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**Ad hoc open-ended working group on a science-policy panel  
to contribute further to the sound management of  
chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution  
First session**

Nairobi, 6 October 2022 and Bangkok, 30 January–3 February 2023\*

## **Stakeholder engagement feedback**

### **Note by the secretariat**

The annex to the present note contains a brief report on feedback received from stakeholder engagement efforts undertaken by the secretariat, including results from the stakeholder engagement survey and feedback from webinar participants. The ad hoc open-ended working group for the science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution may wish to consider the information provided in its deliberations. The annex has not been formally edited.

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\* The first session of the ad hoc open-ended working group on a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution is being held in two parts. The first part of the session was held in Nairobi on 6 October 2022, while the second part, namely the resumed first session, will be held in person in Bangkok from 30 January to 3 February 2023.

**Annex\*****Stakeholder engagement feedback****I. Introduction**

1. At its resumed fifth session, held in Nairobi from 28 February to 2 March 2022, the United Nations Environment Assembly (the Environment Assembly) decided, by resolution 5/8, that a science-policy panel should be established to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution.

2. By the same resolution, the Environment Assembly decided to convene, subject to the availability of resources, an ad hoc open-ended working group to prepare proposals for the science-policy panel to consider the following issues, among others:

- (a) Institutional design and governance of the panel (paragraph 5(a)).
- (b) Name and scope of the panel (paragraph 5(b)).
- (c) Principal functions of the panel, as set out in paragraph 2 of the present resolution, while respecting the mandates of relevant multilateral agreements and other international instruments and intergovernmental bodies, avoiding overlap and duplication of work, and promoting coordination and cooperation (paragraph 5(c)).
- (d) Relationships of the panel with relevant stakeholders, including governmental and non-governmental organizations, and civil society (paragraph 5(d)).
- (e) Processes for determining and executing the work programme of the panel (paragraph 5(e)).
- (f) Arrangements for identifying and engaging with experts to contribute to the work of the panel (paragraph 5(f)).
- (g) Procedures for the review and adoption of reports and assessments produced by the panel (paragraph 5(g)).
- (h) Rules of procedure and the operating principles governing the work of the panel (paragraph 5(j)).

3. The Environment Assembly further decided that the ad hoc open-ended working group should take into account the need to ensure that the panel, among other characteristics:

- (a) Is able to deliver outputs that are policy relevant without being policy prescriptive (6(a)).
- (b) Is interdisciplinary, ensuring contributions from experts with a broad range of disciplinary expertise; has inclusive participation, including indigenous peoples; and has geographical, regional and gender balance (paragraph 6(b)).
- (c) Has procedures that seek to ensure that the work of the panel is transparent and impartial and that it can produce reports and assessments that are credible and scientifically robust (paragraph 6(c)).
- (d) Undertakes work that is complementary to and does not duplicate the work of the relevant multilateral agreements, other international instruments and intergovernmental bodies, including those that are members of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of chemicals (paragraph 6(d)).
- (e) Coordinates, as appropriate, with other science-policy bodies, such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (paragraph 6(e)).
- (f) Has the ability to address potential conflicts of interest and safeguard commercially sensitive information (6(f)).
- (g) Has the flexibility to respond, to the extent possible, to the needs identified by stakeholders and agreed to by its member Governments, and to fulfil its principal functions, as set out in the present resolution (paragraph 6(g)).

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\* The annex has not been formally edited.

(h) Is cost-effective, with the leanest structure consistent with achieving the highest impact (6(h))

4. The Environment Assembly also decided that the ad hoc open-ended working group should include Governments and regional economic integration organizations and be open to observers from United Nations entities, relevant multilateral agreements, other international instruments and intergovernmental bodies, including those that are members of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals, and stakeholder representatives (paragraph 7).

5. In response to UNEA resolution 5/8, paragraph 7, as means to inform stakeholders and engage them in participating in the deliberation of the ad hoc open-ended working group, the secretariat organized two information-sharing webinars and conducted an online multi-stakeholder survey with the aim to collect stakeholders' view as input to inform the ad hoc open-ended working group on the aforementioned various aspects set out in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the UNEA resolution 5/8.

6. This information document aims at providing a concise overview of the feedback from webinar participants and the multi-stakeholder survey results. More specifically, these results have been synthesized into the following five aspects: (1) overview of the webinars and multi-stakeholder survey (section II), (2) inputs on the scope of the panel (section III), (3) inputs on the functions of the panel (section IV), (4) inputs on the operational aspect of the panel (section V), and (5) feedback related to stakeholder engagement by the secretariat and possible stakeholder-engagement activities in the next intersessional period leading towards the second session of the ad hoc open-ended working group.

## II. Overview of the webinars and multi-stakeholder survey

7. The two webinars are part of a series of online information-sharing sessions organized by the secretariat to introduce the new science-policy panel on chemicals, waste and prevention of pollution and the processes of the associated ad hoc open-ended working group.

8. On July 25, 2022, the first webinar aimed at providing background on the process leading towards the establishment of the science-policy panel and discussed its possible scope and structure. The event highlighted countries' priorities on chemicals, waste and pollution, as well as the role of science and academia in its modus operandi. It was followed by a question-and-answer session with panelists.<sup>1</sup>

9. On October 5, 2022, the second webinar focused on the lessons and examples from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), the International Resource Panel (IRP), the Montreal Protocol, and the World Health Organization (WHO). The webinar aimed to inform discussions on the possible design and operation of the new science-policy panel. It was followed by a dialogue between speakers on urgent issues and questions.<sup>2</sup>

10. Both webinars were well-attended with global participation by 550 and 377 participants, respectively. After each webinar, a survey was sent to participants to collect feedback and inputs on possible future webinars. Overall, both surveys received a response rate above 30%.

11. The Secretariat also conducted an online multi-stakeholder survey that was available from 7 October 2022 to 2 December 2022. The survey was sent to a wide range of stakeholders through the designated national and stakeholder focal points to the ad hoc open-ended working group, as well as the focal points to relevant multilateral agreements (i.e., Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and Minamata Convention), other international instruments (i.e., the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, SAICM) and intergovernmental bodies (i.e., United Nations Environment Programme, UNEP, the World Bank, International Labour Organization, ILO, etc.) and major stakeholder groups.

12. In total, 381 stakeholders from close to 100 countries responded to the survey.

13. Respondents represented entities from civil society (129), academia (125) and governments (75), as well as industry and others (52). It is noted that the survey was completed by the first recipients of the secretariat's message, and not by third parties. Most representatives are associated with the pollution sector (126), the chemicals sector (97), and the public health sector (61).

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.unep.org/events/webinar/unep-webinar-series-science-policy-panel-chemicals-waste-and-pollution-prevention>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.unep.org/events/webinar/unep-webinar-series-lessons-learned-science-policy-panel-chemicals-waste-and>

14. Detailed responses to the three surveys can be found in Appendix I (first webinar), II (second webinar), and III (multi-stakeholder survey) of this document. Based on all three survey results, the following observations could be made.

