

Meeting of the Bureau 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 (SPP OEWG)

12 – 13 June 2025

Montevideo, Uruguay

Meeting Summary

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

1. The Chair, Ms. Gudi Alkemade, opened the meeting and introduced the provisional agenda. The agenda was adopted without further changes.

Agenda item 2: Adoption of the meeting summary

2. The summary of the Bureau meeting held on 13 May 2025 was adopted.

Agenda item 3: OEWG 3.2 preparations

(a) Preparations for OEWG 3.2

3. The secretariat presented an update on the preparations for OEWG 3.2, including on registration, preparation for the regional and stakeholder meetings scheduled on 14 June, and meeting logistics. The Chair will visit all regional meetings and the schedule for those visits was shared with the Bureau. It was further anticipated that the Executive Director of UNEP will meet with the regions on Tuesday and Wednesday.

(b) Organization of work at OEWG 3.2

4. The secretariat presented the latest proposal for the organization of OEWG 3.2, including a tentative schedule and sequencing of topics for contact groups.

5. Following discussion and input by the co-facilitators and Bureau members, it was agreed the tentative schedule would be updated and shared with the Bureau members for circulation with their regions.

6. On 12 June, co-facilitators were invited to provide a report on the preparation for each contact group. The report from contact group 1 was presented by Miguel Ruiz Botero (Colombia); contact group 2 was presented by Keima Gardiner (Trinidad and Tobago) and Kateřina Šebková (Czechia); and contact group 3 was presented by Sam Adu-Kumi (Ghana) and Itsuki Kuroda (Japan).

7. The Chair invited the Bureau and co-facilitators to provide input and discussion on the order of work and strategies. The contact group mandates were updated and shared again with the Bureau on 13 June.

8. The secretariat presented a proposal on the document flow and working methods across contact groups, as well as potential cross-cutting issues among contact groups. The Chair

invited the Bureau to provide input and feedback. The Bureau requested the secretariat to revise the document in line with the discussion. Taking into consideration the feedback received, the [presentation slides](#) containing the common working methods across contact groups were updated and shared with the Bureau for circulation with their regions on 14 June.

9. The secretariat presented a report on the feedback received from Bureau members following regional consultations on the background document on the name of the panel, noting the revised background document included, as requested by the Bureau, translations of the proposed names in the six UN languages. The Chair invited the Bureau to provide input and feedback, and Bureau members reported additional feedback from their regions. Some of the suggestions were to keep the language of “science-policy”, “intergovernmental”, as well as to ensure the name is in line with elements in UNEA resolution 5/8. The Bureau requested the secretariat to further revise the document in line with the discussion. The updated [background document](#) on the name of the panel was shared with Bureau members for circulation with their regions.

10. The Chair presented some guidance she would give to Plenary: to propose to Plenary to consider preambular placeholder in foundational document to be the preambular section of the draft decision on establishment of the panel, and to recall the need to focus on the functions of the Secretariat and that who will host the secretariat and its location will be decided later by the panel itself. One Bureau member also noted the need to set a deadline for the receipt of hosting proposals for the Secretariat in advance of the first session of the plenary/governing body of the panel.

Agenda item 4: Update on IM preparations

11. The Secretariat expressed appreciation to Uruguay for hosting the Intergovernmental Meeting, and the Bureau for its advisory role for the Intergovernmental Meeting, provided an update on the preparations for the Intergovernmental Meeting to be held on 19-20 June, including an overview of the status of registration.

12. As discussed in previous Bureau meetings, the rules of procedure of UNEA will apply *mutatis mutandis* to the work of the meeting. The meeting is expected to elect its own co-chairs, one from a developing country and one from a developed country. The secretariat announced the proposed nominations by the Executive Director of UNEP, for Ambassador Laura Dupuy from the Government of Uruguay and Mr Matsuzawa Yutaka from the Government of Japan, as the co-chairs for the Intergovernmental Meeting.

13. As scheduled, the meeting will open at 3 p.m. on 19 June. The first day, 19 June (afternoon) will focus on procedural and administrative matters, while the substantive discussions and consideration and adoption of the decisions are planned for 20 June. The Government of Uruguay will co-organize a Ministerial Roundtable in the evening of 19 June, followed by a reception for all Intergovernmental Meeting participants.

Agenda item 5: Other matters

14. No other matters were discussed.

Agenda item 6: Closing of the meeting

15. The meeting was closed on 13 June 2025 at 11:55 (UTC-3).

Participants

Bureau members

Ms. Gudi Alkemade, Chair of the Bureau of the SPP OEWG and Policy Coordinator, International Affairs Directorate Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management, The Netherlands

Ms. Linda Kosgei, Rapporteur of the Bureau of the SPP OEWG and Director of MEAs, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry of Kenya, Kenya

Prof. Jinhui Li, Vice Chair of the Bureau of the SPP OEWG and Distinguished Professor, School of Environment, Tsinghua University, China

Mr. Michel Tschirren, Vice Chair of the Bureau of the SPP OEWG and Senior Policy Advisor at the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN), Switzerland

Mr. Alexandru Roznov, Vice Chair of the Bureau of the SPP OEWG and Assistant Counsellor of the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests, Romania

Ms. Judith Torres, Vice Chair of the Bureau of the SPP OEWG and International Relations and Cooperation Office of the Ministry of the Environment, Uruguay

Mr. Linroy Christian, Vice Chair of the Bureau of the SPP OEWG and Director of Department of Analytical Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Barbuda Affairs, Antigua and Barbuda

OEWG 3 facilitators:

Ms. Itsuki Kuroda, Japan

Ms. Kateřina Šebková, Czechia

Ms. Keima Gardiner, Trinidad and Tobago

Mr. Miguel Ruiz Botero, Colombia

Mr. Sam Adu-Kumi, Ghana

Ms. Sofia Tingstorp, Sweden

UNEP SPP Secretariat:

Ms. Tessa Goverse

Ms. Nalini Sharma

Mr. Stadler Trengove

Mr. Alvin Gachie

Ms. Kaai Tung Chan

Ms. Pia Kohler

Observer:

Ms. Jacqueline Alvarez, UNEP

Ambassador Laura Dupuy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Uruguay

Regrets

Bureau members:

Mr. Oumar Diaouré Cisse, Vice-Chair of the Bureau of the SPP OEWG and Point Focal SAICM, Ministère de l'Environnement, de l'Assainissement et du Développement Durable, Mali

Mr. Roman Filonenko, Vice Chair of the Bureau of the SPP OEWG and Senior Specialist of the Environmental Safety Division of the Government of Ukraine, Ukraine

H.E. Saqlain Syedah, Vice Chair of the Bureau of the SPP OEWG and Ambassador of Pakistan to Germany, Pakistan

OEWG 3 facilitators:

Ms. Toks Akinseye, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Ms. Safiya Sawney, Grenada

Observer:

Ms. Lesley Onyon, World Health Organization