

Needs and Questions the Panel May Handle

Request for Written Submissions from Member States and Relevant Stakeholders

Member states, during the resumed first session of the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG1.2), requested the Secretariat of the OEWG to solicit input from Member States and relevant stakeholders regarding the **needs** and **questions** the panel may handle in order to inform negotiations through the OEWG process (OEWG2 and OEWG3).

In support of this request, member States are invited to provide submissions through their respective national focal points (list of focal points available [at this link](#)). Non-government stakeholders are invited to submit their submissions on behalf of their organization or group. Once complete, please submit this filled document to SPP-CWP@un.org. All submissions will be uploaded online and will be summarized in an INF document in order to inform the work undertaken at OEWG2 and OEWG3.

Please complete and submit this form by 5 September 2023.

Several documents prepared by the secretariat for OEWG1.2 are of relevance to this submission, including:

- The Mapping and Gap analysis that was presented at UNEA 4 ([UNEP/EA.4/INF.9](#))
- The UNEP report “Assessment of options for strengthening the science-policy interface at the international level for the sound management of chemicals and waste” <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/33808/OSSP.pdf>
- UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.1/INF/1 - [UNEA Resolution 5/8 entitled “Science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution”](#)
- The stakeholder survey conducted between OEWG 1.1 and OEWG 1.2, which was summarized in Information document “Stakeholder Engagement Feedback” ([UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.1/INF/6](#))
- Reports of OEWG1.1 and OEWG1.2, available with all other meeting documents on the [OEWG website](#)

Contact information

What is your name/surname?

Thaianne Resende Henriques Fábio

Who are you submitting on behalf of?

Ministry of Environment and Climate Change

Are you a national focal point?

Yes

What is your country?

Brazil

What is your title?

Director of Environmental Quality

What is your gender?

Female

What is your email address?

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1. Please list and if appropriate briefly describe, your preference for which needs the panel may handle. (If possible, please rank your responses, where 1 indicates your top preference):

- 1) raising awareness of chemicals and waste issues among policy-makers and the general public;
- 2) increasing access to scientific information, especially emerging policy issues;
- 3) increasing governmental ownership on scientific issues, emerging and legacy issues of concern, as well as chemical management issues;
- 4) improving the communication between scientists and policy-maker;
- 5) raising awareness of scientists of policy needs in order to develop researches that can provide information to policy-relevant processes; and
- 6) raising the profile of and demand for related disciplines at universities to create incentives for scientists to participate in policy processes in addition to their research work and to keep these disciplines attractive for future generations of students.

2. Please provide any relevant comments on the needs you have listed above:

The sound management of chemicals and waste is crucial for the protection of human health and the environment, improving the availability of scientific information and assessments can address capacity challenges, enable more effective and efficient action to minimize and prevent the adverse impact of the unsound management of chemicals and waste, and prevent pollution to improve human well-being and contribute to the prosperity of all.

In Brazil, there is still a regulatory gap that makes it difficult to access information from industrial chemicals, in order to manage their risks and safety concerns, e.g. by reducing exposure and by restricting and/or phasing out chemicals with certain hazardous properties. The PL 6120/2019 aims to remedy this gap by creating the National Inventory of Chemical Substances and establishing control measures.

At the international level, the legally-binding multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) on chemicals and wastes and the SAICM are important mechanisms to knowledge and control of chemicals of concerns.

Raising awareness of chemicals and waste issues and proper communication, can improve the interaction between scientists and policy makers can improve the production of scientific data that support national policy.

3. Please list, and if appropriate briefly describe, your preference for which questions the panel may handle. (If possible, please rank your responses, where 1 indicates your top preference):

- 1) insufficient scientific information or insufficient access to scientific information on certain issues, especially emerging policy issues;
- 2) lack of capacity-building to support scientists in understanding how to be involved in science-policy interface work, in addition to the training of new scientific experts;
- 4) assessment of emerging and legacy issues of concern, as well as generic chemical management issues;
- 5) challenges in communication between scientists and policy-makers due to a difference in scientific and policy languages.

4. Please provide any relevant comments on the questions you have listed above:

Access to scientific information on chemicals chemicals and certain issues, especially emerging policy issues, is important to develop strategies, regulatory measures and policies to avoid adverse impact of the unsound management of chemicals and waste.

Improve the involvement of science-policy interface work, in addition to the training of new scientific experts, and the assessment of emerging and legacy issues of concern, as well as generic chemical management issues, are important to improve the knowledge scientific information.