

# WOMEN'S MAJOR GROUP

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## INTERNATIONAL MAJOR GROUPS AND STAKEHOLDERS (MGS) HYBRID PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE INAUGURAL PLENARY SESSION (P1) OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL SCIENCE-POLICY PANEL ON CHEMICALS, WASTE AND POLLUTION (ISP-CWP)

On 1 February, Major Groups and Stakeholders (MGS) gathered for the hybrid Preparatory Meeting ahead of the First Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution (ISP-CWP). The meeting brought together the Major Groups at UNEP, civil society, scientific networks, youth, women's organizations, coalitions, stakeholders and Indigenous Peoples to coordinate positions and strengthen engagement for the week ahead.



## OPENING SESSION: AGENDA <<< SETTING & MEETING RULES

This segment was moderated by Mohamed and Camilla, representing the Scientific and Technological Community Major Group (STC MG) at UNEP.

Participants arrived and engaged in a collective review of the proposed agenda. All attendees were invited to suggest adjustments, additions, or clarifications to ensure that the meeting reflected shared priorities and that each segment had clear facilitation.

During this process, the group:

- Reviewed the full agenda item by item
- Confirmed whether any changes were needed
- Agreed on the flow and timing of the meeting
- Selected the individuals who would facilitate each of the upcoming segments

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## >>> UPDATES ON RELEVANT TOPICS TO THE ISP-CWP FROM CSOS

Facilitated by: Marwan Jihel (Children & Youth Major Group) & Rabeb Aloui (Women's Major Group)

The second segment of the Preparatory Meeting focused on updates from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) relevant to the ISP-CWP. Representatives from across the Major Groups and scientific networks shared brief reports on their recent work, priorities, and preparations for the First Plenary.

Updates were provided by:

- Children & Youth (C&Y): Janna
- NGO Major Group
- Scientific & Technological Community (S&T): Camilla
- Business & Industry (B&I): Chris
- Women's Major Group: Natasa Dokovska
- Indigenous Peoples
- Farmers
- Workers and Trade Unions
- MEAs/GFC constituencies/orgs: Sara, Shannon Lisa
- SPP Science Alliance: Anna Becker, Mohamed
- INC Science Coalition: Xavier Cousin
- IPCC: Gabriel Sigmund
- RSC, IUPAC, SETAC, IOCD: Camilla Alexander-White, Bipul Saha, Michelle Bloor, Stephen Matlin
- Science data/networks & AI: Camilla
- Citizen Science Data: Jamala Djinn
- Delivering Indigenous Peoples Knowledge: Frankie Orona
- Waste Networks: Keith James
- Africa Networks (online)
- Others



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## >>> WOMEN'S MAJOR GROUP UPDATE

Speaking on behalf of the Women's Major Group, Natasa Dokovska presented an update on the group's recent activities. She highlighted:

- The capacity-building session held in January, which prepared members for the technical and procedural aspects of the First Plenary.
- The consultation process carried out in the lead-up to the plenary, gathering inputs from women's organizations and feminist experts across regions.
- The launch of the Color Campaign, inviting delegates to wear yellow as a collective call for a toxic-free, gender-just future.
- The group's intention to deliver a statement during the Opening Session, emphasizing gender-responsive science, meaningful participation, and the protection of Major Groups.

This segment provided a comprehensive overview of civil society's readiness and reinforced the importance of coordinated engagement across constituencies.



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## DISCUSSION ON WHAT MAJOR GROUPS & STAKEHOLDERS WOULD LIKE TO SEE ACHIEVED IN THE FIRST PLENARY

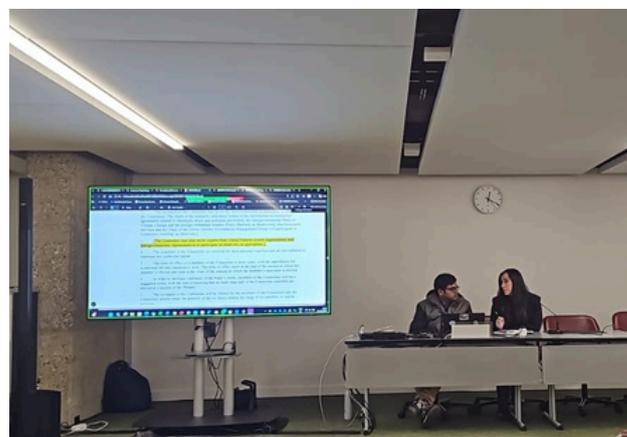
Facilitated by: Dalia Márquez (MGFC Co-Chair – Women's Major Group) & Lovish Raheja (Chemicals and Waste Youth Platform)

This session explored the shared expectations of Major Groups and Stakeholders for the First Plenary of the ISP-CWP, with reference to the Foundational Document finalized in Uruguay and the Draft Rules of Procedure (UNEP/ISP-CWP.1/3).

Overview of the Draft Rules of Procedure  
Camilla and Gabriel provided an overview of the content of the Draft Rules of Procedure, after which participants examined key elements affecting civil society engagement.

