

# 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](mailto: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?

TUYISENGE JEAN MARIE VIANNEY

Who are you submitting on behalf of?

Rwanda Environment Management Authority

Are you a national focal point?

Yes

What is your country?

Rwanda

What is your title?

Environmental Inspector

What is your gender?

Male

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):**

- a. The panel may support countries especially developing countries and their private and public sectors in sound management of chemicals and waste with the purpose to generate income, create jobs, and protect human health and the environment among others;
- b. Provide global environmental benefits in terms of reduction and elimination of chemicals of global concern and their waste;
- c. Develop, disseminate and support specific learning, knowledge management, and awareness raising products on sound management of chemicals and waste including but not limited to waste sorting, waste generation reduction, and introduction of best practices and alternative products and conduct training, capacity building, and awareness raising activities;
- d. Help to address the sound management of chemicals and waste in developing countries through strengthening the capacity of sub-national, national, and regional institutions and strengthening the enabling policy and regulatory framework in these countries including through the development of public-private partnerships;
- e. There is a need to strengthen research highlighting the issues related to the sound management of chemicals and wastes;
- f. Develop a comprehensive system for obtaining up-to-date and reliable chemicals and waste data, as the lack of robust data is a barrier to the development and implementation of efficient and cost-effective waste management practices;

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

The panel should focus on issues in developing countries in particular, with the need to build capacity in developing countries.

**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):**

- a. Lack of scientific information and assessments that 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;
- b. The generation of increased emissions, releases, and waste volumes of chemicals and wastes, putting pressure on existing waste management facilities and disposal options, which are in short supply and do not conform with best practices/international standards;
- c. A policy and regulatory environment at global level that does not promote cleaner production, the assessment and introduction safe alternatives to chemicals, or management for chemicals and waste streams in economic sectors such as industry, agriculture, and healthcare, resulting in chemicals and wastes releases to the environment;
- d. In developing countries, there are issues related to limited investment opportunities to introduce new businesses in chemicals and waste management as interest rates are very high and countries do not have in place Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) frameworks that could provide the necessary and sustainable financing for the treatment of certain priority waste products/streams which cannot be avoided;
- e. Lack of data to inform needed investment and decision-making because waste data is not regularly collected, monitored or managed and an increase in the complexity of chemicals and waste streams because of urbanization and industrialization which directly affects the complexity of its management;

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

Chemicals and waste management is a major challenge in developing countries. Although the pressure of population growth, high urbanization rates and economic development continue to increase the quantities of chemicals and waste and overburden the existing waste management systems in countries. Thus, the sound management of chemicals and waste is crucial for the protection of human health and the environment. Thus, science-policy panel could support developing countries in their efforts to take action, including to capacity building in waste management and in implementing multilateral environmental agreements and other relevant international instruments, promote the sound management of chemicals and waste, and address pollution by providing policy-relevant scientific advice on issues, and that it could further support relevant multilateral agreements, other international instruments and intergovernmental bodies, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders in their work.