### III. Stakeholders' view on the scope of the panel

15. To facilitate the deliberations on paragraph 5(b) of UNEA resolution 5/8, UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.1/4 proposed four steps for establishing the scope of the panel to be considered by the ad hoc open-ended working group:

- (a) Agree on the panel's objective that reflects an integrative approach to scope.
- (b) Initiate the development of a conceptual framework to guide the panel's work.
- (c) Consider whether to explicitly include or exclude certain dimensions.
- (d) Identify the multilateral environmental agreements or relevant entities that the panel would support most directly in the light of its scope.

16. Responses to questions 19 to 21 in the multi-stakeholder survey provide stakeholders' views on their understanding of each of the phrases of "chemicals," "waste," and "prevention of pollution" and if anything should be excluded from the scope of the panel under the individual terms. 183 (67%), 170 (65%) and 107 (45%) respondents answered these three questions, respectively. Details about the answers can be found in Annex III.

17. For all three questions, answers show support from a majority of the stakeholders surveyed on the need for a broad and inclusive scope related to "chemicals," "waste," and "prevention of pollution" without any exclusions.

18. In a more limited number of responses, some stakeholders voiced that certain types of chemicals, waste and pollution would need to be excluded from the scope of the panel, as follows:

- (a) Chemicals: non-hazardous chemicals; chemicals that have been covered by other MEAs; naturally occurring substances; and several miscellaneous ones for specific types of chemicals (such as CO<sub>2</sub>, water, nuclear power-related chemicals).
- (b) Waste: radioactive waste, nuclear waste, space debris, organic waste, municipal waste, recyclable material, non-chemically contaminated material.
- (c) Pollution: non-hazardous pollution; pollution that is being addressed in other fora; naturally occurring pollution; and several miscellaneous individual specific types of pollution (such as light pollution, noise pollution).

19. A few stakeholders indicated the need for further clarification or information (e.g., classification criteria) before specifying the scope of individual terms.

20. While most stakeholders provided informed answers on the definitions of the terms "chemicals", "waste" and "pollution," and the most used definition of "waste" referred to the Basel Convention, answers to question 20 show confusion or limited knowledge by some stakeholders on what the term "waste" implies.

21. Question 12 of the multi-stakeholder survey asked which are the most relevant bodies for the panel to coordinate with. All respondents provided their considerations, sharing stakeholders' view related to the step (d) proposed in UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.1/4. In particular, the answers demonstrated strong support by stakeholders of a strong coordination between the science-policy panel and the institutions listed below:

- (a) Basel Rotterdam, and Stockholm conventions (297 responses).
- (b) Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Service (255 responses).
- (c) World Health Organization (254 responses).
- (d) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (251 responses).
- (e) UNEP's Global Environmental Outlook process (245 responses).
- (f) Minamata Convention on Mercury (234 responses).
- (g) Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (201 responses).
- (h) Montreal Protocol (175 responses).

- (i) International Labour Organization (116 responses).
- (j) International Resource Panel (103 responses).
- (k) World Bank (101 responses).

### III. Stakeholders' view on the functions of the panel

22. To facilitate the deliberations of the ad hoc open-ended working group on options that further elaborate on the proposed functions of the panel, the secretariat prepared document UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.1/5, which provides information on how similar functions have been defined and provided for in the context of other science-policy bodies. The ad hoc open-ended working group may also wish to consider the results of questions 15 and 16 of the multi-stakeholder survey to further support its deliberations. Details about the answers of the multi-stakeholder survey can be found in Annex III.

23. Question 15 invited stakeholders to score the importance of individual principal functions listed under UNEA resolution 5/8. The respondents considered that all the principal functions are important. Particularly, the respondents emphasized the importance of “assessments” (84.8% responses referring it to as “important”) and “horizon scanning” (84.7%). The other functions listed under the resolution were assessed as follows (percentage in parentheses after each function indicates the proportion of responses ranking these functions as “important”): with between 70 and 80% of respondents deeming these important, “Facilitating information-sharing with countries, in particular developing countries seeking relevant scientific information” (75.4%), “encouraging and supporting communication between scientists and policymakers” (74%) and “providing up-to-date and relevant information” (73.3%); and with between 60 and 70% of respondents deeming the following “important”, “identifying key gaps in scientific research” (67.3%), “raising public awareness” (62.4%) and “explaining and disseminating findings for different audiences” (60.4%).

24. Question 16 further invited stakeholders to provide suggestions on other possible functions for consideration by the ad hoc open-ended working group.

25. Many responses proposed adding more details to further define the principal functions listed in UNEA resolution 5/8, specifically:

(a) *Assessments*: Respondents noted the need to handle the issues on an appropriate system level rather than considering one substance at a time. There was also a call to clarify connections between the serious challenges by a demand for development and ending poverty, the growing population, technologies used and international trade, and the serious impacts on human health and the environment caused by the increasing flows of energy and materials.

(b) *Encouraging and supporting communication between scientist and policymakers*: It was noted that communication should also be facilitated with the industry in response to chemical contamination and pollution, given that the industrial sector has much practical information that would strengthen the current dialogue.

(c) *Identifying key gaps in scientific research*: Respondents noted that identifying key gaps in chemical policy, especially regarding chemical policy requirements to establish a well-functioning circular economy, as well as critical barriers for developing countries to control pollution associated with chemicals and waste should also be considered under this function.

(d) *Providing up-to-date and relevant information*: Respondents indicated that is also important to ensure the data provided are actionable that they can be used both for accountability and corrective actions.

26. Some respondents also proposed the inclusion of additional functions. The following four possible functions were proposed:

(a) *Resource mobilization*: such as to support implementation by building developing countries' capacities in assessment and research (including laboratory capacities).

(b) *Fostering action*: such as to follow up and engage with other stakeholders, or to develop an accountability mechanism to ensure commitment of relevant stakeholders and policy makers for action and implementation.

(c) *Effectiveness evaluation*: such as to monitor and assess progress in the implementation of proposed measures and their effectiveness.

(d) Capacity-building: such as training related to emergency response on chemicals and hazardous waste management, chemical spill incidents, etc.

27. It should be emphasised that document UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.1/5, which presents options on the principal functions of the science-policy panel, provides an in-depth analysis of capacity-building, and noted that while capacity-building to enhance general capacity at the national and regional levels is important, many institutions are already conducting capacity-building activities in various areas at the national, regional and global levels. Thus, UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.1/5 suggests that before new capacity-building activities are initiated, a careful consideration of gaps and coordination with existing activities will be key to ensuring cost-effectiveness and avoiding duplication of work. Capacity building is also one of the functions mapped in the mapping analysis of the current landscape of relevant science-policy interfaces in UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.1/INF/4.

#### IV. Stakeholders' view on the operational aspect of the panel

28. The multi-stakeholder survey included several questions related to the operational arrangements of the panel, particularly those listed in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the UNEA resolution 5/8. While the ad hoc open-ended working group will consider the operational and institutional arrangements of the panel at its future sessions, it may wish to consider the information provided through the survey in the context of a preliminary consideration and guidance on the key elements of such arrangements to be presented at future sessions.

