

As this is the first time the UK is speaking, we would like to thank Thailand for hosting this event and the secretariat for their preparations. Thank you to the interim chair for chairing the first part of this session, and congratulations to the chair for your election.

The UK supports an integrative, broad scope which does not limit itself with exclusions so as to ensure the future functionality of this panel and the ability for the assessment of cross-cutting issues. In order to allow the panel's governing body to determine their work programme, we request that a set of criteria to assist in prioritisation is produced to be used alongside a broad scope. While we feel that a conceptual framework can be very beneficial to the functioning of this panel, we would see a preference in determining the criteria for prioritisation over the finalisation of a conceptual framework during the OEWG.

The UK feels that an objective would help the panel highlight its purpose, and thank the secretariat for their suggestion. We understand the importance of value chains, however feel that the objective is too narrow in its explicit mention of value chains. We support the panel highlighting its key objective in providing policy relevant evidence and advice and feel the objective should focus on this angle, utilising the language from the UNEA resolution, with further detail provided during these discussions.

Thank you