

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?

M G Lukshmi Fernando

Who are you submitting on behalf of?

Central Environmental Authority under Ministry of Environment, Sri Lanka

Are you a national focal point?

Representative

What is your country?

Sri Lanka

What is your title?

Assistant Director

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):

1.1 Need Financial & Technical support to

- 1.1.1 Strengthen & improve standards & norms through researches Scientifically data analysis, assessment of current issues
- 1.1.2 Introduced new principals to control pollution
- 1.1.3 Make researches to identify & control pollutants related to climate changes.

1.2 Strengthen the technical expertise knowledge for overall /Chemical/Hazardous Waste Management

1.3 Implementation of environmental sound final disposal facilities

1.4 Improvements of adequate testing facilities for identification & Classification of chemicals

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

- Presently chemicals are managed by different institutions according to their preview such as Pesticide Act, Precursor control Act, Chemical Weapon Authority. Similarly, there are large number of chemicals are being imported and used in the country without any control.

Chemical Management policy & related regulations are already drafted to manage chemicals by coordinating all relevant Authorities. During the implementation of proposed policies /regulations, hazardous chemicals should be identified & Technical / Financial support needed for implementations.

- Analyse base line conditions of chemical deviations (pollutants) & develop base line data base. Therefore, a platform to identify and take control measures for chemicals is essential when considering long term effects caused by them. But in Sri Lanka no lack of adequate testing facilities for identification & Classification of such chemicals
- Identify the sustainable use of Chemicals & reduce generated waste
- Absences of environmental sound final disposal facilities within Sri Lanka. The only facility in Sri Lanka is Cement kiln for co-processing (thermal destruction)

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):

1.1 Need Financial & Technical support to

- 1.1.1 Strengthen & improve standards & norms through researches Scientifically data analysis, assessment of current issues
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- 1.1.3 Make researches to identify & control pollutants related to climate changes.

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

It sounds like we are seeking financial and technical support for a project focused on enhancing environmental standards and addressing pollution-related issues & our project has several important components:

- **Strengthening Standards and Norms through Research and Data Analysis:**

Conducting scientific research and data analysis is crucial for understanding the current state of pollution, identifying trends, and making informed decisions. It's important to secure funding for research activities, data collection, analysis tools, and expertise in order to ensure the accuracy and reliability of findings.

- **Introducing New Principles to Control Pollution:**

Financial support is necessary for conducting feasibility studies, designing and testing pollution control technologies, and potentially piloting these new principles in real-world scenarios.

- **Researching and Controlling Pollutants Related to Climate Change:**

Climate change is a complex issue with a wide range of contributing pollutants. Researching these pollutants, their sources, and their impacts is essential for effective mitigation. To make meaningful progress, it will require financial resources for data collection, laboratory analysis, modeling tools, and monitoring equipment.

Relevant Comments for above component:

Collaboration: need to collaborate with academic institutions, research organizations, and governmental bodies.

Data Quality: need to implement vigorous and reliable data collection methods because high-quality data is crucial for drawing accurate conclusions and making informed decisions.

Policy and Regulation: need to Engage with policymakers and regulators to ensure that the research and recommendations align with potential policy updates.

Public Awareness: need to Communicate the findings and progress to the public and Raising awareness about pollution-related issues.

Long-Term Sustainability: need to consider the long-term sustainability of our project and beyond the initial research and implementation phase further to be consider how will the principles and standards introduce be maintained and adapted to future challenges

During the implementing projects it will require a comprehensive approach, combining scientific research, technical innovation, policy advocacy, and public engagement. Therefore securing financial and technical support is essential for successfully achieving project's goals and contributing to a cleaner and healthier environment.

