

**First session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental
Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and
Pollution**

(ISP-CWP P1)

Geneva, Switzerland, 2 – 6 February 2026

Information note for participants

Last updated 12 November 2025

Date and venue

The first session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution (ISP-CWP P1) will be held from 2 to 6 February 2026 at the following venue:

Centre International de Conférences Genève (CICG)
17, rue de Varembe
1202 Geneva
Switzerland
Tel.: + 41 (0) 22 791 91 11
Website : www.cicg.ch

Schedule of the meeting

The session will open on Monday, 2 February 2026, at 10 a.m. Further information on the schedule of work for the session will be made available on the [meeting webpage](#).

The session will be preceded by informal, regional and stakeholder consultations, on Sunday, 1 February 2026 at the same venue. Information on the preparatory meetings will also be announced on the [meeting webpage](#).

Online registration

Registration for participants is open until **24 November 2025**.

All Member States of the United Nations and United Nations non-member observer States are invited to participate in the first session of the Plenary of the ISP-CWP. In accordance with the Foundational Document of the Panel, representatives of United Nations entities, as well as bodies, organizations and agencies accredited to the United Nations Environment Assembly or to relevant multilateral environmental agreements, or holding observer status with a United Nations system entity or consultative status with ECOSOC, are invited to participate as observers, unless at least one third of the Plenary members object. All eligible participants are requested to register [online](#).

Delegations are requested to upload a formal, signed nomination letter from the appropriate government authority or head of the organization or another authorized official. The letter should indicate the full composition of the delegation and specify the head of delegation. All documents must be submitted in **PDF format** and bear a visible official signature.

Observers are also requested to upload proof of accreditation or observer status to relevant multilateral environmental agreements or UN system entities, or proof of consultative status with ECOSOC.

Travel Support

Subject to the availability of resources and upon request, UNEP will sponsor the participation of Members of the Panel and a limited number of eligible observers.

Delegates applying for travel support must first register online (as indicated above) by **20 November 2025** and await approval of their registration. They will then be required to complete a dedicated online [funded participant application form](#) and upload the following documents no later than **24 November 2025**:

1. Event ticket (approved registration for the first session of the Plenary);
2. Signed nomination letter from the Government or organization (PDF format);
3. Copy of passport (bio-page), valid for at least six months beyond the travel date.

Note: To ensure compliance with United Nations travel procedures, nominations received after the deadline will not be considered for funding. The final decision on travel support will depend on the availability of financial resources.

Financial assistance includes a return air ticket, using the most economical fare approved by the United Nations and issued through the UN-designated travel agency, as well as daily subsistence allowance (DSA) for the Geneva area to be provided by Traveller's Cheque. These cheques may be cashed at the local UBS bank in Geneva. As of October 2025, the DSA rate for the Geneva area is \$468 per day; however, this rate is subject to change.

Payment will only be made upon submission of:

- A valid passport,
- All original boarding passes for outbound travel (mandatory, no exceptions),
- Any other required supporting documents.

Important: DSA cannot be released if full boarding passes are not presented.

No traveller's cheque can be provided for any travel requests submitted after **24 November 2025**. After that date, participants will only be paid upon return from the event, and no advance payments will be issued.

For further enquiries regarding the financial assistance available to representatives of eligible delegates, please contact the secretariat at isp-cwp@un.org.

On-site registration

Participants attending the first session of the ISP-CWP Plenary (P1) are expected to arrive on 1 February 2026, the day before the opening of the meeting. Participants attending the preparatory meetings on 1 February 2026 are expected to arrive on 31 January 2026, the day before those meetings.

On-site registration will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, 1 February 2026. During the meeting, the registration desk will remain open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Attendance at the meeting is limited to registered participants. Participants are strongly encouraged to register on as early as possible.

For any questions regarding registration for the meeting, please contact the secretariat at isp-cwp@un.org.

Security identification documentation and badges for meeting participants

Security identification badges are issued to participants upon arrival at the meeting venue, following completion of the registration procedure. Participants may collect their badges at the registration desks upon presentation of one of the following valid identification documents:

- a. A national passport issued by a government recognized by the United Nations;
- b. A national ID card issued by a Schengen State; or
- c. A travel document recognized by the United Nations.

Please note that security checks will be conducted at the conference centre each time participants enter the venue.

Visa information

It is the responsibility of each participant to apply for any visa required for entry into Switzerland. Visas must be obtained from the Swiss Embassy or Consulate responsible for the applicant's legal place of residence (regardless of nationality) prior to arrival.

Please note that a Schengen visa is required even for transiting through Schengen zone European countries. The processing time for visa applications may vary from case to case. Participants are therefore strongly advised to apply well in advance to ensure sufficient time for the visa to be issued. Visa applications may be submitted to Swiss Embassies or Consulates no earlier than six months and no later than 20 days before the intended date of departure.

The list of required documents for a visa application varies depending on the applicant's country of residence. Participants should consult the website of the relevant Swiss Embassy or Consulate and, if necessary, contact the office directly as soon as possible to confirm specific requirements and submit a complete application.

