



Children and Youth Major Group (CYMG) Closing Statement

Distinguished delegates,

My name is Olga Skaredina, and I speak on behalf of the Children and Youth Major Group.

We express our gratitude to all the participants of the second session of the Open-Ended Working Group for their dedication, collaboration, and contributions. We look forward to maintaining this **positive momentum** in the upcoming intersessional work and during the third session.

We emphasize the importance to focus on **capacity building and strengthening the science-policy interface** at various levels. This involves the active and inclusive participation of scientists in panel assessments, with a focus on effectiveness, geographical and regional balance, gender responsiveness, and youth inclusion. Additionally, we underscore prioritizing capacity-building efforts for communities in vulnerable situations, specifically addressing intersectional factors that contribute to their vulnerability.

In our unwavering commitment to establish a science-policy panel that places a high priority on the rights and merits of diverse groups, we request that the non-governmental observers to the future panel are organized in constituencies through **the mechanism of Major Groups and other stakeholders**.

Finally, we reiterate the importance of **youth expertise inclusion** in the future panel, capitalizing on their unique understanding of technology and societal norms. Their distinct perspective enriches discussions on chemical, waste, and pollution, fostering innovative approaches to address contemporary cross-cutting challenges.

Let us carry the spirit of collaboration and commitment forward. Drawing inspiration from the best practices of existing science-policy panels and learning from their shortcomings, let us establish a panel that **promotes inclusivity, diversity, and multi-stakeholder collaboration**.

Thank you for the floor.

Submitted on behalf of the youth constituency by:

Zuhair Ahmed Kowshik & Gyubin Hwang

Global Focal Points

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