

Towards a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution

Informal briefing session on the OEWG 3.2 scenario note
25 March 2025 (14:30 – 17:30 EAT)

Gudi Alkemade, Chair of the Bureau of the SPP OEWG

Introduction

- **Annexes I and II of report OEWG 3.1 as a basis for OEWG 3.2** with a view to **finalising the foundational document and the draft rules of procedure** and related decisions;
- **OEWG 3.2 not expected to discuss:**
 - The draft process for determining the work programme;
 - The draft procedures for the preparation and clearance of panel deliverables;
 - The draft conflict-of-interest policy;
- On secretariat services OEWG 3.2 **expected to focus on secretariat functions**, hosting arrangements to be decided by panel itself

Purpose of OEWG 3.2

- Finalize the **foundational document** and **draft decision** for establishing the panel
- Finalize the draft **rules of procedure** and **related draft decision**, and
- Necessary arrangements for the **interim period**

OEWG 3.2: Venue and dates

OEWG 3.2: Resumed third session of the ad hoc open-ended working group hosted by the Government of Uruguay

IM: Organized back to back with the intergovernmental meeting

Venue: Convention and Exhibition Centre, Punta del Este, Uruguay

Dates:

15 – 18 June 2025: OEWG 3.2

14 June 2025: Preceding meetings (informal, regional and stakeholder consultations)

19 – 20 June 2025: IM

Registration: Deadline 31 March 2025



Further details, please visit the event website [here](#)

Opening of the session

- Opening of the session at **10 a.m. on Sunday, 15 June 2025.**
- Opening statements to be delivered by:
 - **High-level representative of the Government of Uruguay**
 - **Executive Director of UNEP**
- No general statements. Written submissions to be uploaded as in-session documents
- Regional and stakeholder group statements under agenda items 4 and 5

Organizational matters

UNEA rules of procedure, apply mutatis mutandis.

OEWG 3.1 adopted the provisional agenda (UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.3/1)

OEWG 3.2 will work according to the annotated agenda (UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.3/1/Add.2)

Modality of work at OEWG 3.2

- Contact groups and informal groups will be established as needed. Contact groups are open to participation by all governments and stakeholders, unless otherwise decided by the Chair or the co-facilitators of contact groups.
- Contact group meetings may be held in parallel, while avoiding, to the extent possible, parallel meetings on closely related issues.
- Contact group meetings will not be scheduled concurrently with a plenary meeting and efforts will be made so that no more than two contact or informal group meetings are scheduled at the same time.
- Contact groups and informal groups will be provided with a clear and concise mandate.
- Given the anticipated limited time available and the limited size of delegations, the OEWG may wish to facilitate an iterative process and limit the time of contact group sessions working on specific issues.
- Contact groups and other informal groups will work in English, and, accordingly, documents and non-papers considered at their meetings will be in English.
- Contact groups will continue to build upon what was already agreed, including in UNEA resolution 5/8 and previous sessions of the OEWG.

Preparation of proposals for the establishment of a science-policy panel

The OEWG 3.2 session will prioritize **finalizing**:

- The **foundational document** and its **draft decision on the establishment of the panel** (UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.3/6)•
- The **draft rules of procedure** and the related draft decision recommending their adoption at the **panel's first governing body session** (UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.3/7), including.
- The **draft decision on procedures and policies**, forwarding certain annexes to the panel's governing body for final consideration
- **Arrangements for the interim period**, ensuring the panel can start its work, including the **provision of secretariat services** to facilitate the first session of the governing body of the panel

Proposed clustering of key topics for contact groups

- 1. Membership and functions of the bodies of the panel, decision-making, and related rules of procedure**
- 2. Other foundational elements and related rules of procedure, and the draft decision to establish the panel**
- 3. Other rules of procedure, the draft decision to forward the draft rules, procedures and policies, and the draft decision for the interim period**

Proposed clustering of topics - Contact group 1

Proposed clustering of topics	Specific topics assigned to each contact group
Membership and functions of the bodies of the panel, decision-making and related rules of procedure	Decision making Institutional arrangements Functions of the Governing Body + Rule 2 Membership of the Governing Body Participation of observers Bureau Interdisciplinary Expert Committee Other subsidiary bodies

Proposed clustering of topics - Contact group 2

Proposed clustering of topics	Specific topics assigned to each contact group
Other foundational elements and related rules of procedure and the draft decision to establish the panel	Name of the Panel Preamble [placeholder] Scope, objective and functions Operating principles and approaches Secretariat Financial arrangements Strategic partnerships Evaluation of the operational effectiveness and impact of the Panel Establishment decision

Proposed clustering of topics - Contact group 3

Proposed clustering of topics	Specific topics assigned to each contact group
Other rules of procedure, the draft decision to forward the draft rules, procedures and policies, and the draft decision for the interim period	Other rules of procedure Draft decision on recommendations for consideration by the governing body of the panel at its first session Draft decision on arrangements in the interim period

Recommendations to the Executive Director of UNEP for the Intergovernmental Meeting

The **ad hoc open-ended working group** has been invited to make recommendations to the **Executive Director of UNEP** on preparing the **intergovernmental meeting**.

The intergovernmental meeting will consider the **draft decisions containing recommendation for the proposals** for the science-policy panel, together with the **proposals for the establishment of a science-policy panel** for consideration and possible adoption.

Ensuring **clear, well-structured proposals** will help facilitate a **smooth and productive intergovernmental meeting**

Expected outcomes of OEWG 3.2

By the **end of OEWG 3.2**, we expect to have:

- A **finalized draft decision** establishing the panel, including a proposal for the name of the panel and the **finalized foundational document**.
- A **finalised draft decision** on the draft rules, procedures and policies, recommending the **adoption of the rules of procedure by the panel's first governing body session** and **further consideration of the draft procedures and policies**.
- A **finalised draft decision** putting in place **arrangements for the interim period**, ensuring a smooth transition from OEWG to an operational panel.

Thank you



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