

Thank you Madam Chair for giving me the floor

Since this is my first time speaking, please allow me to enjoin all the delegates in thanking the government of Thailand for their warm hospitality and the Secretariat for their hard work in arranging this meeting.

The Philippine government supports the UNEA resolution mandating the creation of the science policy panel and the broad proposed scope and functions of the panel.

Scientific publications on chemical hazards for health and environment are not publicly and widely available. Supposedly, these resources shall be direct bases for government-control use and even for citizen-science-initiated programs. Access to science, publication, journals and relevant data for policy improvements has become a major obstacle since scientific information is behind paywalls and inaccessible for policy-makers globally.

There is an urgent need that the Science Policy Panel should be facilitating information sharing with countries in various methods, such as through open data access systems, capacity building and inter-dialogues.

One function we also would like to support is horizon scanning, which could help address the knowledge gaps. Hence, it is strongly recommended to have a simpler, more comprehensive, and clearer program for it to work effectively.

Another key function is facilitating information sharing with countries, particularly capacity-building dialogues between Low-and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) and countries with good practices and established schemes.

Thank you very much