

Briefing on the outcomes of the first session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution (ISP- CWP)

**Briefing to the Subcommittee meeting of the Committee of the Permanent Representatives
30 April 2026**

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

2 March 2022: UNEA adopted resolution 5/8 requesting the panel

October 2022 and June 2025: Ad hoc open-ended working group (OEWG) negotiated proposals for the panel

20 June 2025: Panel established at an intergovernmental meeting in Uruguay

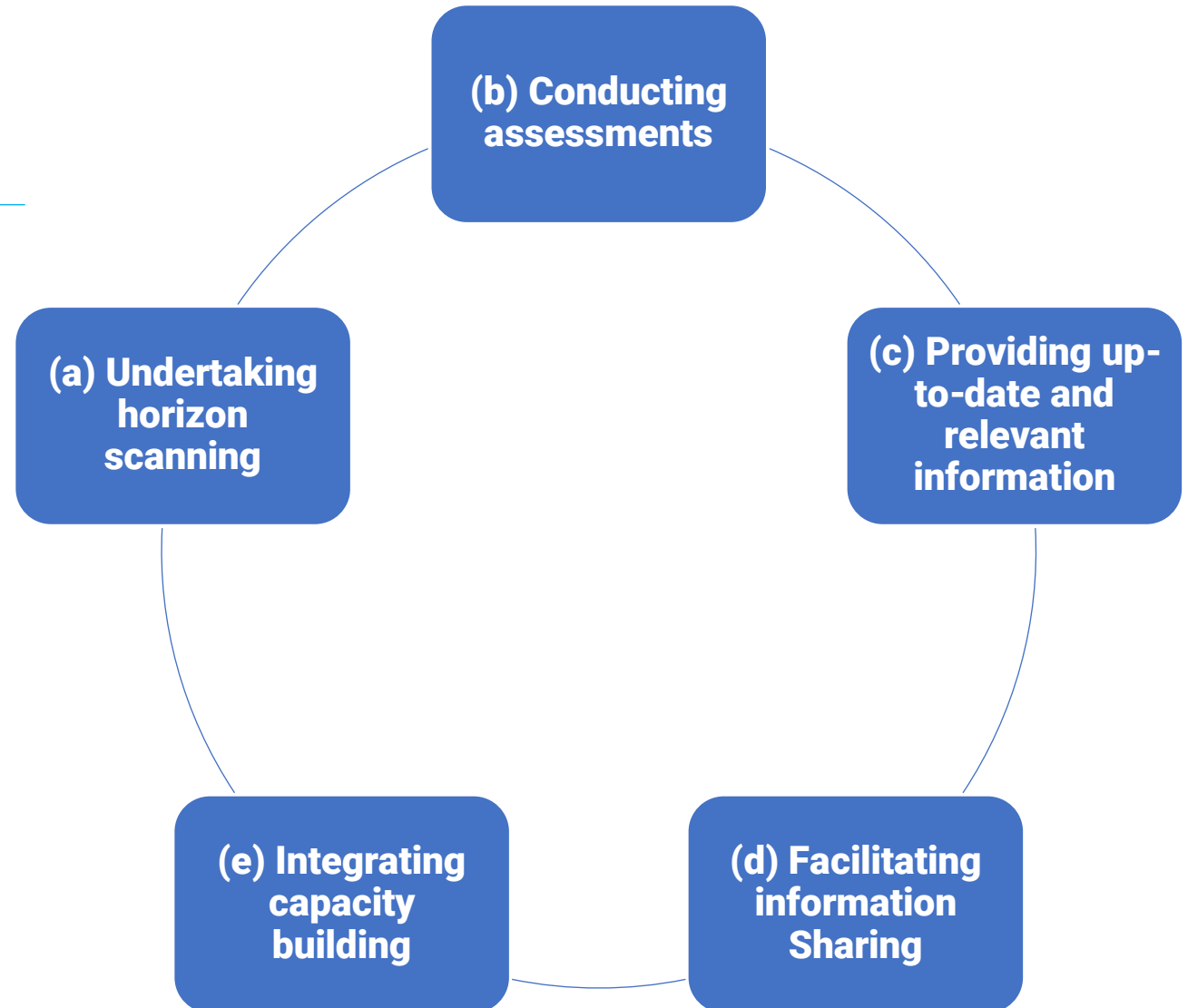
→ ISP-CWP completes trifecta of science-policy panels addressing planetary crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution (alongside IPCC and IPBES)

