

Esteemed Co-chair

The government of Antigua and Barbuda wishes to express its gratitude to the Government of Uruguay for its gracious hospitality in hosting us this week.

As a member of the Bureau of the OEWG, the process to support our Chair Gudi on the journey to establish this Panel was indeed interesting, frustrating and ultimately rewarding as we were able to finalise our work. Also, I wish to express my gratitude to the Secretariat for their support and to the Co-Chairs for their invaluable work.

The necessity of this panel is clear in that it sets in motion a process to support the chemicals, waste and pollution agenda. We see the panel as a means to further develop Science globally. This is indeed of particular importance to Small Island Developing States and developing countries in general.

We pledge to participate in the Panel and to play a role in the development of its deliverables.

Thank you kindly, Mr Co-Chair.

