

Thanks to the government of Thailand for the lovely reception last night. The UK supports statements by the EU and others noting a preference for the use of the language on functions stated in UNEA resolution 5/8. We feel that horizon scanning should be defined in the context of this panel to avoid misinterpretation of function. The identification of emerging issues within chemicals, waste and pollution should be an important function of this panel including highlighting these findings alongside policy relevant advice. Findings could also be investigated by the panel through its work programme via the production of assessments.

The UK feels the use of different types of assessments allows the flexibility to tackle issues of different complexity, and welcomes an open approach to allow the panel's governing body to determine the appropriate assessment type to assign to an issue.

The facilitation of information sharing is paramount to the success of this panel and the tackling of existing issues. The UK supports provided functions c and d which include information sharing, identifying key gaps and the encouragement of science communication with different audiences.

Thank you