

Meeting of the Bureau of the Ad hoc open-ended working group on a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution
Tuesday, 14 November 2023
13:00 - 15:00 (EAT; GMT + 3)
GAO Boardroom and online
Hybrid meeting

Agenda item 6: Potential briefings and consultations on 9 and 10 December 2023

SPP OEWG Informal Consultations

Nairobi, 9 December

Background and objectives

The SPP OEWG2 scheduled to take place in Nairobi, 11-15 December will continue its substantive discussions commenced at OEWG1.2 to develop proposals for consideration by the Intergovernmental Meeting mandated to the ED to be organized to establish a Science Policy Panel to contribute further to the sound management of Chemicals and Waste and to prevent Pollution, as mandated by UNEA Resolution 5/8.

Taking into account the substantive work ahead and to enable the OEWG to make good progress, Member States and stakeholders have been invited to submit their general statements as well as their views on the working documents in writing, since no opening statements are foreseen during OEWG 2. However, regional and political groups will be invited to provide general statements under agenda item 4, if they wish, noting that for all working documents Member States and stakeholders will be provided an opportunity to express themselves, as a basis to establish the mandates for contact groups to further the work.

In order to facilitate for Member States to have a better understanding on areas of convergence and areas of divergence, before starting the negotiations at OEWG 2, the Chair of the OEWG invites Member States and stakeholders to informal consultations on key elements of the work to be discussed at the meeting, in advance of the regional and stakeholder consultations to be held on December 10th.

The informal consultations will be held under Chatham House Rules, to create space for an open exchange and will result in a brief meeting summary for reference, that may – if agreed – be reported to the OEWG to inform the discussions.

Informal Consultations

Taking into account that discussions on Scope and Function of the Panel have already commenced at OEWG 1.2, it is suggested to focus informal consultations on issues that have not yet been discussed amongst Member States and stakeholders. This is also taking into account, that Member States have been able to share their views on Operating Principles well in advance of the meeting, also linked to the discussions on the scope of the Panel.

It is therefore suggested to focus the informal consultations on the remaining documents as follows:

1. **Institutional arrangements:** Document UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.2/4 Institutional arrangements (and related information documents)
 - a. Decision making body
 - b. Administrative and scientific oversight
 - c. Other (subsidiary) bodies
 - d. Secretariat arrangements
 - e. Financial arrangements

Key areas for discussion:

- Key considerations related to the composition, function and modalities of the different bodies: decision making body, administrative and scientific oversight and other (subsidiary) bodies
 - Key considerations on the composition, functions and modalities for the secretariat
2. **Stakeholder relations:** Document UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.2/5 Relationships with relevant key stakeholders, Document UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.2/6 on procedures for the selection of experts, Document UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.2/4 Institutional arrangements

Key areas to discuss:

- Decision making:
 - o How to address stakeholder engagement in the Panel's governing bodies: decision making bodies, administrative and oversight bodies and other (subsidiary) bodies?
- Expert selection:
 - o If/How to include stakeholders in the nomination/selection of experts, including how to include indigenous and local knowledge?
- Input to the work programme (clients of the Science-Policy Panel):
 - o Who are the clients of the products of the Science-Policy Panel, including relationship with MEAs?
- Strategic partnerships:
 - o How to cooperate with the scientific community and the private sector on data, modelling and science, including with existing science policy interfaces?

3. **Work-related processes and procedures:** Document UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.2/6
 - a) Processes for determining the work programme of the Panel
 - b) Arrangements for identifying and engaging with experts to contribute to the work of the Panel
 - c) Procedures for the review and adoption of reports and assessments produced by the Panel
 - d) Procedures for addressing potential conflicts of interest

Key areas to discuss:

- Key considerations for the determining of the work programme, including the development of a prioritization mechanism
- Key considerations for the identification of experts
- Key considerations for the procedures for review and adoption of reports and assessments
- How to ensure conflict of interests can be effectively addressed

SPP OEWG2 INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS

Nairobi, 9 December

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

- 9:30 **Setting the Scene – 90 mins**
- a. Welcome and introduction, Chair – 10 mins
 - b. Outcomes of the OEWG: - 30 mins
 - i. Presentation of outcomes to be expected from OEWG process, i.e. Recommendation to the Intergovernmental Meeting and proposals (skeleton outline)
 - ii. Feedback on skeleton outline
 - c. Promise of a Science-Policy Panel – 40 mins
 - i. Presentation of synthesis needs and questions the panel may need to handle – 10 mins
 - ii. Fire start panel – 30 mins
- 11:00 **Brief surprise exercise - 30 mins**
- 11:30 **Informal consultations: - 4 hrs**
- a) Institutional arrangements – 1.5 hr
- 13:00 **LUNCH BREAK**
- b) Stakeholder relations – 1 hr
 - c) Conflict of Interest/Prioritization mechanism – 1.5 hr
- 16:00 **Closing session 30 mins**
- 17:30 CLOSURE