the same sense, it needs to face the challenge of addressing regional and local realities and circumstances, especially in developing countries.

As for the main functions of SPP, Brazil agrees with the main ones presented by the Secretariat. It is imperative to point out, however, that the definition of the main functions is not rigid to the point that it would jeopardize the necessary flexibility for its performance.

The SPP should count on an interdisciplinary team of scientists, including experts from a diverse range of scientific fields, considering geographical and gender balance as well. This will enable it to fulfil its scientific functions in an inclusive, transparent, and rigorous manner. It should be capable of including contributions from experts from the Global South. In addition, it should be able to draw on sources of knowledge from traditional, indigenous, and local communities.

Last but not least, the SPP should also play a role in facilitating capacity-building, both technical and technological, aimed at developing countries. Inspired by the experience of the IPBES, it could, for instance, rely on a "marketplace" where the specific needs of developing countries can be connected with existing solutions available elsewhere, thus entailing the possibility of regulatory, technical, and technological cooperation.

Thank you madam Chair.