29. In considering paragraph 6(g), Question 11 queried who should be able to submit potential issues for consideration by the panel. The responses highlighted that Member States (318), relevant multilateral agreements (289), and accredited observers (249) could be involved in submitting potential issues for consideration.

30. In considering paragraph 6(d), Question 12 focused on examining the most relevant bodies that the panel should coordinate with. As stated in paragraph 21 above, the answers demonstrated strong support by stakeholders of a strong coordination between the science-policy panel and all the institutions listed in the survey.

31. In the context of paragraph 6(b), Question 17 requested respondents to consider which experts with knowledge of which disciplines/areas should be involved in producing deliverables, such as assessments. While all the disciplines listed were considered useful for the panel, the following three received the highest scores: Natural sciences (chemistry, physics, biology, earth sciences etc.) (353), social sciences (economics, political science, anthropology, sociology etc) (296), and medicine and public health (295).

32. In the context of paragraph 6(c), Question 18 asked which areas of work most require transparency and impartiality. Of the answers received, many respondents considered the importance of transparency and impartiality in the context of all the areas listed in the survey: the nomination and selection of experts for producing assessments (293); the nomination and selection of experts for oversight/advisory groups (275); and the selection of work program activities, e.g., topic of assessments (271); the peer-review processes (249); and the acceptance and approval of assessments (247).

33. Two additional questions in the multi-stakeholder survey specifically touched upon the operational arrangement of the "horizon scanning" function. Question 13 asked about the general approaches the panel should use to determine who could identify/propose issues for consideration. The following were the top two approaches selected by respondents:

(a) An expert subsidiary body is tasked with identifying issues of relevance to policymakers through an exercise conducted at regular intervals (for example once a year) and these results are forward to the panel's governing body for consideration and possible inclusion in the panel's work programme (139 respondents)

(b) Issues are proposed for consideration by all eligible stakeholders (to be defined by the governing body) for consideration by the panel's governing body at regular intervals. (129 respondents).

34. Question 14 asked about which general methodologies the panel could use to undertake horizon scanning. Respondents all agreed that new issues are proposed to the panel to consider. Once the panel's governing body agrees to undertake a rapid assessment of an issue, it delegates authority to an expert subsidiary body to oversee. However, there were diverging views on the operational procedure, with the following three approaches being the most selected by respondents:

(a) Approach 1: a series of steps different than those followed for regular assessments (e.g., the subsidiary body finalizes the scope rather than the plenary, the subsidiary body identifies and selects the authors, fewer rounds of peer review, and the subsidiary body approves the final report). This could shorten the typical 3–4 year process from scoping to publication under IPCC and IPBES, to just over a year. (92)

(b) Approach 2: a series of steps different than those followed for regular assessments (e.g., the subsidiary body finalizes the scope rather than the plenary, the subsidiary body identifies and selects the authors, fewer rounds of peer review), but the final report goes back to the panel's governing body for approval. (86).

(c) Approach 3: on an accelerated basis (i.e., the subsidiary body finalizes the scope rather than the plenary, and with shorter deadlines) all the agreed steps of a regular assessment, including its approval by the governing body (thus shortening the typical 3-4 year process from scoping to publication under IPCC and IPBES by more than a year) (74).

## V. Stakeholders' view on the stakeholder engagement approaches

35. In response to paragraph 7 of the UNEA resolution 5/8, the secretariat conducted a series of stakeholder engagement activities to enhance their participation in the ad hoc open-ended working group. The stakeholders' views also lend important insight into the possible stakeholder engagement approach that could be adopted by the panel once established. This is in line with the options proposed under section IV *Knowledge management, communication and information-sharing, and stakeholder engagement functions* of document UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.1/5.

36. In relation to paragraph 6(b) of the UNEA resolution 5/8, feedback from participants of the two webinars, indicated that the sessions were "very informative" (58% and 61%, respectively) and that the panels were generally "very balanced" in terms of gender and geographical representation (46% and 48%, respectively). However, a lack of participation from the Central and West Asian regions, as well as minimal references to the concerns of indigenous peoples and local communities, were noted in both sessions.

37. In relation to paragraphs 5(d) and 5(f) of the UNEA resolution 5/8, participants of both webinars expressed their interest in receiving more information about country priorities on chemicals, waste and prevention of pollution (73% of all participants), on regulation and enforcement (51%), and on industry engagement in the ad hoc open-ended working group process (49%). Participants also welcomed the possibility of having further sessions of the webinar series that provide information about the ad hoc open ended working group process.

38. Furthermore, participants made the following suggestions to improve stakeholder engagement practices through the webinar series:

- (a) Providing the series in multiple languages or having translation.
- (b) Providing documents for preparation ahead of time.
- (c) Including more indigenous people and vulnerable groups in stakeholder engagement activities.

39. In relation to paragraph 5(d) and 5(f) of the UNEA resolution 5/8, question 10 of the multi-stakeholder survey asked to identify which observers should be part of the ad hoc open ended working group process. While all the UNEP Major Groups Stakeholders categories were considered relevant, the majority of responses indicated the scientific and technological community (316), non-governmental organisations (299), and business and industry (251).

40. In relation to paragraph 5(f) of the UNEA resolution 5/8, question 17 of the multi-stakeholder survey asked to identify which disciplines/areas experts should have knowledge in to be involved in producing deliverables, such as assessments. While all the disciplines listed were considered useful for the panel, the following three were highlighted by the many answers, suggesting the importance of further engagement of these disciplines in the ad hoc open-ended working group process and the panel once established:

- (a) Natural sciences (chemistry, physics, biology, earth sciences etc.) (353 respondents).
- (b) Social sciences (economics, political science, anthropology, sociology etc) (296 respondents).
- (c) Medicine and public health (295 respondents).

## VI. Conclusions

41. The multi-stakeholder survey results indicate support for maintaining a broad scope of “chemicals,” “waste,” and “prevention of pollution” and only provided limited proposals for possible exclusions. However, as outlined in document UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.1/4, the ad hoc open-ended working group may wish to consider mechanisms to determine the scope of the panel through the development of an objective and a conceptual framework and to consider whether to explicitly include or exclude certain dimensions.

42. The multi-stakeholder survey results provide views on the principal functions of the panel. Some of the views complement the information provided in document UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.1/5, while others provide additional possible functions for consideration by the ad hoc open-ended working group.

43. The multi-stakeholder survey results also provide reflections on a number of issues related to the operational aspect of the panel that may also inform the overall deliberation of the ad hoc open-ended working group, particularly with regard to the stakeholders to be engaged and operation of the ad hoc open-ended working group.

44. Given the positive reception of the multi-stakeholder survey and the webinar series, they provide an effective avenue for continued stakeholder engagement, taking into account the feedback provided. To strengthen its engagement efforts, the secretariat will seek to engage a wider range of stakeholders, including sectors other than the environment sector, industry and indigenous peoples and local communities, in the ad hoc open-ended working group. Suggestions for stakeholder engagement strategies by the ad hoc open-ended working group are welcome, particularly with regard to which specific stakeholder groups are to be engaged. Furthermore, the secretariat noted the request by some stakeholders to have the webinar series in multiple languages. However, as noted in the document UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.1/6, the ad hoc open-ended working group is faced with a significant cash shortfall, [despite generous contribution from multiple donor countries. This is](#) limiting the secretariat’s ability to fulfil such requests.

