Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution (ISP-CWP)

ISP-CWP/ITM/1/INF/1

16 September 2026

Informal technical meeting on the draft rules of procedure of the Plenary of the ISP-CWP
1 to 3 October 2026
Bangkok, Thailand

Scenario note for the informal technical meeting on the draft rules of procedure of the Plenary of the ISP-CWP

I. Introduction

1. The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution (ISP-CWP) was established by decision IM/1 at the Intergovernmental Meeting held on 20 June 2025 in Punta del Este, Uruguay.

2. At the first part of the first session of the Plenary of the ISP-CWP (P1.1), held from 2 to 6 February 2026 in Geneva, the Plenary made progress towards the finalisation of the draft rules of procedure. A significant number of provisions were agreed ad referendum, including core elements related to membership, governance structures, and decision-making. However, several provisions remained unresolved and require further consideration.

3. In order to facilitate progress and enable the Plenary to finalise and adopt the rules of procedure at its resumed first session (P1.2), the Chair of the ISP-CWP, Osvaldo Álvarez Pérez, has called for this informal technical meeting to advance work on the draft rules of procedure.

4. The interim secretariat has prepared a provisional agenda (ISP-CWP/ITM/1/1) for this informal technical meeting and has also prepared, under the guidance of the Chair, the present scenario note and other preparatory documents (see Annex I of this note for the full list of documents prepared and posted on the meeting website). The present note sets out the Chair's proposed modalities and organization of work for the informal technical meeting for consideration by participants.

II. Modalities and organization of work

5. As detailed in the terms of reference circulated with the invitation to the informal technical meeting, the objective of the informal technical meeting is to support the Chair in facilitating consensus on the outstanding provisions of the draft rules of procedure. While good progress was made during P1.1, the informal setting of the technical meeting is expected to facilitate further progress by fostering a solution-oriented exchange of views on the draft rules of procedure with a view to reaching consensus and advancing work on the remaining draft rules prior to P1.2.

6. As the meeting will be facilitative and non-binding in nature, with the Plenary being the decision-making body of the Panel, the focus will be on producing a concrete output, being aChair's non-paper, that may serve as the basis for discussions at P1.2, subject to agreement by the Plenary. The discussions during the informal technical meeting are without prejudice to the positions of members and the European Union. Any views expressed, text explored or areas of convergence identified during the meeting shall not prejudge the consideration or decisions of the Plenary at P1.2.

7. The informal technical meeting will be held at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok, Thailand from Thursday, 1 October to Saturday, 3 October 2026. An information note for participants[1] providing logistical information is available on the meeting website.[2]

8. Participation is open to all members and the European Union. Given the technical nature of this meeting, participants may wish to ensure an appropriate balance of legal and/or technical expertise relevant to advancing the draft rules of procedure in a constructive and solution-oriented manner conducive to the meeting's outcome being taken up at P1.2. In order to facilitate the work of the informal technical meeting, each member and the European Union is encouraged to nominate up to four experts, keeping in mind that seating will be limited to two experts per delegation. In order to promote consistency and efficiency in facilitated exchanges, members and the European Union are also encouraged to ensure the same expert on their delegation is the point person for a given section of the draft rules of procedure throughout the informal technical meeting.

9. Facilities will be available for regional groups to hold informal consultations and preparatory meetings on the afternoon of Wednesday, 30 September 2026 at the same venue. Provision has also been made for daily regional consultations in the morning during the informal technical meeting. A technical briefing will be held after the regional meetings on 30 September to provide information to delegates on the modalities of work, the scenario note, and the proposed sequencing of topics during the informal technical meeting.

10. The informal technical meeting will be held entirely in-person and will be conducted in English only. The meeting will open at 9 a.m. on Thursday, 1 October 2026. The tentative schedule for the meeting is included in Annex II to this note.

11. The informal technical meeting will be conducted through a combination of work in a plenary format and in informal groups, as needed. The work in a plenary format, with all participants working together, will include opening and closing meetings, meetings devoted to agenda item 3 (Consideration of outstanding draft rules of procedure), and progress meetings (see Annex II). The Chair or co-facilitator(s) may invite participants to work in informal groups (*informal informals*). To the extent possible, informal groups will not meet in parallel with the work in a plenary format. Informal groups, if established, will report back to the meeting so that any outcomes can be considered in a plenary format.

12. As a United Nations system event, the Code of Conduct for UN System Events applies to this informal technical meeting.[3] The Code of Conduct contains detailed information on prohibited conduct, complaint and investigation processes, as well as possible consequences in case of misbehaviour. All participants are expected to familiarise themselves with the Code of Conduct and act with integrity and respect towards all participants attending or otherwise involved in the meeting.

III. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

13. The Chair of the ISP-CWP will open the informal technical meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, 1 October 2026. The meeting is also expected to adopt the provisional agenda (ISP-CWP/ITM/1/1) and consider the modalities and organization of work of the meeting.

14. Opening statements may be delivered under agenda item 1 (Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda), including, as appropriate, statements on behalf of regional and political groups (limited to five minutes) and by individual members (limited to three minutes). To make the most efficient use of the time available, individual members are encouraged to refrain from delivering an opening statement.

