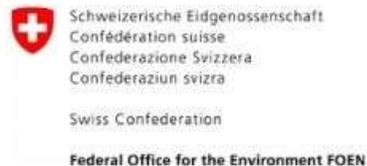


ON THE ROAD TO UNEA 5.2

Establishing a Science-Policy Panel (SPP) for Chemicals, Waste and Pollution

14 DECEMBER 2021 | 14.00 - 15.30 CET

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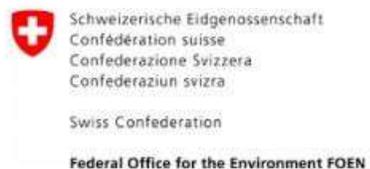


Valentina SIERRA

Permanent Mission of Uruguay
to the United Nations



PERMANENT MISSION
OF URUGUAY



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Monika MACDEVETTE

Head, Chemicals and Health Branch, UNEP



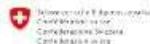
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John ROBERTS

Former Co-Chair and Chair of Working Groups, Contact Groups, and Expert Groups related to the Development of the Minamata Convention, and the Implementation of the Stockholm Convention



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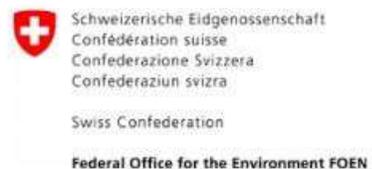
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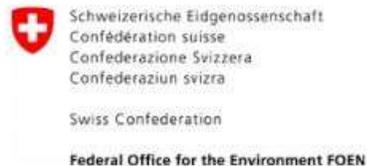
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Monika MACDEVETTE

Head, Chemicals and Health Branch,
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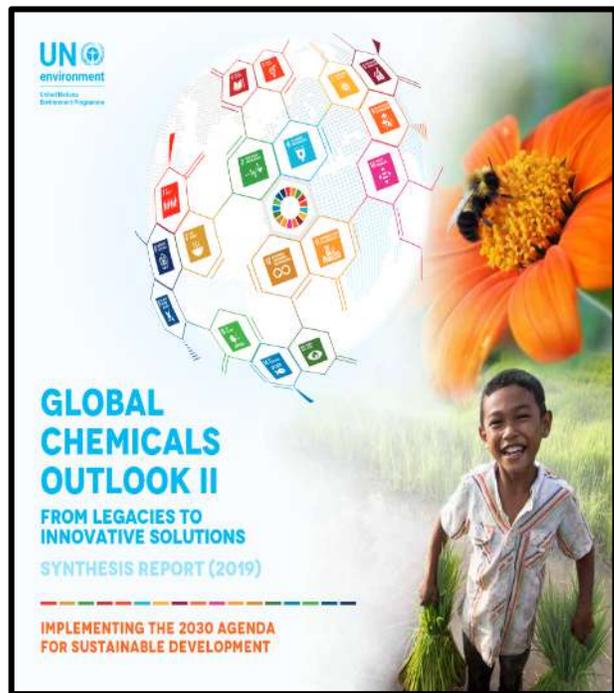
Assessment of options for strengthening the science-policy interface at the international level for the sound management of chemicals and waste

Webinar: On the road to UNEA 5.2 | Establishing a Science-Policy Panel (SPP) for Chemicals, Waste and Pollution

Monika MacDevette, UNEP

UNEA Resolution 4 / 8: Sound management of chemicals and waste

“The global goal to minimize adverse impacts of chemicals and waste will not be achieved by 2020”



“Solutions exist, but more ambitious worldwide action by all stakeholders is urgently required”

