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Meeting of the Bureau of the Ad hoc open-ended working group on a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution.

Tuesday, 16 May 2023

15:00 – 16:00 (EAT)

Governance Affairs Office Boardroom and online

Hybrid meeting

### **Draft Chair's Summary**

#### **Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda.**

1. Mrs. Gudi Alkemade, Chair of the OEWG, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.
2. The meeting agenda was adopted.

#### **Agenda item 2: Summary of the bureau meeting on 25 April 2023.**

3. One bureau member requested clarification on when and how the summary of the bureau meeting was shared with Bureau Members. The Secretariat clarified that the summary was uploaded to the website in advance of the present meeting.
4. The Chair requested that the Bureau be notified by the Secretariat when future Bureau meeting reports and other documents are made available on the OEWG bureau website. The Chair also invited members to review and provide any comments by 17 May 2023, and if none are received the Bureau meeting summary from 25 April 2023 February 2023 would be considered adopted.

#### **Agenda item 3: Date and venue OEWG-2.**

5. The Secretariat informed the Bureau that the Kingdom of Jordan had confirmed their offer to host the OEWG2 from 11 – 15 December 2023 at the Dead Sea, Jordan. The meeting will be held at the King Hussein Bin Talal Convention Centre. The Secretariat also confirmed the availability of the full conference services package than include meeting coordination, interpretation and report writing on those dates. It is foreseen that the meeting will be preceded by technical briefings, informal consultations, and regional / stakeholder consultations on 9 and 10 December 2023. Meeting logistics support will be provided by UNDP Jordan. An in-person bureau meeting will also be scheduled for Sunday, 10 December 2023 in the afternoon. Subject to the endorsement of the Bureau of this proposal, the Secretariat will start preparing official invitation letters as well as an information note for participants with relevant logistical information to inform member states and other participants in a timely manner, including on how to apply for visas.

6. The Bureau endorsed the recommendation for the proposed date and venue of OEWG 2 from 11 – 15 December 2023 at the Dead Sea, Jordan and requested the secretariat to continue its preparations for the meeting, including with regard to the formal invitation and information note.

#### **Agenda item 4: Organization of Work.**

7. The Chair proposed the next bureau meeting to take place on 13 June at 16:00 – 18.00 (EAT) to focus on the intersessional work preparing for OEWG-2, including the planning for possible webinars, side events and submissions and to review outlines for working documents, if available.

#### **Agenda item 5: Other Matters.**

8. The Secretariat informed the Bureau that they are in contact with the Secretariat, hosts, and organizers of the Minamata regional meetings to organize for SPP OEWG regional preparatory meetings back-to-back with the Minamata regional meetings, subject to the availability of additional extrabudgetary resources given that these meetings were not foreseen in the original budget. The Secretariat also reminded the Bureau of the 6 June 2023 deadline for written submissions on SPP operating principles, following the webinar on the same topic hosted by the GEN/OEWG Secretariat on 26 April 2023.

9. The Chair requested the Secretariat to make the PowerPoint slides for this Bureau available on the meeting portal and encouraged Bureau members to remind their colleagues in the region of the written submission deadline, likely dates of the regional meetings, and the dates of OEWG-2. The Chair also proposed to liaise with the Secretariat regarding written submission on operating principles, and to consider appropriate action for possible late submissions, if required.

10. The Chair informed the Bureau that she has provided opening remarks for the recent operating principles webinar and encouraged that other Bureau Members provide opening remarks in future webinars to share visibility of the Bureau as a whole.

**Agenda item 6: Closing of the meeting.**

11. The Chair closed the meeting at 16:50 (EAT).

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## **Annex: List of Participants**

### **The OEWG SPP Bureau Members:**

Ms. Gudi Alkemade, Chair of the Bureau of the OEWG SPP and the Deputy Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations Environment Programme.

Mr. Linroy Christian, Vice Chair of the Bureau of the OEWG SPP and Director of Department of Analytical Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Barbuda Affairs.

Mr. Michel Tschirren, Vice Chair of the Bureau of the OEWG SPP and Senior Policy Advisor at the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN).

Mr. Li Jinhui, Vice Chair of the Bureau of the OEWG SPP and Distinguished Professor, School of Environment, Tsinghua University.

Ms. Valentina Sierra, Vice Chair of the Bureau of the OEWG SPP and Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Uruguay to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

Mr. Cyrus Mageria, Director of Department of Analytical Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Barbuda Affairs

### **The UN Environment Program Secretariat was Represented by:**

Ms. Nalini Sharma, of the Secretariat of the open-ended working group.

Mr. Ulf Björnholm, Deputy Secretary of Governing Bodies.

### **Observers to the meeting**

Ms. Ana Berejiani, Georgia.