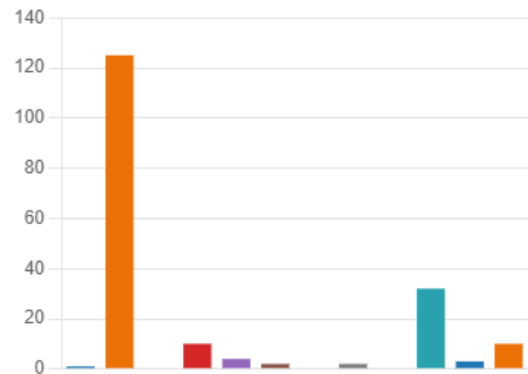


## Appendix I

### Overview of the survey results of UNEP webinar 1: Towards a science-policy panel on chemicals, waste and pollution prevention

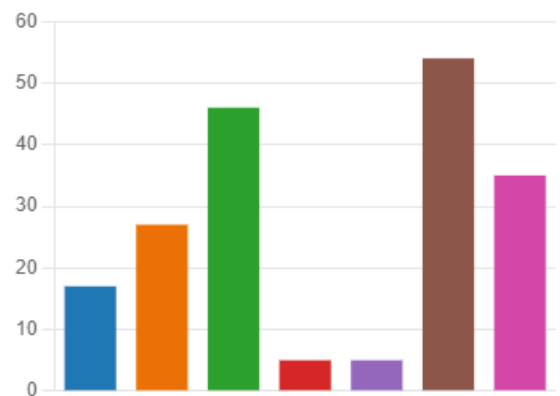
1. Question 1: Select the main sector(s) that you organization is related to:

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Agriculture	1
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Environment	125
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Gender	0
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Health	10
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> Industry/chemicals	4
<span style="color: brown;">●</span> Industry/minerals and materials	2
<span style="color: pink;">●</span> Industry/articles and products	0
<span style="color: grey;">●</span> Industry/waste	2
<span style="color: olive;">●</span> Labour	0
<span style="color: cyan;">●</span> Research/Academia	32
<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Youth	3
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Other	10



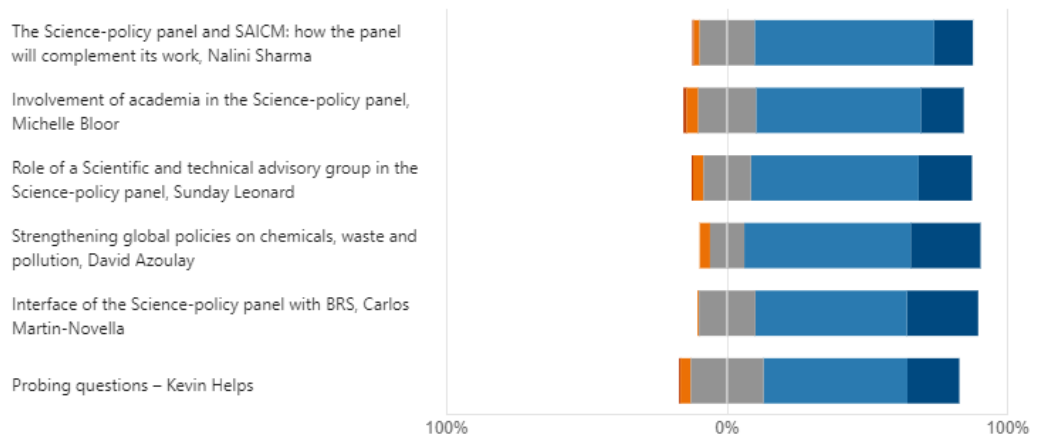
2. Question 2: Select your region:

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> North America	17
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Latin America and the Caribbean	27
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Europe	46
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Central Asia	5
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> West Asia	5
<span style="color: brown;">●</span> Africa	54
<span style="color: pink;">●</span> Asia and the Pacific	35

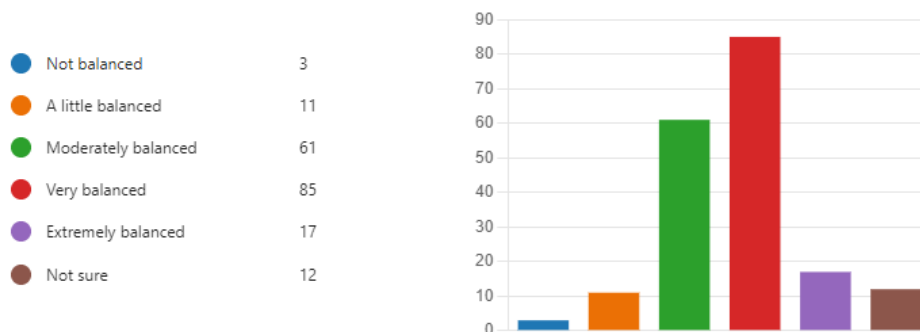


3. Question 3: Rate how informative you found the webinars presentations:

■ Not informative   
 ■ A little informative   
 ■ Moderately informative   
 ■ Very informative   
 ■ Extremely informative



4. Question 4: Rate the balance of the panel’s composition in terms of gender, sector and regional balance:

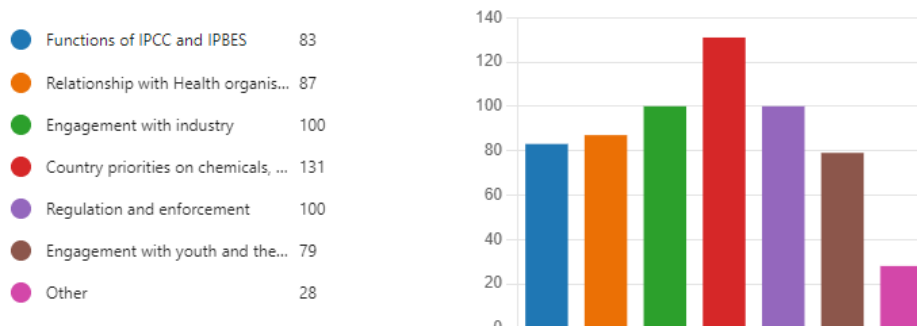


5. Question 5: Please expand on your answer on question 4:

In the first webinar’s feedback survey, feedback relating to “not balanced” and “a little balanced” was justified with:

- (a) Perspectives from other sectors were missing, in particular the health sector (WHO) but also labor (ILO).
- (b) For the broad scope the SPP should have in adequately complementing IPCC and IPBES, further sectors like health, labour, development, economy, etc. should more explicitly be involved from early on.
- (c) Indigenous peoples were not present; Women groups were not involved; WHO representative was not present.
- (d) There was an uneven number of female panelists.