Key Action

Strengthen the Science Policy Interface

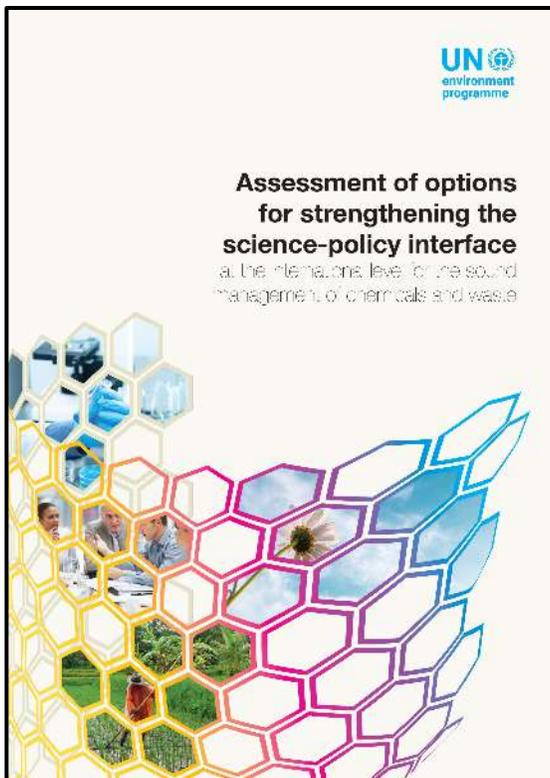
Resolution 4/8..

“**Stressing** the urgent need to strengthen the science-policy interface (SPI) at all levels to support and promote science-based local, national, regional and global action on the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020; the use of science in monitoring progress thereon; and priority setting and policymaking throughout the life cycle of chemicals and waste, taking into account the gaps and scientific information in developing countries,

“**Prepare**, by 30 April 2020, an assessment of options for strengthening the science-policy interface at the international level for the sound management of chemicals and waste..”

UNEP Report: Assessment of options for strengthening the science-policy interface (SPI) at the international level for the sound management of chemicals and waste

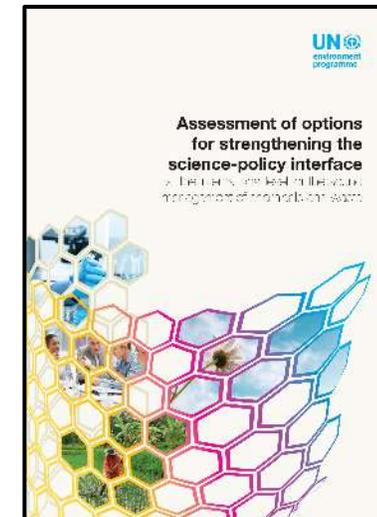
Facilitate and inform discussions, provide elements for bringing agendas together



- The report reviews a variety of existing SPI platforms and discusses lessons learned from the development of the GCO-II.
- Presents key guiding questions which need to be addressed when defining characteristics of an SPI platform
- Examines impacts and outputs from a strengthened SPI
- Discusses institutional design of SPI
- Outlines three “options” for strengthening the SPI with each “option” accompanied by a brief description, potential strengths, weaknesses and implications along with budgetary considerations

UNEP Assessment Report – *Impact* of a strengthened SPI for chemicals and waste

“The success of an SPI platform can be measured by its impact in a given issue area”

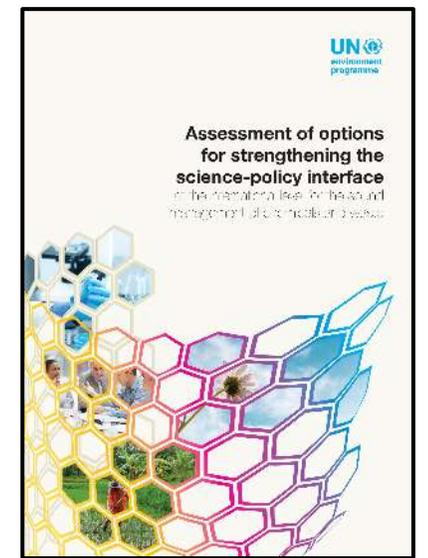


Impact

- Facilitate policy design and decision-making by MEAs, UN Governing Bodies and/or the ICCM
- Support awareness raising, capacity building, access and development of policy tools, implementation of actions related to sound management of chemicals and waste.
- Support a wide range of stakeholders – national governments, MEAs, financial institutions, private sector, civil society.
- Widely communicate findings to the public via social media and mass media coverage.

UNEP Assessment Report – *Outputs* from a strengthened SPI for chemicals and waste

“Allow science to provide the evidence needed for policy formulation and implementation, and policy needs to spur gathering of relevant scientific data and new research endeavours.”