Objective and functions

ISP-CWP Foundational Document

The objective of the Panel is to strengthen the science-policy interface to contribute to the sound management of chemicals and waste and pollution prevention

The Panel has five principal functions (a-e)



ISP-CWP Plenary 1.1

2 – 6 February 2026, Geneva, Switzerland

- **The Plenary is the governing and decision-making body of the Panel**
- **Convened for the first time in Geneva from 2 - 6 February 2026.**
- **The first part of the first session of the Plenary of the ISP-CWP (Plenary 1.1) was hosted by the Government of Switzerland in Geneva**
- **The session was attended by 115 Panel member, 8 observer governments and the EU and many stakeholders.**

<https://www.unep.org/isp-cwp/plenary/session-1>

How to become a member of ISP-CWP?

<https://www.unep.org/isp-cwp/membership>

- **Membership of the Panel: Open to States Members of the United Nations and United Nations non-member observer states having expressed their intent to be a member of the Panel.**
- **How to become a member: Send an official communication expressing the intent to become a member to the interim secretariat at isp-cwp@un.org**
- **National Focal Points: All members are requested to nominate a National Focal Point by submitting a Note Verbale to the secretariat at isp-cwp@un.org**
- **Current membership: 131 members**

Key outcomes of ISP-CWP Plenary 1.1

2 – 6 February 2026, Geneva, Switzerland

- Progress made on finalizing draft rules of procedure: **19 rules agreed** (see [UNEP/ISP-CWP.1/CRP.1](https://www.unep.org/isp-cwp/1/crp.1))
- Election of the ISP-CWP Chair for a term of two years: **Osvaldo Álvarez Pérez (Chile)**
- Election of the ISP-CWP Bureau for a term of two years (***election of members from Eastern European States pending***)
- Agreement for session to resume at a later date
- Agreement that Bureau will set the dates and venue for the resumed (Plenary 1.2)

<https://www.unep.org/isp-cwp/plenary/session-1>

Reflections on ISP-CWP Plenary 1.1

2 – 6 February 2026, Geneva, Switzerland

- **Rules of procedure for sessions of the Panel still under discussion**
- **Finalizing the rules of procedure generally considered main priority**
- **Proposal to use UNEA rules of procedure at the first session of the Plenary was not accepted**
- **Some members want to have agreement on the rules before considering other policies and procedures (e.g. have clarity on decision making)**
- **No progress made on other priorities to fully operationalize the Panel**

<https://www.unep.org/isp-cwp/plenary/session-1>

Other operational arrangements for the Panel

Provisional agenda UNEP/ISP-CWP.1/1

- **Rules, procedures and policies transmitted by the Intergovernmental Meeting to the Plenary at its first session**
 - Rules of procedure for the Plenary
 - Conflict-of-interest policy
 - Process for determining the work programme
 - Procedures for the preparation and clearance of Panel deliverables
- **Consideration of the physical location of the Panel secretariat**
- **Financial and budgetary arrangements for the Panel**
- **Provisional agenda, dates and venue of next Plenary session**
- **Intersessional work**

Towards ISP-CWP Plenary 1.2

- **Reflections on outcome Plenary 1.1 at the first Bureau meeting (3 March 2026)**
- **Informal consultations and engagement with members by the Chair on the way forward**
- **Agreement on dates and venue of the resumed first session (Plenary 1.2)**
- **Development of a roadmap towards Plenary 1.2**

→ Next ISP-CWP Bureau meeting takes place on 7 May 2026

Keeping momentum so that the Panel can start its important policy-relevant and solution-oriented work, driven by members' priorities and grounded in science



Thank you

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