6. Question 6: Noting that this was the first event of a webinar series, what other topics would you like us to cover in the following events? Please select at least three options:



7. Question 7: Share your feedback on the event and any other suggestion related on how future events could be made more useful and informative:

- (a) In the first webinar’s feedback survey, stakeholders shared their suggestions as summarised below:
- (b) Webinar in languages or translation.
- (c) Useful documents and presentations about the event should be sent to the applicants to have a inner view about the event.
- (d) More details on the OEWG's and the plans for the meetings, rules of procedure, meeting agendas, procedural steps/timelines, the mandate set out by UNEA 5/8 to prepare country positions.
- (e) To share with participants the Q&A during the meeting in a written format.
- (f) Overload of information.
- (g) Include: Developing countries, SIDS, youths, indigenous groups, communities, WHO or other International Agencies or Organizations, NGOs and Regional representatives, Scientific Societies.

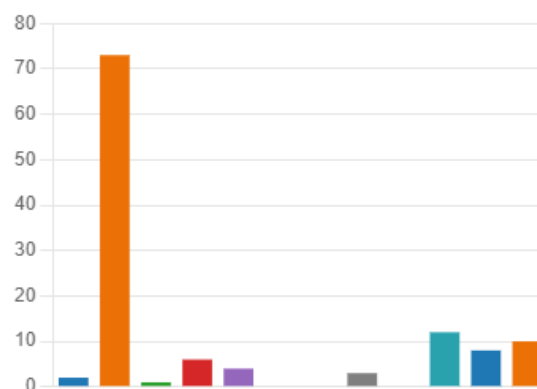
(h) Examples: AAPCCT (American association of Poison Control Centres) European Association of Poison Control Centers, EAPCCT, Asia Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology, Iberoamerican Society of Environmental Health (SIBSA), Red Latinoamericana de Toxicologia (RETOXLAC).

## Appendix II

### Overview of the survey results of UNEP webinar 2: Lessons learned for the Science-policy panel on chemicals, waste and prevention of pollution

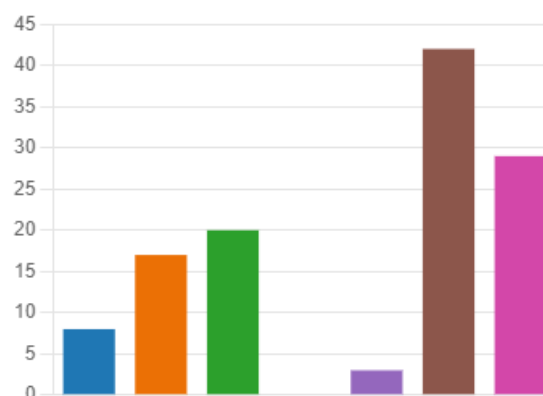
1. Question 1: Select the main sector(s) that your organization is related to:

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Agriculture	2
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Environment	73
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Gender	1
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Health	6
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> Industry/chemicals	4
<span style="color: brown;">●</span> Industry/minerals and materials	0
<span style="color: pink;">●</span> Industry/articles and products	0
<span style="color: grey;">●</span> Industry/waste	3
<span style="color: olive;">●</span> Labour	0
<span style="color: teal;">●</span> Research/Academia	12
<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Youth	8
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Other	10



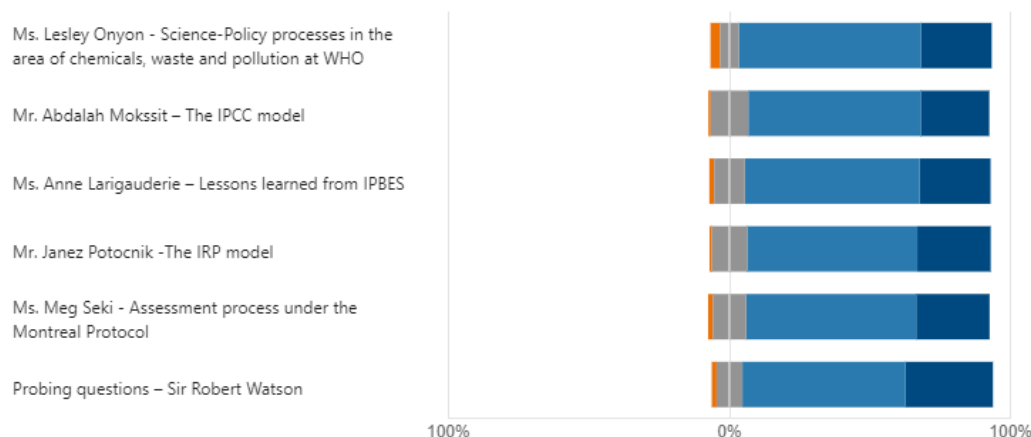
2. Question 2: Select your region:

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> North America	8
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Latin America and the Caribbean	17
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Europe	20
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Central Asia	0
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> West Asia	3
<span style="color: brown;">●</span> Africa	42
<span style="color: pink;">●</span> Asia and the Pacific	29

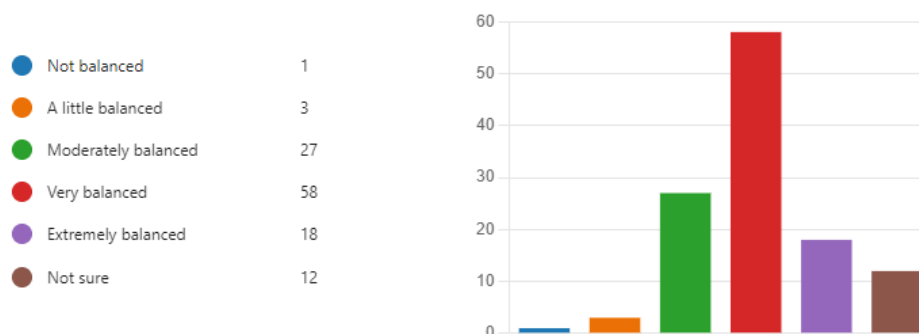


3. Question 3: Rate how informative you found the webinars presentations:

■ Not informative  
 ■ A little informative  
 ■ Moderately informative  
 ■ Very informative  
 ■ Extremely informative



3. Question 4: Rate the balance of the panel's composition in terms of gender, sector and regional balance:



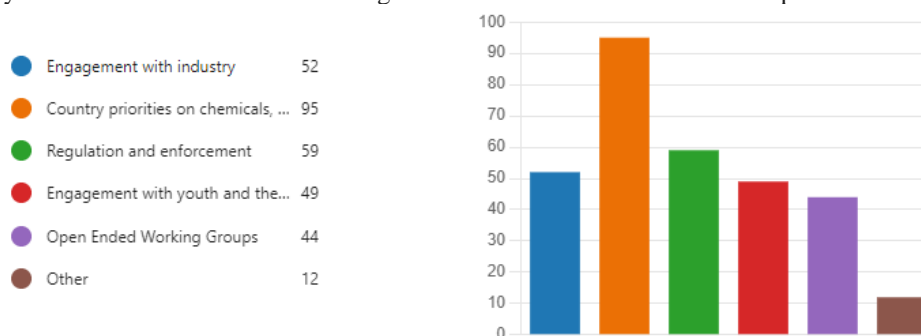
4. Question 5: Please expand on your answer on question 4:

5. Feedback relating to “not balanced” and “a little balanced” was justified with:

(a) Need a more representativity of African region with a gender balance and a linguistic region integration

(b) It would be good to see more sectors covered in future webinars, particularly a webinar focused on perspectives from youth and vulnerable communities.