Outputs

- Horizon scanning and identification of problems which require action on a national, regional or global scale
 - Scientific assessments, literature reviews, reports on nature, scale and possible evolution of problems, awareness raising
- Generate inputs that inform all actors involved in negotiations of policy instruments for response and implementation
- Provide critical information on potential impacts of regulatory action (data related to benefits, costs, feasibility, efficacy)
- Provide input on impacts of policies to support increased effectiveness of future actions



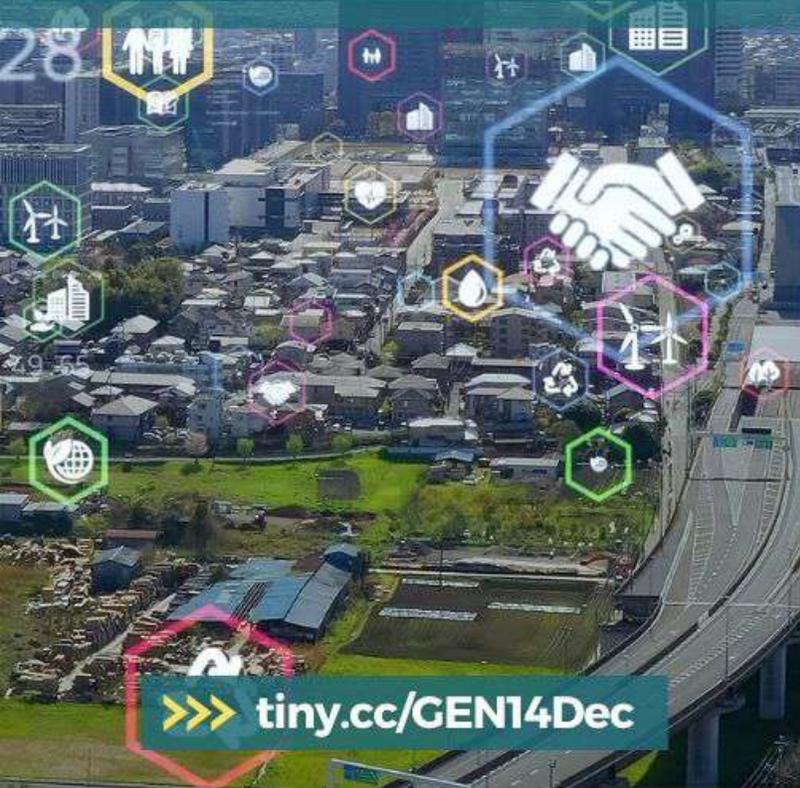
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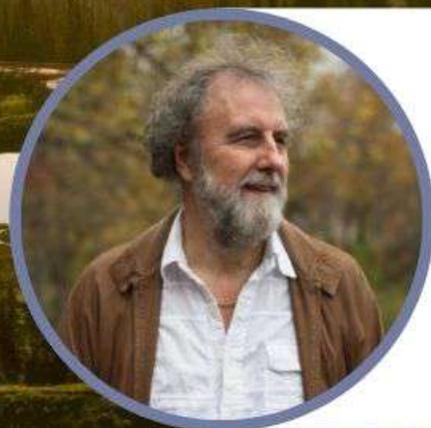
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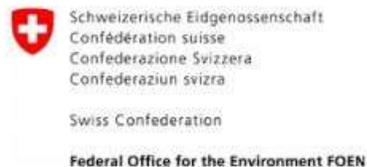
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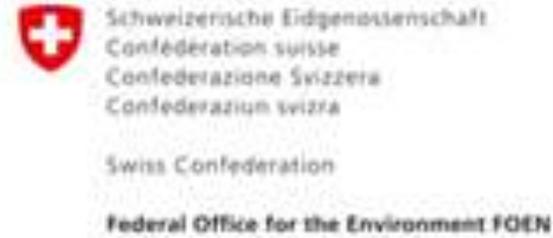
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Sir Robert WATSON

Co-author of Assessment Report, former Chair of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) & Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)





Key considerations and features for a strengthened science policy interface for chemicals and waste

