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**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  
Third session**

Geneva, Switzerland, 17–21 June 2024 and Punta del Este, Uruguay,  
15–18 June 2025

**Draft report of the second part of the third session 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**

**Addendum**

**I. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters  
(agenda item 3)**

**Organization of work**

1. [continued]
2. Subsequently, outlining the way forward for the contact groups and their reports in plenary meetings, the Chair stressed that participants should channel efforts towards the finalization of the foundational document, as agreed at the conclusion of the first part of the third session. She urged all participants to bear in mind the bigger picture, focusing on the essential elements for the establishment of the panel.

**II. Preparation of proposals for the establishment of a science-policy  
panel (agenda item 4)**

**A. Establishment and work of contact groups**

1. **Contact group on membership and functions of the bodies of the panel, decision-making and related rules of procedure**
  3. [continued]
  4. Subsequently, the co-facilitator reported that, regarding the foundational document, a number of agreements had been reached, including on the paragraph on other subsidiary bodies under the panel, and the chapeaux of the paragraphs on the functions of the panel and of the interdisciplinary expert committee. The contact group had agreed to delete the paragraph on the composition of the panel. Discussions continued, in particular on observer participation and on decision-making, as well as on rules 35 and 36 of the rules of procedure.
  5. [to be completed]

**2. Contact group on other foundational elements and related rules of procedure, and the draft decision to establish the panel**

6. [continued]

7. Subsequently, reporting on the work of the contact group, the co-facilitator said that further discussion was required to address pending issues within the foundational document, including on the scope, objective and functions of the panel, and on the name of the panel. Significant progress had also been made, with agreement reached on the removal of the placeholder for the preamble and on the principles set out under operating principles and approaches of the panel, with the exception of those related to gender and of four principles that had been moved to the preamble of the draft decision to establish the panel. The group had also advanced its discussions on the secretariat, financial arrangements and strategic partnerships. Meanwhile, talks on evaluation of the operational effectiveness and impact of the panel were ongoing.

8. [to be completed]

**3. Contact group on other rules of procedure, the draft decision to forward the draft rules, procedures and policies, and the draft decision on arrangements for the interim period**

9. [continued]

10. Subsequently, the co-facilitator reported that the contact group had finalized and agreed ad referendum all preambular and operating paragraphs of the draft decision, with the name of the panel still in brackets.

11. [to be completed]

**B. Further discussion**

12. [continued]

13. Subsequently, one representative proposed that annexes 2–4 should be placed entirely in brackets to make it clear that they had not been finalized by the ad hoc open-ended working group. The ad hoc open-ended working group agreed to proceed on that basis. The Chair clarified that the tentative outcome documents would be updated, as appropriate.

14. One representative drew attention to the importance of impartiality during the contact group meetings, with a view to upholding the quality of the negotiation process. Another representative emphasized the need to ensure inclusivity.

15. Responding to comments, the Chair reiterated the importance of ensuring inclusivity, including in small informal groups, while recognizing that a balance was needed between the holding of discussions in plenary meetings and in contact group meetings. The modalities being used in discussions involved finding solutions to the issues being addressed based on proposals put forward in the contact groups and focusing on essential elements. In cases where further consultation between countries was required, the contact group could either propose text to be considered as a point of departure for further deliberation or find an alternative starting point together.

16. [to be completed]

**III. Recommendations to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme for the preparation of the intergovernmental meeting to establish the science-policy panel (agenda item 5)**

**Establishment and work of contact groups**

**Contact group on other rules of procedure, the draft decision to forward the draft rules, procedures and policies, and the draft decision on arrangements for the interim period**

17. [continued]

18. Subsequently, reporting on the work of the contact group, the co-facilitator said that the group had reached agreement on operative paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 9. Meanwhile, operative paragraphs 5, 7 and 8 had been deleted, and brackets remained in operative paragraph 6. Consensus had not yet been reached on the way forward.

19. [to be completed]

**IV. Other matters**

20. [to be completed]

**V. Adoption of the report of the session**

21. [to be completed]

**VI. Closure of the session**

22. [to be completed]

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