6. Question 6: Noting that this was the second event of a webinar series, what other topics would you like us to cover in the following events? Please select at least three options:



7. Question 7: Share your feedback on the event and any other suggestion related on how future events could be made more useful and informative:

8. In the second webinar feedback survey, stakeholders shared their suggestions as summarised below:

9. Webinar in languages or translation.

(a) Useful documents about the event should be sent to the applicants to have a inner view about the event.

(b) Schedule more webinars talking about Open Ended working group.

(c) Allow a little more time to answer the questions asked in the chat.

(d) Certificate of participation should be issued to participants of the webinar.

(e) Time zone difference makes the event a bit difficult to share with my colleagues since it is a bit late on our side

(f) This event was much better than the first event in terms of relevance and constructive progress going forward. It assured there was enough transfer knowledge from the comparable efforts for the open-ended working group to build from. In particular the common themes of Sound Science and ensuring representation from all regions.

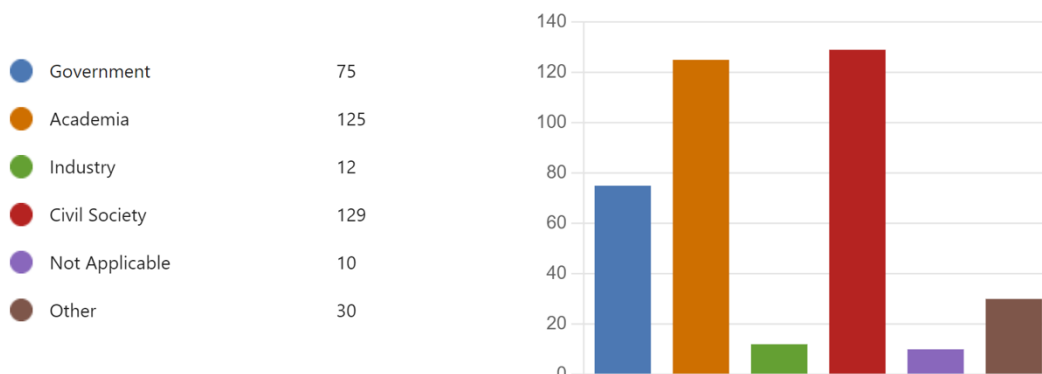
(g) Involve the audience a little more in the discussion. Perhaps, questions could be gathered from stakeholders prior to the event, or the audience selects from a range of questions at the start of the webinar to help steer the direction of the conversation (for example, using a QR code).

(h) Include more indigenous young people

## Appendix III

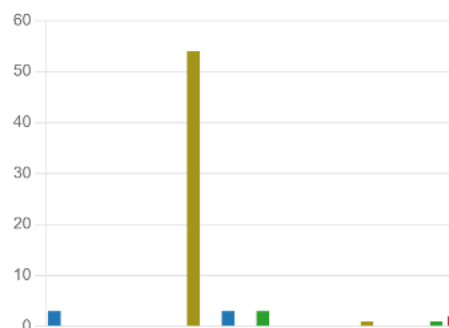
### Overview of the multi-stakeholder survey results

- Questions 1-4 covered personal information of respondents.
- Question 5: Do you belong to a Stakeholder Group?



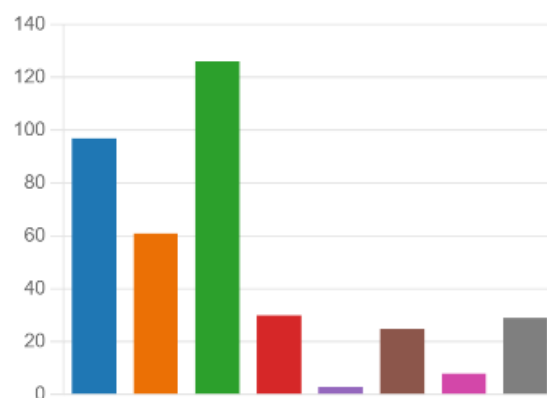
- Question 6: If you represent a ministry, which one?

Not Applicable	3
Agriculture	0
Commerce	0
Communications	0
Culture	0
Defense	0
Education	0
Energy	0
Environment	54
Finance	0
Foreign Affairs	3
Housing	0
Health	3
Industry	0
Interior	0
Justice	0
Labour	0
Mental health	0
Public works	1
Science	0
Sports	0
Tourism	0
Transport	1
Other	2



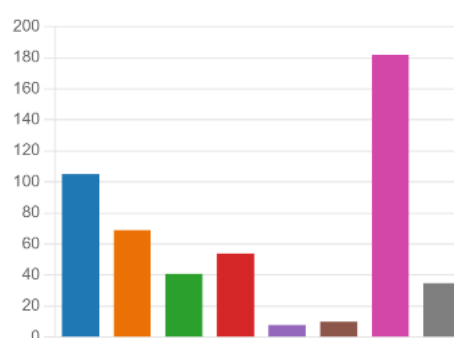
## 4. Question 7: What Sector are you most associated with?

Chemicals	97
Waste	61
Pollution	126
Public Health	30
Labour	3
Agriculture	25
Not Applicable	8
Other	29



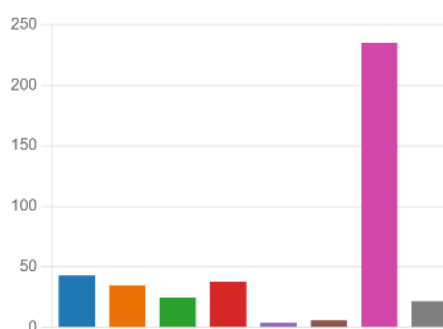
## 5. Question 8: What, if any, are your accreditations?

UNEA	105
BRS	69
Minamata	41
SAICM	54
ILO	8
WHO	10
Not Applicable	182
Other	35



## 6. Question 9: Are you a Focal Point (to BRS, Minamata, SAICM, WHO, ILO etc)?

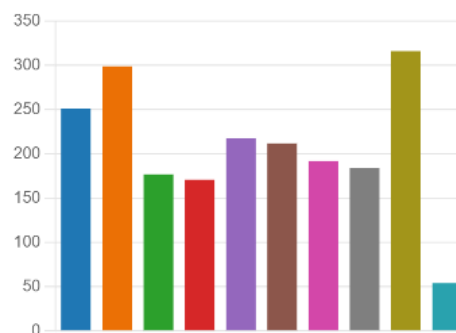
UNEA	43
BRS	35
Minamata	25
SAICM	38
ILO	4
WHO	6
Not Applicable	235
Other	22



## 7. Question 10: The resolution decides that the OEWG should “be open to observers from United Nations entities, relevant multilateral agreements, other international instruments and intergovernmental bodies, including those that are members of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals, and stakeholder representatives”. The resolution does not specify which other stakeholder representatives should be part of the OEWG process as observers.

