



RESPONSE OF THE CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH SCIENCE POLICY PANEL (CHEMICALS WG) TO OEWG 2 MEETING DOCUMENTATION

In response to your call for written views on the working documents of **OEWG 2** meeting documents, the Centre makes the following responses to the documents presented online. Some of these are written documentation of our views as expressed orally at the Africa Regional Meeting.

UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.2/2 - Skeleton outline for proposals for the establishment of a science-policy panel

The outline for proposals for the establishment of a science-policy panel is satisfactory because it includes all elements identified in UNE Assembly resolution 5/8 concerning the establishment of a science-policy panel. However, there is need for further discussion and elaboration of specific context and the needs of developing and least developed countries.

UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.2/3 - Scope and objective, functions and operating principles

Scope

We welcome the continuation of discussion on the scope of the Panel at the second session and recommend that the scope of the Panel should be shaped by its objectives, functions and territorial influence, needs of the panel to contribute effectively to the sound management of chemicals and waste and prevent pollution and the realities of stakeholder and member states.

Objective

The objective of the panel is to strengthen the science-policy interface to contribute to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution for the protection of human health and the environment is consistent with UNEA Resolution 5/8/.

Functions

We support the inclusion of capacity building in its function and acknowledge its relevance though not directly mentioned in UNEA Resolution 5/8.

We request that further consideration of the issue of capacity building in the second session of the open work group should include consideration of development of scientific research capacity, the use of countries human, scientific, technological, organisational, institutional and national resource and should integrate capacity and knowledge/ technology transfer. We agree with the proposal to consult the results of the mapping of capacity-building in the chemicals, waste and pollution space prepared for its second session.

Furthermore, we request that the Panel should be empowered to exercise not just powers that have been given to it under the resolution but be empowered in addition to exercise all other ancillary powers needed to achieve its mandate through an omnibus clause in its function limited to achieving its objective.

Operating Principles

We commend the work done by the Secretariat in preparing a summary of recommendations of principles



and reference to relevant annexure and particularly embrace the inclusion of principles relevant to credibility, relevance, legitimacy, human rights and the adoption of a rights based approach and precaution. We again reiterate our recommendations on *principles* to guide the panel to include the Participation; accountability; non-discrimination and equality; empowerment; legality and alignment with existing relevant international laws and policies.

UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.2/5 - Relationships with relevant key stakeholders

We agree with para 30 that Sustained engagement and collaboration with key stakeholders can improve the strength of the panel and increase the likelihood of uptake of its deliverables.

We recommend that the description of Stakeholder in all the processes mentioned in the background document be included and integrated in the outcome document. We recommend that the best model for stakeholder role is only achievable by assessing the models set out through consultation with multi-stakeholders and recommend that a consultation on the challenges and prospects of identified models be carried out.