IPEN Intervention on Capacity Building

By Vidhi Mathur

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Thank you, Madam Co-Chair.

I am Vidhi Mathur from Toxics Link India and I speak on behalf of IPEN.

Capacity building is important for successful implementation of the Global Framework on Chemicals. However, for capacity-building efforts to truly support transformation on the ground, they must be inclusive, sustained, and oriented toward strengthening rights-based, accountable systems.

First, we stress that capacity building must prioritize building institutional and technical capacities , particularly in low- and middle-income countries. This includes enabling countries to assess, regulate, and manage chemicals throughout their lifecycle, with particular attention to risk prevention, transparency, and public health protection.

Second, resources must match ambition. The strategy must ensure predictable, adequate, and sustained funding to support not only government efforts but also grassroots, civil society, and women-led initiatives. Industry must contribute meaningfully through cost recovery mechanisms in line with the polluter pays principle.

Third, we urge that all capacity-building activities be inclusive by design. This means gender-responsive planning, full participation of Indigenous Peoples, workers, youth, and affected communities, and meaningful engagement of civil society in both decision-making and implementation processes. Equity, trust, and justice must be built into every step.

Fourth, we call for coherence and coordination across efforts with knowledge-sharing mechanisms that are open, multilingual, and easy-to-access. Technical guidance must be supported by opportunities for horizontal exchange, peer learning, and twinning arrangements between countries and stakeholders.

Finally, we highlight the need for monitoring and accountability. Capacity-building programs must be tied to measurable outcomes and include participatory review processes that track real-world impact, not just activities delivered.

Thank you.