



STATEMENT

By Head of the Cambodian Delegation

HE Dr SABO Ojano, Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment

**Intergovernmental Meeting to Establish a Science-Policy Panel to
Contribute further Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste and to
Prevent Pollution**

Punta del Este, Uruguay, 20 June 2025

Excellencies CO-CHAIRS,

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

Distinguish guests,

1. Cambodian delegations would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the government of Uruguay for their warm hospitality and hosting the resumed third session of the ad hoc open-ended working group on a science-policy panel on chemicals, waste, and pollution prevention and back-to-back intergovernmental meeting to establish a science-policy panel to contribute further sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution here in this beautiful city of Punta del Este, Uruguay. We also like to express our appreciation to UNEP Executive Director, Chair of SPP OEWG and Co- facilitators for their efforts and guiding toward the successful establishment of intergovernmental science-policy panel to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution.
2. Our delegations welcome an agreement reached today on the establishment of this panel. This is one of historical moments to show that we recognize chemicals and waste pollution have no boundary and its impacts posing serious threats on our health and the environment. Indeed, we often see climate change and the loss of biodiversity frequently take center stage in environmental dialogues, the issues of chemicals and waste pollutions often garner less focus, we now truly acknowledged effects are interconnected.

3. We recognize the absence of connection between science and policy making present considerable obstacles to the sound management of chemical and waste pollution. This missing link has long been installing a wall in translation of scientific based findings into policy making which results in insufficient actions to tackle chemical and waste pollution issues and to fulfil obligations under MEAs.
4. We are all coming here with the spirit of shared responsibilities and unified global efforts to find effective ways in bridging the gaps between scientists and policy makers addressing sound management of chemical and waste to prevent pollution.
5. Therefore, establishing of this panel is crucial because we strongly believe the science-policy panel on chemicals, waste, and pollution prevention will play an important role in providing reliable science-based information for policymakers to enable them to make well-informed decisions and formulate effective policies.
6. We also believe that a holistic synergy approach between the IPCC, IPBES, and newly established science-policy panel on chemicals and waste to address the triple planetary crisis will show strong recognition the interconnectedness of climate change, biodiversity loss, and chemicals and waste pollution. By fostering synergy, these panels can enhance their effectiveness in delivering scientific information to inform policy decision making in addressing global environmental challenges in a comprehensive manner to embrace a sustainable co-existence with nature for both current and future generations.

Thank you!