



CHILDREN AND YOUTH
MAJOR GROUP TO UNEP

Agenda Item4

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

Distinguished delegates,

My name is Aseel Abo-Taleb from Yemen, and I speak on behalf of the Children and Youth Major Group.

Acknowledging the importance of inclusivity and balance in the Panel's structure and work, including geographical, regional, and gender representation and interdisciplinarity, we emphasize the need to incorporate **intergenerational inclusivity** as one of the core operational principles.

We recall the Children and Youth Major Group's proposal from OEWG 1.2 to establish a **Multidisciplinary Youth Expert Group**. This Group would incorporate youth perspectives from diverse backgrounds and vulnerable communities, ensuring meaningful engagement in the future Panel activities. Additionally, it would infuse intergenerational perspectives and innovative solutions into scientific assessments and facilitate translating scientific findings into youth-friendly language and tangible applications in local contexts.

Additionally, adopting a **human rights-based approach** to the sound management of chemicals and waste and preventing pollution that recognises and respects the contribution of indigenous and local knowledge is key. In prioritizing the engagement, it is essential to formally consider and address existing vulnerabilities in health, conflicts, and economic factors, among others.

We also emphasize the Panel's need for a **flexible approach** in addressing the needs of Member States and stakeholders. This includes adopting an iterative approach for continuous learning, adaptation, and updates to recommendations in response to new evidence, rapid technological advancements, and the emergence of changing circumstances.

As we advocate for the inclusion of rights-holders and merit-based groups, including Major Groups, specialized agencies and networks, individual scientists, among others, let innovation guide us, science be our ally, and multilateralism be our vehicle toward a future free from threats posed by chemicals, waste, and pollution to people and the environment.

Thank you for the floor !