In your view, which stakeholders should be represented in the work of the OEWG (please select all that apply):

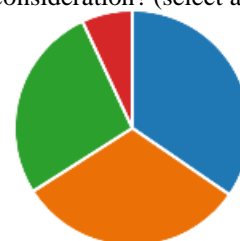
● business and industry	251
● non-governmental organizations	299
● Children and Youth	177
● farmers	171
● Indigenous peoples and their co...	218
● local authorities	212
● women	192
● workers and trade unions	184
● scientific and technological com...	316
● Other	54



8. Question 11: The resolution “Also considers that the panel should be an independent intergovernmental body with a programme of work approved by its member Governments” (this is a similar structure to that of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)). The resolution does not address how items can be proposed for inclusion in the programme of work.

Who do you think should be able to submit potential issues for consideration? (select all that apply)

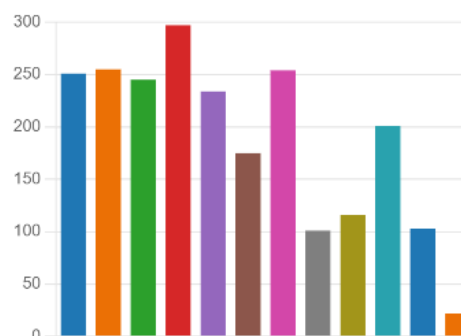
● Member States	318
● Relevant multilateral environme...	289
● Accredited observers	249
● Other	64



9. Question 12: The UNEA resolution states that the new panel should undertake “work that is complementary to and does not duplicate the work of the relevant multilateral agreements, other international instruments and intergovernmental bodies, including those that are members of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals”.

To that end, which are the most relevant bodies for the panel to coordinate with (select all that apply):

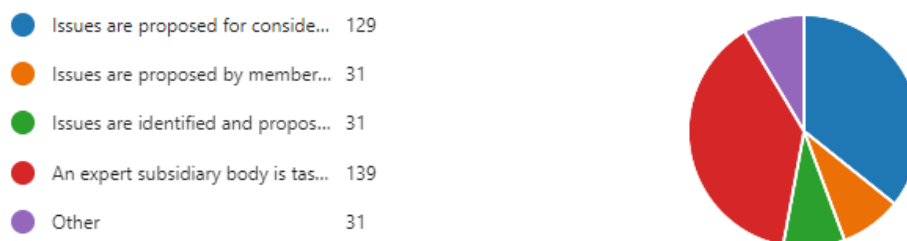
● Intergovernmental Panel on Cli...	251
● Intergovernmental Science-Polic...	255
● UNEP's Global Environmental O...	245
● Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockhol...	297
● Minamata Convention on Merc...	234
● Montreal Protocol on Substance...	175
● World Health Organization	254
● World Bank	101
● International Labour Organization	116
● SAICM	201
● International Resource Panel (IRP)	103
● Other	22



10. Question 13: The resolution defines one of the principal functions of the new panel as undertaking “horizon scanning” to identify issues of relevance to policymakers and, where possible, proposing evidence-based options to address them”. This is a concept not covered by other bodies such as IPCC and IPBES. “Horizon scanning is a process for finding and interpreting early indications of change in the external environment of an organization or field” (Bengstom 2013). It helps provide an early warning to organisations of potential challenges, opportunities and risks and is often viewed as the search for signals (Cuhls 2020).

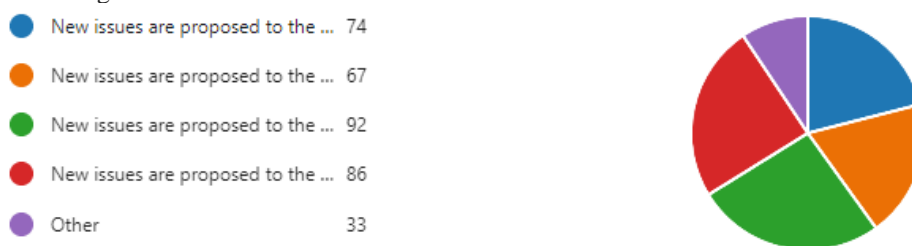
Which of the following general approaches, if any, do you think the panel should use to determine *who* will identify/propose issues for consideration as part of *horizon scanning*?





11. Question 14: The resolution defines one of the principal functions of the new panel as undertaking “horizon scanning” to identify issues of relevance to policymakers and, where possible, proposing evidence-based options to address them”. This is a concept not covered by other bodies such as IPCC and IPBES.

Which of the following general methodologies, if any, do you think the panel should use to determine how horizon scanning is undertaken? – Info Sheet 3 describes a regular assessment and approaches for shortening the time frame:

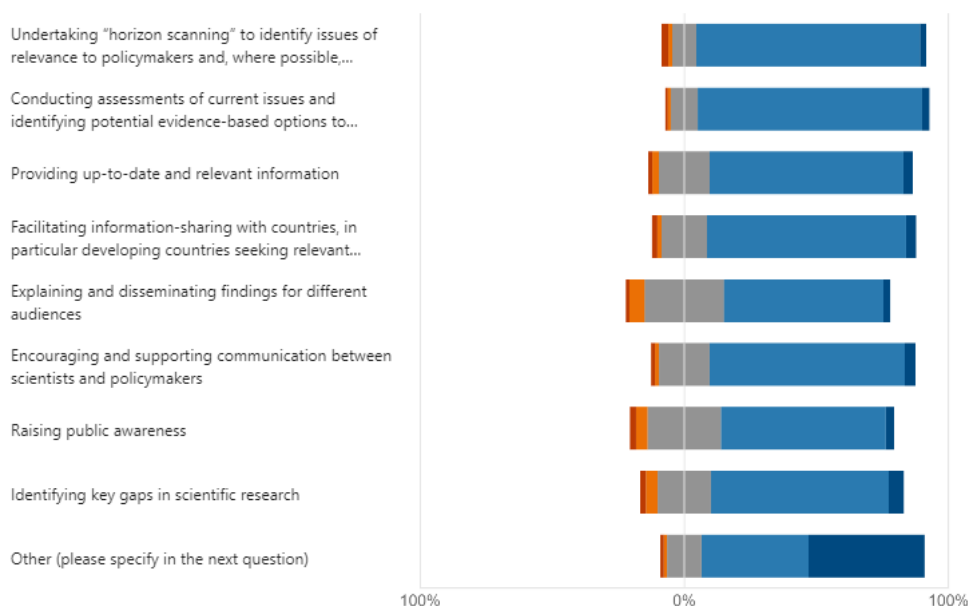


12. Question 15: UNEA Resolution 5/8 considers that the principal functions of the panel should include, among other things

- (a) Undertaking “horizon scanning” to identify issues of relevance to policymakers and, where possible, proposing evidence-based options to address them;
- (b) Conducting assessments of current issues and identifying potential evidence-based options to address, where possible, those issues, in particular those relevant to developing countries;
- (c) Providing up-to-date and relevant information, identifying key gaps in scientific research, encouraging and supporting communication between scientists and policymakers, explaining and disseminating findings for different audiences, and raising public awareness;
- (d) Facilitating information-sharing with countries, in particular developing countries seeking relevant scientific information.