Further information, including the list of nationalities subject to visas requirements, is available on the website of the Switzerland State Secretariat for Migration at the following links:

- <https://www.sem.admin.ch/sem/en/home/themen/einreise.html>
- <https://www.sem.admin.ch/sem/en/home/themen/einreise/visumantragsformular.html>

The online registration platform allows approved participants to generate an official invitation letter for use in their visa application, if required.

Medical and travel insurance

The United Nations does not provide life or medical insurance coverage for participants. It is therefore the responsibility of each participant, or of their Government or organization, to ensure that adequate medical and travel insurance coverage is obtained prior to travelling to Switzerland.

Paperless meeting

The meeting will be paperless and printed documents will not be available on-site. All pre-session and in-session documents will be made available on the [meeting webpage](#).

Making a meeting paperless significantly reduces both costs and carbon footprint of the meeting. It also facilitates quicker preparation and distribution of conference room paper and enables participants to easily locate and access documents electronically.

To support the paperless nature of the meeting, participants are kindly requested to ensure the following:

1. Each participant should bring a laptop computer with standard software installed, including Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint, Adobe Acrobat Reader and up-to-date antivirus software.
2. Laptops must be checked for viruses and confirmed as virus-free prior to arrival. Virus-free equipment is essential to the success of a paperless meeting.
3. Participants should bring a USB memory stick, also pre-checked for viruses, for transferring documents if needed.
4. Laptops should be configured for a standard wireless (Wi-Fi) connection. If in doubt, participants should consult with local IT expert.
5. Participants should bring a power adaptor suitable for Swiss power sockets.
6. When completing the registration form, participants should provide a current e-mail address to ensure they receive all communications related to the meeting.

Geneva

Geneva is the capital of the Republic and Canton of Geneva, located in the French-speaking part of Switzerland. Home to more than 40 international organizations, over 400 non-governmental organizations, and numerous multinational companies, Geneva is a prime example of an international

and multi-cultural city. It lies on the shores of Lake Geneva, at the foot of the Alps and the Jura Mountains.

Geneva's most famous landmark, the Jet d'Eau, is the world's tallest water fountain and serves as a constant point of reference when exploring the city. The city's historic Old Town offers a living glimpse into the past, while its more than thirty museums and art galleries showcase Geneva's rich and vibrant history –including the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum and the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art (MAMCO).

Hotel accommodation

Participants are responsible for making their own accommodation arrangements. The secretariat encourages all participants to make such arrangements as early as possible. A list of hotels offering preferential rates to the United Nations, etc. is available via this [link](#) for reference.

Local transportation and security

Once in Geneva, reaching the conference centre is straightforward. The Geneva International Airport (Cointrin) is located approximately 5 kilometres from the conference centre – an about 10-minute taxi ride. The main railway station (Geneva Cornavin) is 2 kilometres away and is connected to the conference centre by public transport (tram and bus) as well as by taxi.

Public transport in Geneva is fast, frequent, safe and clean. Bus number 10 connects the airport with downtown Geneva approximately every eight minutes, and train services are also available. Travellers staying in hotels in Geneva can obtain a « Geneva Transport Card » from their accommodation, allowing free use of public transport within the city (zone 10) for the duration of their stay.

The conference centre (CICG) can be reached from the main railway station by taking:

- Bus number 5 (alight at Vermont or Varembe),
- Bus number 8 (alight at International Telecommunications Union), or
- Tram number 13 or 15 in the direction of Nations (alight at Sismondi).

Taxis are readily available and reliable, though comparatively expensive. To order a taxi, please call +41 (0)22 320 22 02 or +41 (0)22 331 41 33.

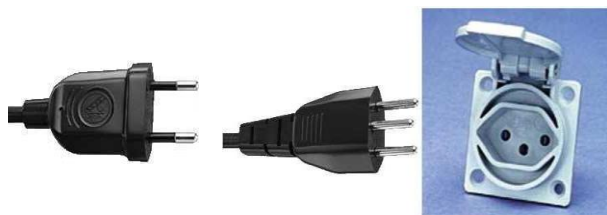
Although Geneva is generally a safe city and violent crime is rare, incidents of pickpocketing and petty theft have increased in recent years. Participants are advised to remain vigilant, particularly at the airport, around the Cornavin railway station, and in the Paquis district, and to avoid leaving luggage or personal belongings unattended at any time.

Electricity

Voltage: 230 volts

Frequency: 50 Hz

Plugs/sockets: C (CEE 7/16) and J



Currency

The currency of Switzerland is the Swiss franc (CHF).

Average exchange rates: 1 United States dollar $\approx$ 0.80 CHF; 1 euro $\approx$ 0.92 CHF.

Weather

MétéoSuisse provides regular weather updates through its mobile application and on its [website](#).

Restaurants

The CICG bar and restaurant are located on the ground and first floors of the conference centre. Several cafes, restaurants and shops are also within walking distance of the CICG.

Other useful information

Additional practical information will be made available on the [meeting webpage](#).