



**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, waste and to prevent pollution (OEWG-3)- Agenda Item 4, Part VI Compilation document “Strategic Partnership”  
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As a voice for nature and conservation, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), offers this written Statement on Part VI of the Compilation Document (UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.3/2), addressing the role and presence of Strategic Partners. IUCN believes it is vital to ensure that the Panel’s Strategic Partners include those intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations with specialized knowledge and expertise in the scientific, legal and policy questions that will be posed to and faced by the Panel.

In this context, IUCN wishes to highlight that nature is a core element of the focus areas of the future Science-Policy Panel. It both suffers the impacts of chemicals, wastes and pollution and offers potential methods of counteracting and remediating negative impacts, including through nature based and nature positive solutions and the use of natural capital solutions.

As has been seen through the work of IPCC, IPBES, and the newly adopted EU Nature Restoration Law, concepts such as the linking of circularity and nature are fundamental to addressing multiple forms of environmental harms, including those relating to chemicals, wastes and pollution and to protecting people and businesses depending on healthy ecosystems.

These links are also established in the context of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), particularly GBF Target 7, which directly addresses pollution and requires the development of science-based indicators to assess implementation.

IUCN, including its six science-based Commissions and the World Commission on Environmental Law, with its more than 1400

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members and 16,000 scientists, stands ready to assist the work of the Panel and its subsidiary bodies, as it did during the foundation of IPCC and IPBES, through the Strategic Partners proposal in the Compilation Document and in any other relevant manner. In particular, IUCN has much to offer in terms of scientific data and standards, indigenous and local knowledge, environmental law expertise, geographical diversity, and best practices and experience sharing, by relying on harmonised methodologies to identify, measure and address critical concerns for the Panel. These areas include water, soil, and marine pollution sources and chemicals, waste, plastic and other materials leakage along the whole value chain and across sectors<sup>1</sup>.

The wording of Part VI could be drafted as following:

## VI. Strategic Partnerships

37. The [Governing Body of the Panel][Panel][Plenary] [may decide to][shall] pursue formal strategic partnerships with United Nations entities, multilateral agreements[, regional entities, funding agencies], **intergovernmental organizations with applicable expertise**, and other [selected][relevant] stakeholders that are active and qualified in the topics covered by the Panel. [Formal strategic partnerships [support][can be a means of] [promoting synergies [and avoiding overlap] towards] [achieving the operating principle[s] [of the Panel] [that includes] “avoiding overlap and duplication of work, and promoting coordination and cooperation”] [while delivering on any of the Panel’s functions].]
38. The [Secretariat][or the bureau] [subsidiary bodies under the Panel] may propose [the need for the establishment] [for consideration [and approval] of the Plenary the establishment of] [possible][specific] strategic partnerships ] **including with applicable expertise, intergovernmental organizations**, [with different sectors, ensuring the absence of conflict of interest] including their contribution to the work of the Panel.
38. alt [the [Panel][Governing Body] may mandate the Secretariat to engage potential strategic partnerships as it relates to their contribution to the identified work programme]], **including with intergovernmental organizations with applicable expertise, ...**

<sup>1</sup> Such as the [IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™](#), [Red List of Ecosystems](#), [World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas](#), and [Protected Planet - the World Database on Protected Areas](#) and [the IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions](#) as well as tools to identify investments, alternative technologies and circular business along indicators (c.f. IUCN *Nature-Positive Approach*, the [Species Threat Abatement and Recovery \(STAR\) metric](#) and [economic models that demonstrate effective solutions](#)).

