



Children and Youth Major Group (CYMG) Intervention at the Asia-Pacific regional meeting in preparation for the OEWG3 on a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution

Thank you chair for the floor.

My name is Fithriyyah/Xiaoshang/Hanxi, speaking on behalf of the Children and Youth Major Group to UNEP. We would like to thank the Chinese government for welcoming us here, and extending our gratitude to the secretariat for their support in this meeting. In response to the discussion of the development of the science-policy panel, we would like to extend our interventions as follows:

1. We welcome and appreciate the recognition of the role of subsidiary bodies and expert teams in the procedures. Recalling the proposal of establishing the multidisciplinary expert team engaging youth experts, we request that a youth expert working group be established under the Interdisciplinary Expert Committee. The youth expert can provide valuable insights into the concerns, priorities, and perspectives of the younger generation. This ensures their voices are heard and their needs are addressed in the panel's activities. These voices of youth experts and early career professionals can be integrated into the diversity of expertise required in the procedures to provide a wide range of support to the governing body, and policy committee, but not limited to other subsidiary bodies. This working group should have equal representation across regions, geographies, and genders, with a specific focus on inclusion from vulnerable and marginalized communities.
2. Recognizing the importance of ensuring fairness in the developmental and environmental needs of the current and future generations, we want to reiterate our position on the principle of an intergenerational equity lens to be integrated into the Operating principles of the panel in article (i) including its alternative languages. The aim is to ensure the panel's structure and work reflect intergenerational perspectives and foster active engagement of children and youth in sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution.
3. We also acknowledge the significance of having capacity building in this science-policy panel. Therefore, we support the inclusion of a comprehensive capacity-building strategy in the Scope, Objective and Functions of the Panel. Additionally, we encourage member states to ensure the inclusive participation of youth in the panel assessments. Additionally, we emphasize the importance of clarifying the target audience for capacity building.
4. We extend our sincere gratitude to the secretariat and the Chinese government for their support in allowing the Children and Youth Major Group to be part of this crucial process



in the Asia-Pacific regional meeting, recalling that we're the only major group who is attending the meeting, and were provided with the opportunity to deliver our interventions. As the regional discussion concludes, we would like to underscore our highlights in the panel's development process. We mainly request for youth involvement as the expert working group that can meaningfully engage in supporting panels, and acknowledge the importance of having capacity building to strengthen the science-policy panel. Additionally, the intergenerational equity principle has become our concern for incorporation because, as the future generation, we have the right to inherit the enjoyment of a healthy environment as previous generations with equitable access to support the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution. We also acknowledge the position of the Asia-Pacific region.

Submitted on behalf of the youth constituency by:

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