



Opening remarks of the Delegation of Ukraine to the SPP OEWG-3

(June 17, 2024, Geneva, Switzerland)

**Madam Chairperson,
Madam Executive Director,
Excellencies,
Distinguished colleagues,**

I am honored to deliver this statement on behalf of the Government of Ukraine.

First of all, let me express my deepest gratitude to entire UNEP teams for the excellent organization of the Third session of the ad hoc open-ended working group to prepare proposals for a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution.

I would also like to express our sincere gratitude to our esteemed colleagues from the OEWG SPP Bureau for their tireless job. Ukraine is honored to be a part of the Bureau and is dedicated to contribute as much as possible to its important work.

I am convinced that this session will bring us closer to our common ambitious goals – to preserve our nature for future generations.

Despite all the challenges, caused by the unprovoked and unjustified invasion, Ukraine is taking all the possible measures to implement necessary environmental reforms as well as to strengthen global environmental agenda.

For many years Ukraine has been actively developing and implementing the legislation aimed at elimination of the challenges with waste in our country. A number of important initiatives have already been successfully implemented in Ukraine.

Unfortunately, we are all aware that wars and armed conflicts, which occur periodically in different parts of the world and lead to numerous human casualties, destruction, uncontrolled pollution and emissions of pollutants as a result of shelling and bombing, are negatively affecting

the environment. Thus, Ukraine is taking all the necessary measures to protect our vulnerable ecosystems from the dangerous consequences of invasion. In particular, one of the important elements of the “Peace Formula” of President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy is dedicated to environmental protection and restoration of affected ecosystems.

Dear colleagues,

We believe that the future panel has a unique opportunity to become the comprehensive multilateral tool with globally harmonized requirements for transparency of information on chemicals and wastes as well as for all stakeholders in the value chain.

Ukraine supports the current draft document and wishes to reiterate its dedication to the prompt conclusion of the substantive discussions on proposals for the establishment of a science-policy during the present session of the OEWG SPP.

To conclude, I would like to wish all participants fruitful work and express my hope that the results of today's meeting will give a new impetus towards this ambitious goal.

Thank you.
