

# 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?

Sherika Whitelocke-Ballingsingh

Who are you submitting on behalf of?

CARPIN, UTech, Jamaica

Are you a national focal point?

No

What is your country?

Jamaica

What is your title?

Poison Information Coordinator

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) Information sharing
- (2) Capacity Building
- (3) Knowledge Translation

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

- (1) Information sharing: This will allow for free access to scientific data that is useful in informing science-policy decisions that are outside the scope of countries that do not have the infrastructure, capacity and knowledge for specific methodology and analysis, which are created and published by other countries.
- (2) Capacity Building: This provides equal opportunities across countries to have the same skill set in tackling identified issues of concern. These skill sets will give governments the autonomy to build resilience during national disasters and periods of crisis.
- (3) Knowledge Translation: With the understanding that technical experts in science do not make most political decisions within countries, experts should communicate science in a language that different audiences, including politicians, can understand.

**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) How would scientific integrity of the advice be assured?
- (2) What are the key gaps that are currently not covered by existing fora/organizations?
- (3) How can the international community help countries to overcome/change these drivers of complex viewpoints amongst stakeholders?

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

- (1) Science is done in a structured methodological way; each participant must have a sound background, knowledge, understanding and appreciation of this method to prevent anomalies in the process.
- (2) Identifying critical gaps provides room for additional work and improvement to support a successful process outcome.
- (3) International communities meet frequently during process which give the opportunity for discussion on communication barriers and cultural conflicts which ampers the decision-making process.