

28 February 2025

**Subject: First meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group for the Global Framework on Chemicals -
for a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste.
Punta del Este, Uruguay, 24 to 27 June 2025**

Dear Madam/Sir,

I have the pleasure to invite your Government/Organization to the first meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) for the Global Framework on Chemicals ([GFC OEWG 1.0](#)) that will be held at the Convention and Exhibition Centre in Punta del Este, Uruguay from 24 to 27 June 2025.

The meeting will be preceded by a global multi-stakeholder workshop to develop a GFC Implementation Programme for "Strengthening National Chemicals Legislation and Institutional Capacities" on 22 and 23 (morning) June 2025, convened by the Inter-organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC). Further, there will be informal regional and stakeholder consultations, as well as technical briefings on measurability and indicators, and on the GFC Fund on the afternoon of 23 June 2025.

The GFC OEWG and IOMC workshop will be held back to back with the resumed third session of the *ad hoc* Open-Ended Working Group to prepare proposals for a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution (14 - 18 June 2025), which itself will be back-to-back with the Intergovernmental Meeting for the purpose of considering the establishment of the panel (19 and 20 June 2025).

The GFC OEWG will consider progress on the implementation of the resolutions adopted at the fifth meeting of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5) held in Bonn, Germany in September-October 2023 ([see resolutions](#)). Additionally, the meeting will provide an opportunity for focal points and all stakeholders to access knowledge and improve skill sets in a series of multistakeholder events to implement the Framework. These will include but not be limited to capacity building in economic and industrial sectors as well as the labour, health and agriculture sectors among others.

The meeting will serve as the platform to prepare for the GFC International Conference scheduled for the 4th quarter of 2026.

The provisional agenda, meeting documentation and other supporting information will be made available on the [OEWG 1.0 webpage](#).

The first meeting of the OEWG is open to participation of all stakeholders. Subject to the availability of resources, limited funding will be made available upon request for participation of developing countries, countries with economies in transition and non-governmental participants.

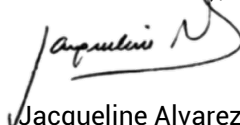
Governments and other stakeholders in a position to do so are encouraged to contribute financial and other resources to assist in funding the travel of eligible participants and to enable the secretariat to perform its mandated functions for the first meeting of the OEWG.

I kindly invite you to register for the meeting, following the guidance set out in the Annex to this letter. Registrations should be submitted no later than **31 March 2025**.

In recognition of the multi-sectoral character of the GFC, we would encourage the participation of representatives from a range of different sectors with responsibility for international chemicals management and safety issues such as agriculture, development, environment, foreign affairs, health, labour, industry and business.

I look forward to your participation in the meeting.

Yours sincerely,



Jacqueline Alvarez
Chief of Chemicals and Health Branch
Industry and Economy Division (IED)
UN Environment Programme
Geneva, Switzerland.

ANNEX- Logistical information

Indico Account Creation

Please create an account online at <https://indico.un.org/register/>

TO CREATE AN INDICO ACCOUNT

1. Go to <https://indico.un.org/register/>
2. Fill in the required information;
3. When confirmed, an activation email is sent to your inbox;
4. Kindly click on the "Activation Link";
5. Your INDICO account is now activated.

Event Registration

TO REGISTER FOR THE "First meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group, Punta del Este, Uruguay, 24 to 27 June 2025".

6. Go to <https://indico.un.org/login/?next=/event/1015886/>
7. Click on "[Register now](#)";
8. Login to your account;
9. Fill in the required information and click "[Register](#)";
10. You will receive an email confirmation acknowledging your registration request to the event;
11. The registration is pending approval. You will receive an additional email when your registration is processed.

Registration should be completed for each participant no later than **31 March 2025**. Please note that registration for participants seeking funding from the secretariat will not be considered after this date.

**During the registration process, you will also be asked to indicate interest to participate in the IOMC workshop on 22 and 23 (morning) June. Information regarding registration/participation status for this workshop (including possible additional travel support, as needed) will be provided following the registration deadline (31 March 2025).*

Organization of work

The first meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group will be held in Punta Del Este, Uruguay. The meeting will be opened on Tuesday, 24 June at 10 a.m. and conclude at 6 p.m. on Friday, 27 June 2025.

The provisional agenda for the meeting and other meeting documents will be available on the GFC website [OEWG 1.0 webpage](#).

Prior to the opening of the meeting, there will be opportunities for regional and sectoral groups to meet on the afternoon of Monday 23 June 2025. There will also be a technical briefing on the GFC Fund and on Measurability and Indicators on the afternoon of Monday 23 June 2025.

The OEWG will have interpretation into the six languages of the United Nations.

Travel of funded participants

Further instructions regarding travel arrangements for funded participants will be provided by the GFC secretariat. Air travel for funded participants will be arranged according to the United Nations Secretariat rules, via the most economical means possible in all cases. Please note that changes to air tickets after they have been issued will not be permitted.

Kindly note that participants are responsible for obtaining their own entrance visa and transit visa if required. We encourage participants to obtain information immediately from the embassy or consulate of Uruguay located nearest to you.

To register for travel funding please [fill out the travel request form](#).

Further information

Details of the venue for the meeting and other practical information will be available on the GFC website [OEWG 1.0 webpage](#). For further information on the meeting, please contact the secretariat, by e-mail at unep-gfc.secretariat@un.org, or consult [our website](#).

Additional information about the IOMC workshop (22-23 June) will be made available at: www.iomc.info