The discussion centered on three guiding questions:

- Key focus areas and watch points in the current Rules of Procedure regarding civil society participation
- Potential red lines for Major Groups and Stakeholders
- Desired phrases and outcomes to ensure meaningful participation in the final text



## CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION IN THE PANEL

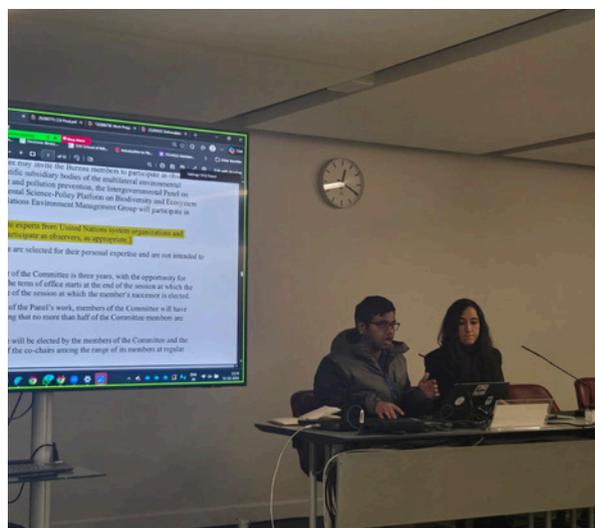


Interventions on this topic were delivered by Tom, Stephen Matlin, Rabeb Aloui, and Bipul.

- Rabeb Aloui emphasized that the Major Groups system is essential because it is a long-standing and proven mechanism within the UN system, ensuring structured, diverse, and representative participation.
- Natasa Dokovska reinforced this point, explaining why maintaining the Major Groups is beneficial and necessary for legitimacy, inclusiveness, and transparency.

Additional Points of Attention Raised by Participants:

- Draft Process for Determining the Work Programme – including how priorities will be set and how submissions will be evaluated.



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## >>> CLARIFICATION SESSION WITH THE SECRETARIAT & UPDATE FROM UNEA-7 RESOLUTION

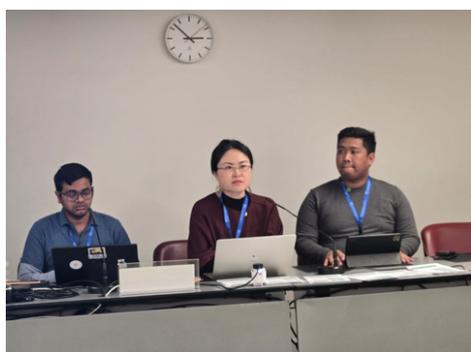
Speaker: Tessa Goverse, Principal Coordinator and Head of the Interim Secretariat.

Following the earlier discussions, the meeting continued with a dedicated session led by Tessa Goverse, offering participants the opportunity to ask clarification questions on the ISP-CWP P1 working documents and process before the start of the plenary. This open exchange allowed Major Groups and Stakeholders to seek explanations on procedural elements, document structure, and expectations for the week, ensuring that all constituencies entered the plenary with a shared understanding of the workflow and decision-making processes.

essa also provided an update on the UNEA-7 Resolution, outlining its relevance to the establishment and operationalization



## >>> DISCUSSION ON THE DRAFT CONFLICT OF INTEREST (COI) POLICY



Following the clarification session with the Secretariat, the meeting moved into a focused discussion on the Draft Conflict of Interest (COI) Policy. This segment centered almost entirely on the content, implications, and operationalization of the COI document, reflecting the high level of attention and concern among participants.

Representatives from different constituencies intervened to share observations, raise questions, and highlight areas requiring further clarity or strengthening.

Participants emphasized the importance of ensuring that the COI framework protects the scientific independence, credibility, and integrity of the Panel from the outset.

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## >>> MAJOR GROUPS & STAKEHOLDERS - ORGANIZATIONAL



The final session of the Preparatory Meeting focused on organizational and logistical matters essential for coordinated participation during the First Plenary.

This segment was led by Mr. Zhanyun Wang from the SPP Secretariat. The discussion covered:

- MGS seating arrangements in the plenary hall
- Daily morning meetings and debriefs, ensuring consistent coordination throughout the week
- Confirmation of Major Group focal points, including the WhatsApp communication channel
- Modalities for MGS statements, including the process for developing consensus positions
- Communication procedures during the plenary
- Other meetings and coordination spaces planned for the week

This session ensured that all constituencies were aligned on procedures, communication flows, and participation modalities before entering the formal plenary.

## >>> AGREEMENT ON THE JOINT OPENING STATEMENT DRAFTING PROCESS

At the end of the Preparatory Meeting, participants agreed to establish a drafting committee composed of representatives from multiple Major Groups, coalitions, and civil society organizations. This committee worked immediately after the preparatory session to prepare the joint opening statement, which was attached on the final page of the meeting notes.

It was further agreed that this draft joint statement would be reviewed collectively the following morning, 02 February, during the daily coordination meeting, allowing all Major Groups and Stakeholders to refine and endorse the final version before its delivery in the plenary.