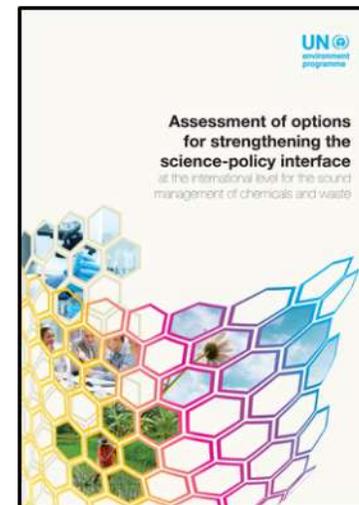
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Sir Robert Watson, Co-author of Assessment Report, former Chair of IPBES & former Chair, IPCC

UNEP Assessment Report – Features

To deliver authoritative outputs that are policy relevant but not policy prescriptive the procedures through which an SPI platform works must contribute to the credibility, legitimacy, relevance, and transparency of the platform.

Strong procedures are necessary to avoid conflicts of interest



Credible

- Transparent nomination process
- Rigorous peer-review of outputs

Relevant

- Meet the needs of decision makers
- Policy-relevant not policy prescriptive

Legitimate

- Representative of different values, beliefs and worldviews of stakeholders
- Ensure broad participation, cooperation, establishment of procedures to manage conflicts of interest

Transparent

- Understand by whom, on what basis and through what process all outputs are produced

Iterative

Reflection of institution's flexibility and reflexivity. Fostered by procedures to stake stock and identify opportunities to strengthen the platform

Inclusiveness

Testament to importance of broad inclusion by ensuring disciplinary, stakeholder and worldview diversity

Motivations for establishing IPCC and IPBES

In both cases governments decided they wanted an independent credible, transparent and open process that provided authoritative state-of-the-art knowledge for evidence-based decision-making

This required the assessments..

- be intergovernmental, but independent of political bodies, i.e., Conventions and their subsidiary bodies and UN agencies
- be demand driven with the scope and processes owned by governments (scope is co-designed by governments, science community and other actors)
- be comprehensive, policy relevant but not policy prescriptive
- be prepared by the world's best experts in their individual capacity
- be peer-reviewed by experts and governments
- have short policy-relevant summaries (SPM) that are less technical than the main reports and approved word by word in Plenary

Linkages with other agendas and SDGs

Sound management of chemicals and wastes is central to the UN Sustainable Development Goals

An independent science policy platform should:

- 1- Bring coherence on chemicals, waste and pollution**
- 2- link to other science-policy agendas, e.g., climate change, biodiversity**





Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Office for the Environment FOEN



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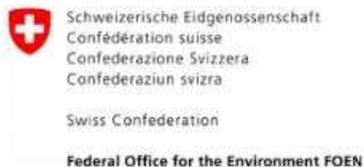


Carlos MARTIN-NOVELLA

Deputy Executive Secretary, Basel
Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
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BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM
CONVENTIONS



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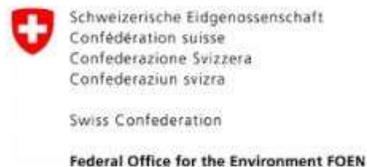
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Executive Director, Global Alliance
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GAHP
GLOBAL ALLIANCE ON
HEALTH AND POLLUTION
Partnering to rid the world of toxic hotspots





THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE ON HEALTH AND POLLUTION

The Need for A Science Policy Panel on Chemicals,
Waste and Pollution

14 December 2021

GLOBAL ALLIANCE ON HEALTH AND POLLUTION



- Collaboration of 65+ leading institutions and governments to address pollution crisis:
 - Governments of Azerbaijan, Argentina, Madagascar, Ghana, Senegal and 20 more...
 - UN Development Program (UNDP), UN Environment Program (UNEP), European Commission, others, plus Universities and Civil Society
- Responsible for inclusion of all forms of pollution in the SDG on Health
- Convened *The Lancet* Commission on Pollution + Health



