

## Output of Contact Group 1: Operating Principles

13/12/23 8:20pm-10:07pm

### Operating principles of the Panel from UNEP/SPP-CWP/OEWG.2/INF/10

1. In carrying out its work, the science-policy Panel shall be guided by the following operating principles:
  - (a) Scientific independence and ensuring [consensus,] [ethics,] credibility, relevance and legitimacy including through peer review of its work, transparency [and accountability] [in its decision-making processes](del), and addressing potential conflicts of interest;
  - (b) Producing deliverables that are credible[, ethical] and [scientifically](del) [sound][robust](del) [assessment process] [, as well as ensuring they are accessible by member states and relevant stakeholders] [and prevention focused];
  - (c) Interdisciplinarity, ensuring contributions from experts with a broad range of disciplinary [and sectoral expertise](del) [that adhere to ethical standards];
  - (d) Inclusivity of participation and forms of knowledge shared [from all relevant sources], including by Indigenous Peoples [and local communities, where appropriate] [indigenous and traditional knowledge, and [local knowledge](del)](del);
  - (e) Having [sectorial,] geographical, regional, [and](del) [language and] gender balance;
  - (f) Delivering outputs that are policy relevant without being policy prescriptive, avoiding overlap and duplication of work, and promoting coordination and cooperation;
  - (g) Flexibility, so as to be responsive to member Governments' needs, in particular needs of developing countries, while still preserving the scientific and policy bases upon which it operates;
  - (h) Incorporating the precautionary approach, as stated in Principle 15 of the 1992 Rio Declaration;
  - (i) Incorporating a human rights-based approach, including by recognizing the right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment, the right to science, the importance of informed participation, and the need to give special attention to those populations most vulnerable to adverse impacts from chemicals, waste and pollution;
  - (j) Addressing all forms of pollution, including pollution related to chemicals and waste and pollution released into the air, water (including oceans) and soil.
- (1) Recognizing the relevant socioeconomic contributions and technical knowledge of workers, including informal workers, involved in the management of chemicals and waste, and promoting a safe and healthy work environment.
- (2) Integrating capacity-building into all relevant aspects of its work
- (3) Deliverables that are ethical, and experts that adhere to ethical standards
- (4) Recognizing the unique scientific knowledge within and among regions and ensuring the full use of national, sub-regional and regional assessments and knowledge, as appropriate, including a bottom-up approach.
- (5) Integrating gender equality in all relevant aspects of its work;