

Dear SPP secretariat,

Kindly find below a few comments with reference to the following documents:

- UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.3/2
- UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.3/2/Add.1
- UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.3/3

On behalf of Major groups accredited to UNEP, we propose the following for your kind consideration:

1) Across all of the OEWG.3 documents, we kindly request to use the term “**Major Groups and Stakeholders**” because:

- This term is generally used in Agenda 21 and UNEA/UNEP system/resolutions and many other international forums.
- **Major Groups and Stakeholders** include **NINE Major groups**, according to Agenda 21 and UNEA/UNEP system/resolutions.
- We believe this term is inclusive and encamps all types of civil society organizations. Recalling Article 23.3. of Agenda 21 and recognizing that the policy process in OEWG.3 is included in the principle of “affecting access to and participation”, equal access to all major groups needs to be applied through the streamlined term of “Major Groups and Stakeholders”.
- Current paragraphs in OEWG.3 documents use a mix of terms such as (civil society, NGOs, Observers, stakeholders ... etc.) so it is better to use the overall term “Major Groups and Stakeholders”, to comply with Article 23.3. of equal implementation of policy to all major groups.
- It will simplify things for the panel by using acronyms for each of the nine major groups (e.g., NGOs MG, Science and Technology MG, etc.), preventing the risk of forgetting or misspelling any major group.
- In case of the name of Indigenous People Major Group is used across all OEWG3 documents, we kindly ask you to use the right term “Indigenous People and their communities” **NOT** Indigenous People and local communities as local communities have a different meaning, following the use of the term “Indigenous People and Their Communities” in Article 26.1 and the Title of Chapter 26 in Agenda 21.

2) In Paragraph 6 in document UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.3/3, we would like to ask for accredited UNEA Major Groups and Stakeholders to be granted with automatic accreditation to the panel, recalling Paragraph 7 of UNEA Resolution 5/8 which mentions “stakeholder representatives” as one of the inclusions of the

ad hoc open-ended working group, as a form of consistency and streamlining of Major Groups and Stakeholders inclusion in the new Panel formation.

We fully understand this is a newly independent body but ultimately, it originated from UNEA. Besides, both are UN system bodies so we are looking to streamline processes and establish a pioneering model for engaging with major groups.

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Contact person: Mohamed Abdelraoud. Scientific and Technological Community co-chair.