

# 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?

Dorte Herzke

Who are you submitting on behalf of?

Contactpersons in relation to the national researcher petition on handling of chemicals in Norway

Are you a national focal point?

no

What is your country?

Norway

What is your title?

Senior Scientist

What is your gender?

Female

What is your email address?

dhe@nilu.no

**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):**

- Ensure the integrity and independence of the panel by preventing conflicts of interest.
- The mandate of the panel should focus on preventing Planetary Boundary threats related to “novel entities”, in the context of the work by existing panels, which together constitute a triple boundary threat from climate change (IPCC), biodiversity loss (IPBES), and pollution (ICPC).
- The mandate should be towards Zero Pollution from chemicals and waste, internationalizing existing ambitious approaches (e.g. the EU Green Deal)
- The mandate should be towards a simplification and reduction of number of chemicals used in production and applications
- . The mandate should be towards increasing the safety, sustainability and circularity of chemicals and materials and towards a timely limitation of respective emissions
- use of chemicals in any products should be regulated more strictly, with full transparency of chemical used and availability of standards for research on toxicity and environmental fate
- A successful international implementation of the precautionary principle for the creation and use of chemicals and plastics through vigorous, independent (peer-reviewed) toxicity research and risk assessment prior to commercial use
- Refining a waste hierarchy mindful of an international circular economy
- Establish ways to address gaps in international policy that allow a slow implementation of harmonized polices to prevent trade/accumulation of hazardous substances and waste

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

**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)**

- How can a framework be developed and implemented to approach planetary boundaries for novel entities and their mixtures, in their relation to changing natural homeostasis (e.g. PFAS, plastics, PBT/PMT/POPs, Endocrine Disruptors, hazardous substances recognized by the UN-GHS)
- What gaps across international/UN and national regulations that allow for transboundary accumulation / occurrence of severe pollution must be closed?
- How can we achieve fair handling, remediation and reduction of chemical emissions and chemical waste

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