IV. Overview of progress on and consideration of outstanding draft rules of procedure

[1] https://wedocs.unep.org/rest/api/core/bitstreams/b6e8794a-c3ec-4355-a1ac-dfdd827cb211/content
[2] https://www.unep.org/events/conference/informal-technical-meeting-draft-rules-procedure-plenary-isp-cwp
[3] https://wedocs.unep.org/rest/api/core/bitstreams/d63219d8-74eb-4348-ba6f-685b9d55de01/content

15. To facilitate a shared understanding of the draft rules of procedure and the status of negotiations at the adjournment of P1.1, the meeting will consider jointly agenda items 2 (Overview of progress on the draft rules of procedure) and 3 (Consideration of outstanding draft rules of procedure). The interim secretariat will provide an overview of progress on the draft rules of procedure and introduce the relevant documents: Draft rules of procedure for sessions of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution (ISP-CWP/ITM/1/2); Compilation of provisions of the draft rules of procedure agreed ad referendum (ISP-CWP/ITM/1/3); and Overview of issues outstanding in the draft rules of procedure of the Plenary of the ISP-CWP (ISP-CWP/ITM/1/INF/2).

16. In order to assist participants in their preparations for the informal technical meeting, the interim secretariat has also prepared background notes on: sessions of the Plenary (ISP-CWP/ITM/1/INF/3); credentials (ISP-CWP/ITM/1/INF/4); and the Interdisciplinary Expert Committee (IEC) (ISP-CWP/ITM/1/INF/5). These notes are intended solely to provide background and clarification and do not introduce new substantive proposals or issues for consideration. The notes on sessions of the Plenary and on the IEC provide targeted information that had already been made available in documents prepared to inform the intergovernmental process that led to the establishment of the ISP-CWP. The note on credentials compiles information previously provided to P1.1.

17. It is expected that the informal technical meeting will designate one or more co-facilitators to facilitate the work under agenda item 3 (see “Meeting on item 3” slots in the tentative schedule in Annex II). The role of a co-facilitator will be to make use of the informal nature of the informal technical meeting to encourage participants to work in a productive and constructive manner, encourage dialogue and exchange, and identify areas of convergence. The co-facilitator(s) will report to the meeting on progress under item 3, including the outcomes of any *informal informals* convened (see “Progress meeting” slots in the tentative schedule in Annex II).

18. The interim secretariat will make available to registered participants any updates to the schedule and updated working versions of the draft rules of procedure.

V. Closing of the meeting and meeting outcome

19. The informal technical meeting will close under agenda item 5 (Closing of the meeting) on the afternoon of Saturday, 3 October 2026. It is expected that the informal technical meeting will conclude by 6 p.m.

20. The expected outcome of the informal technical meeting will be a Chair’s non-paper reflecting the progress made during the informal technical meeting. This will include any advances and common understandings reached on specific issues, including any areas of convergence and areas that are still unresolved. This non-paper will inform further consultations and preparations for P1.2 and may serve as a basis for discussions at P1.2, subject to agreement by the Plenary, with a view to enabling the adoption of the rules of procedure as early as possible during P1.2.

21. The Chair’s non-paper will be posted on the ISP-CWP website and circulated to all members, observers, and stakeholders of the ISP-CWP no later than six weeks after the conclusion of the informal technical meeting. In order to enhance transparency and facilitate preparations for P1.2, the interim secretariat will prepare a comparative table setting out the differences between the Chair’s non-paper and the draft rules of procedure reflecting the outcome of P1.1.

Annex I

List of working documents

Symbol	*Title*	*Agenda item*
ISP-CWP/ITM/1/1	Provisional agenda	1
ISP-CWP/ITM/1/2	Draft rules of procedure for sessions of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution	2, 3
ISP-CWP/ITM/1/3	Compilation of provisions of the draft rules of procedure agreed ad referendum	2, 3

List of information documents

Symbol	*Title*	*Agenda item*
ISP-CWP/ITM/1/INF/1	Scenario note for the informal technical meeting on the draft rules of procedure of the Plenary of the ISP-CWP	1
ISP-CWP/ITM/1/INF/2	Overview of issues outstanding in the draft rules of procedure of the Plenary of the ISP-CWP	2, 3
ISP-CWP/ITM/1/INF/3	Background note on sessions of the Plenary	2, 3
ISP-CWP/ITM/1/INF/4	Background note on credentials	2, 3
ISP-CWP/ITM/1/INF/5	Background note on the Interdisciplinary Expert Committee	2, 3

Annex II

Tentative schedule and organization of work of the informal technical meeting

	Wed. 30/9		Thur. 1/10	Fri. 2/10	Sat. 3/10
8-8:30			Regional meetings	Regional meetings	Regional meetings
8:30-9					
9-9:30	Bureau meeting	**Registration**	**Opening meeting** Agenda items 1, 2 and 3	**Progress meeting**	**Progress meeting**
9:30-10					
10-10:30				**Meeting on item 3** tentatively: Sections IX and XII, and draft rules 19, 38, 45	**Meeting on item 3**
10:30-11					
11-11:30			**Meeting on item 3** tentatively: Section VII		
11:30-12					
12-12:30	Lunch		Lunch break		Lunch break
12:30-13				Lunch break	
13-13:30			Informals if needed		Informals if needed
13:30-14				Informals if needed	
14-14:30	Regional meetings		**Meeting on item 3** tentatively: Section V and related definition in Section II		**Meeting on item 3**
14:30-15				**Meeting on item 3** tentatively: Sections I, X and section II	
15-15:30					
15:30-16					
16-16:30			Coffee break *(15-30 min)*	Coffee break *(15-30 min)*	Coffee break *(15-30 min)*
16:30-17	**Technical briefing**		**Meeting on item 3** tentatively: Sections III, VI	**Meeting on item 3**	**Closing meeting** Agenda items 3, 4 and 5
17-17:30					
17:30-18					
18-18:30					
18:30-19	**Reception (TBC)**		Bureau meeting	Bureau meeting	Bureau meeting
19-19:30					