

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?

Linda Wong

Who are you submitting on behalf of?

China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation (CBCGDF)

Are you a national focal point?

No.

What is your country?

China

What is your title?

Deputy General Secretary

What is your gender?

Female

What is your email address?

linda.wong@cbcgdf.org

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):

China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation (CBCGDF) believes the panel should prioritize addressing the following needs, ranked as follows:

1. Effective management of chemical pollution from modern agriculture, a significant source of non-point pollution. Encourage eco-friendly agriculture.
2. Addressing emerging chemical pollutants such as microplastic contamination in soil and water, as well as PFOA pollution.
3. Coordinating efforts with the ongoing negotiations on plastic pollution led by the INC Secretariat to enhance synergy.
4. Establishing a repository of case studies and promoting best practices on UNEP's official website to inspire eco-friendly approaches.
5. Adopting a holistic "One Health" perspective to ensure the interconnection between environmental and human health.
6. Prioritizing Human-based Solutions (HbS) within the "Chemicals-Waste-Pollution Prevention" framework, particularly by encouraging consumers to exercise their "Rights of Green Consumption," which in-turn could drive behavioral changes in capital and markets. After all, people's participation is the key.
7. Enhancing youth engagement by providing a clear role for young individuals within SPP and ensuring their active participation.

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

These needs collectively address critical aspects of chemicals, waste, and pollution prevention. By focusing on modern agricultural pollution, emerging pollutants, coordination with other initiatives, best practice sharing, One Health, human-centric solutions, and ensure civil society and youth engagement, the panel can contribute substantially to a more sustainable and healthier future.

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):

We suggest the panel should address the following questions, ranked accordingly:

1. How can we effectively reduce chemical contamination stemming from modern agricultural practices?
2. What strategies can be employed to mitigate the impact of emerging chemical pollutants such as microplastics and PFOA?
3. How can the panel work synergistically with the INC Secretariat's negotiations on plastic pollution?

4. What mechanisms can be established to showcase best practices on UNEP's official platform?
5. How can the panel integrate an One Health approach to ensure both environmental and human well-being?
6. What actionable measures can be undertaken to promote human-based solutions and consumer-driven "Rights of Green Consumption"?
7. How can the panel effectively empower and involve youth in its processes and decisions?
8. How to ensure the rights of waste-pickers? They are among the most effective forces in environmental governance, and they do not consume taxpayers' money. Just like ants and scavengers in nature, they efficiently transform waste into resources. Currently, much of the chemical pollution is a result of inadequate waste recycling. If the issue of "waste-pickers" could find a place & be addressed correctly within the SPP, it would be highly impactful.

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

These questions address critical areas where the panel's expertise can bring about significant positive change. Fostering a holistic approach to modern agriculture, tackling emerging pollutants, harmonizing efforts, promoting best practices, embracing a One Health perspective, advocating for human-centric solutions, and involving civil society and youth are essential steps towards a more sustainable and inclusive environmental governance model. We appreciate UNEP-SPP for providing us with such an opportunity to submit proposals early on. We hope to maintain ongoing communication in the future. Additionally, I suggest that due to time zone differences, many meetings are inconvenient for participation from China (possibly occurring in the midnight or early morning Beijing time). I hope there could be post-meeting reports and records available for review, allowing us to stay updated in a timely manner.