

Thank you, Madame Chair,

Spain will speak on behalf of EU and its 27 Member States. EU+MS would like to express their gratitude to the Republic of Kenya, to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for hosting this meeting and to UNEP for the work undertaken to organize the meeting.

We would like to thank the Secretariat of the Open Ended Working Group for the documentation submitted for our consideration.

Madame Chair,

The EU and Its Member States support the proposed 'Skeleton outline' of the output of the OEWG in general, and we will propose and explain some amendments when you open this topic for consideration. We also welcome the proposals contained in the Information Document 10 which constitute a good starting point for discussions.

We consider that the 'Objective' of the Panel the OEWG has reached a good level of consensus.

Regarding the 'Functions', very good progress has already been achieved. With regard to Capacity Building, we understand that more discussions are needed, and we are ready to further engage, including that we are ready to better explain our proposal made during OEWG 1.2.

On 'Operating Principles' we believe that the proposal contained in Information Document 10, provides a good starting point for negotiations, and look forward to discussing which amendments are needed to this text.

On 'Institutional Arrangements' we also consider that the proposal contained in the Information Document 10 constitutes a good starting point for discussions and we are looking forward to contributing to the further development of the provisions with our insights as well.

The topic of 'Relationships with Relevant Stakeholders' is very important to us and we are looking forward to start discussing this issue in the OEWG.

As in IPCC, IPBES, and other scientific advisory bodies, a clear 'Policy on Conflict of Interests' is essential for ensuring the credibility of the SPP. We consider that the OEWG should get started on the Work-related Processes and Procedures for the panel.

Madame Chair,

To close, the European Union and its Member States look forward to engaging in fruitful and constructive discussions in the Plenary and the Contact Groups.

Furthermore, we hope to agree at this meeting on intersessional work to prepare the next meeting so that we can finalize our important task by the end of 2024. We stand ready to support the Secretariat on the tasks ahead of OEWG3.

The EU and its MS are committed to work closely with all the participants in this meeting to prepare the ground for the OEWG3.