Please indicate the importance in your view of each of the functions listed in the decision:

■ Unimportant ■ Somewhat Unimportant ■ Somewhat Important ■ Important ■ No Opinion

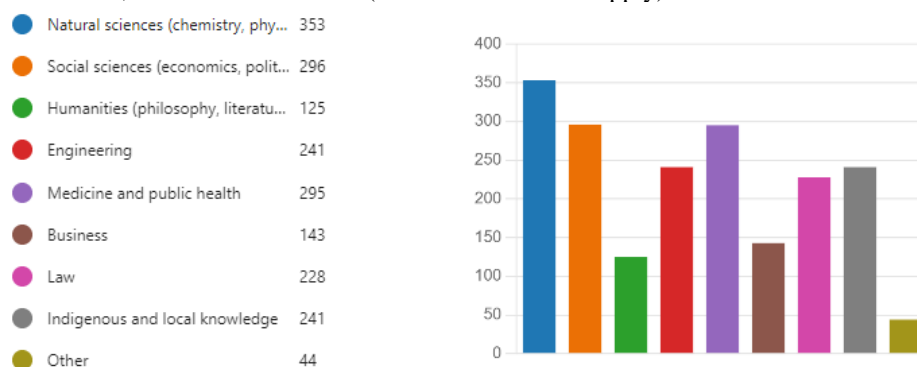


13. Question 16: Please elaborate your selection of "other":

It is noted that many answers here were repeating the principal functions listed in UNEA resolution 5/8 (e.g., referring to “providing policy-relevant questions to the scientific community” that would be under the function of “encouraging and supporting communication between scientists and policymakers”). Many others are not related to the functions but the operational aspects of certain function (e.g., principles, rules of procedure). These two types of answers were excluded from the analysis, and the rest answers were grouped based on common themes and are provided in Annex I. Among them, many are expansion of the principal functions listed in UNEA resolution 5/8 on certain details, whereas six additional functions were proposed: resource mobilization; fostering action; data management; coordination with other science-policy bodies; effectiveness evaluation; and capacity-building. Refer to Annex I of this document for all the answer to this question. Open answers include: Mobilizing resources to support implementation; Support to developing countries.

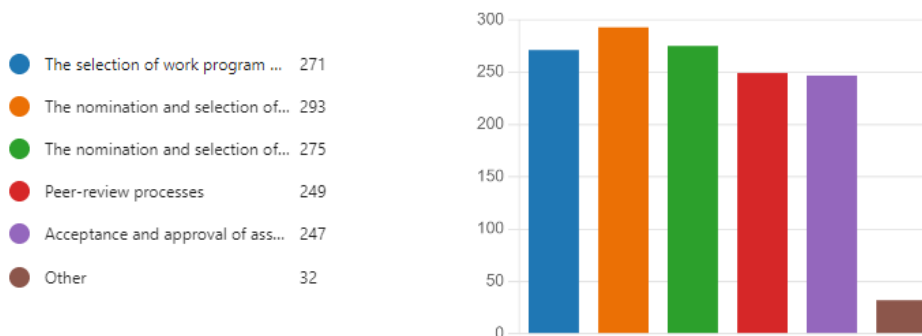
14. Question 17: The resolution refers to ensuring the panel “is interdisciplinary, ensuring contributions from experts with a broad range of disciplinary expertise”.

In your view, experts with knowledge of which disciplines/areas should be involved in producing deliverables, such as assessments? (Please select all that apply)



15. Question 18: The resolution specifies that the panel “has procedures that seek to ensure that the work of the panel is transparent and impartial and that it can produce reports and assessments that are credible and scientifically robust”.

Based on your experience of other, similar, panels and platforms which areas of work most require transparency and impartiality? (please select all that apply):



16. Question 19: The resolution uses the phrase “sound management of chemicals” but does not define what is included under that phrase. Please indicate your understanding of the term “chemicals” in the context of the resolution by indicating what, if anything, should be **excluded** from the panel’s scope under this term:

17. The answers to this question can be generally grouped into 4 themes: deliberations on the definition/inclusion; deliberations on exclusions; deliberations that are unclear whether belonging to inclusion or exclusion; and request for more information. The answers to this question show that stakeholders have a general understanding of the term “sound management of chemicals”. However, it is noted that many of the answers are taken from google research and pasted into the field. In order to conclude whether a given type of chemical is non-hazardous, assessments would be needed, which is a principal function of the panel set out in UNEA resolution 5/8.

18. Question 20: The resolution uses the phrase “sound management of waste” but does not define what is included under that phrase. Please indicate your understanding of the term “waste” in the context of the resolution by indicating what, if anything, should be **excluded** from the panel’s scope under this term:

19. Similar to the questions above, the answers can be generally grouped into 4 themes: deliberations on the definition/inclusion; deliberations on exclusions; deliberations that are unclear whether belonging to inclusion or exclusion; and request for more information. The answers to this question show that stakeholders have a general understanding of the term “sound management of waste”. However, it is noted that many of the answers are taken from google research and pasted into the field, and that knowledge of what the term “waste implies” is limited. As noted above, in order to conclude whether a given type of waste is non-hazardous, assessments would be needed, which is a principal function of the panel set out in UNEA resolution 5/8.

20. Question 21: The resolution uses the phrase “prevention of pollution” but does not define what is included under that phrase. Please indicate if anything should be **excluded** from the panel’s scope under this term:

(a) Similar to the questions above, the answers can be generally grouped into 4 themes: deliberations on the definitions/inclusions; deliberations on exclusions; deliberations that are unclear whether belonging to inclusion or exclusion; and request for more information.

(b) Most of the answers belong to deliberations on the definitions/inclusions, showing that stakeholders share a general common understanding of the phrase “prevention of pollution.” It is interesting to note that a large portion of the responses suggested broad scope with no exclusion, while many others suggested specific types of pollution to be included. Several responses further emphasize the importance of prevention.

(c) Much less, but still considerable responses belong to deliberations on possible exclusions. It is interesting to note that many responses flag that there should be no exclusions, echoing the wide call for a broad and inclusive scope as identified in deliberations on the definitions/inclusions in the last paragraph. The rest deliberations on possible exclusions include several on naturally occurring pollution, several on pollution that have been covered elsewhere, several on non-hazardous pollution, and several on individual specific types of pollution. As noted above, in order to conclude whether a given type of pollution is non-hazardous, assessments would be needed, which is a principal function of the panel set out in UNEA resolution 5/8.

(d) There are also a small number of answers only listing specific types of pollution, and it is unclear whether they were intended for inclusions or exclusions. Six more answers ask for more information before deciding on inclusions or exclusion.

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