POLLUTION – A MAJOR UNDERRECOGNIZED GLOBAL ISSUE

**Household
Pollution**



**Soil
Pollution**



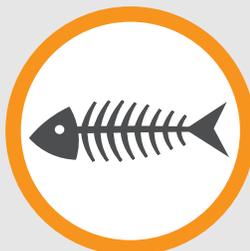
**Ambient Air
Pollution**



Occupational



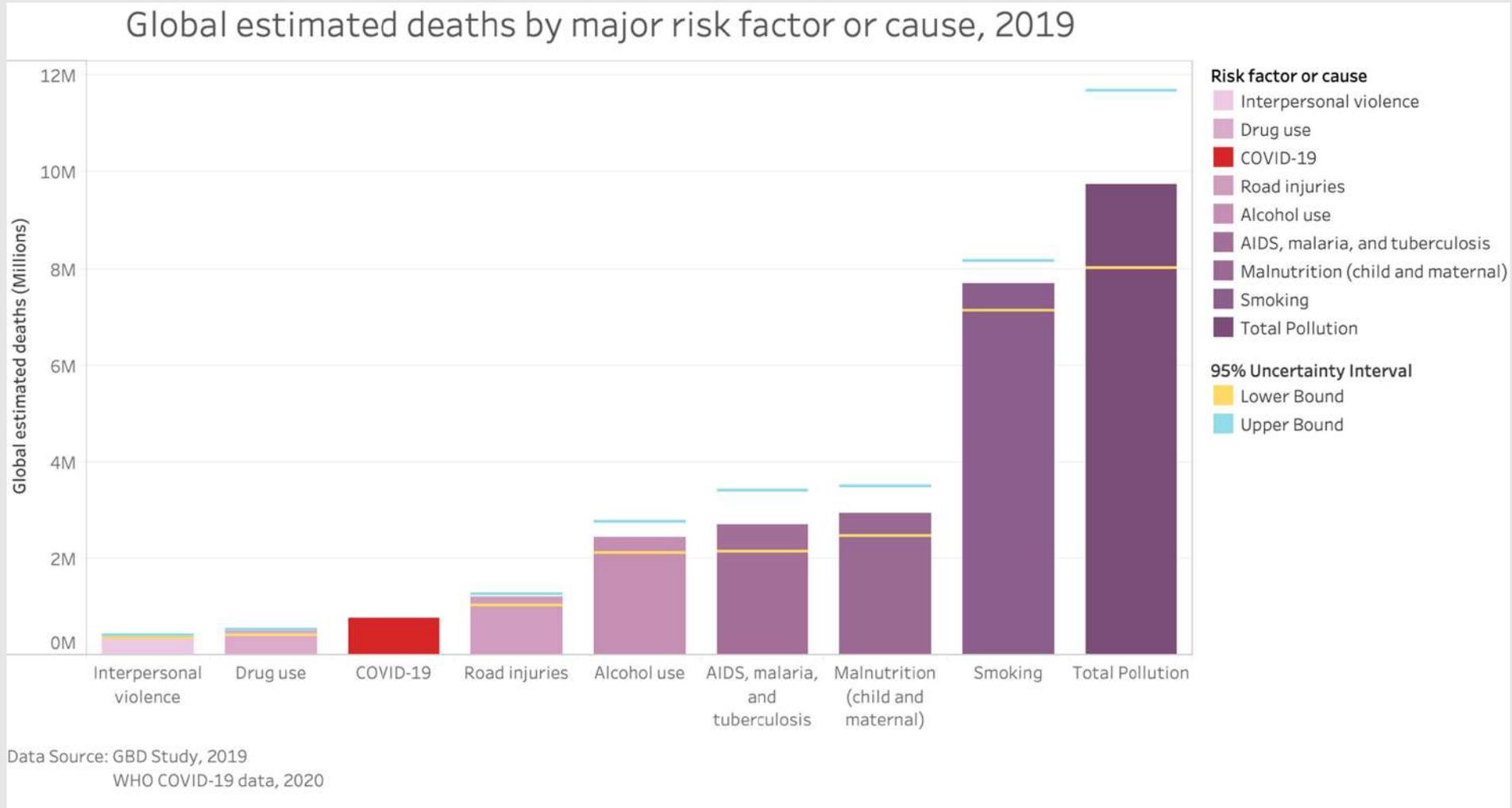
**Water
Pollution**



Lead



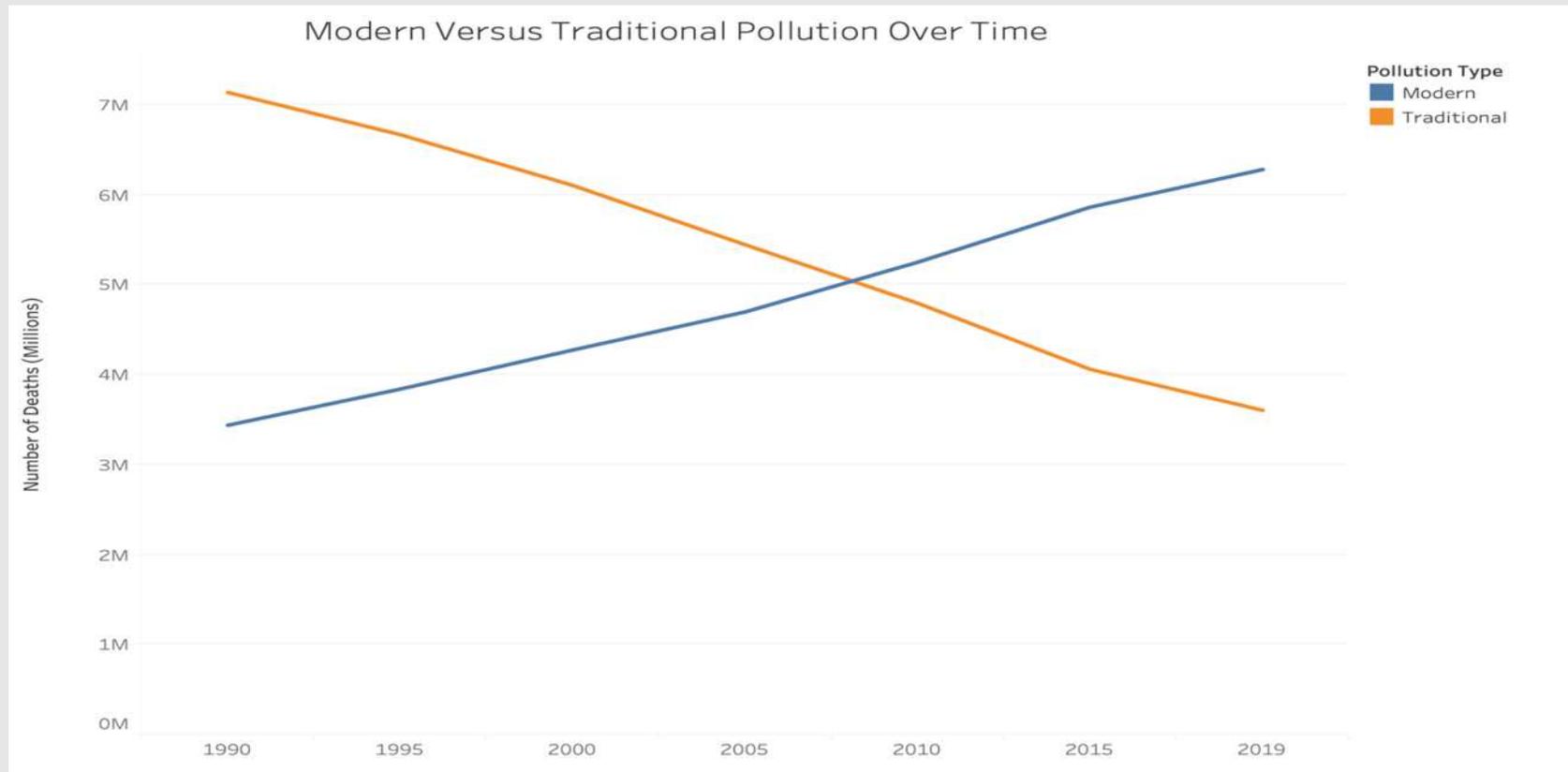
Lancet Commission: POLLUTION IS LARGEST CAUSE OF DEATH GLOBALLY



9 MILLION premature deaths = **16%** of all deaths worldwide

Pollution Trends Over Time

Ambient AIR and CHEMICALS ↑
Household air and water ↓

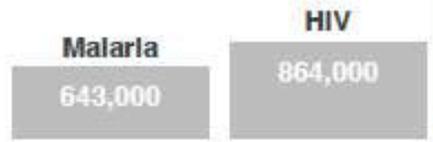


Source GBD study, 2019

Chemical Pollution Severely Undercounted



Premature Deaths from Pollution
IHME 2019

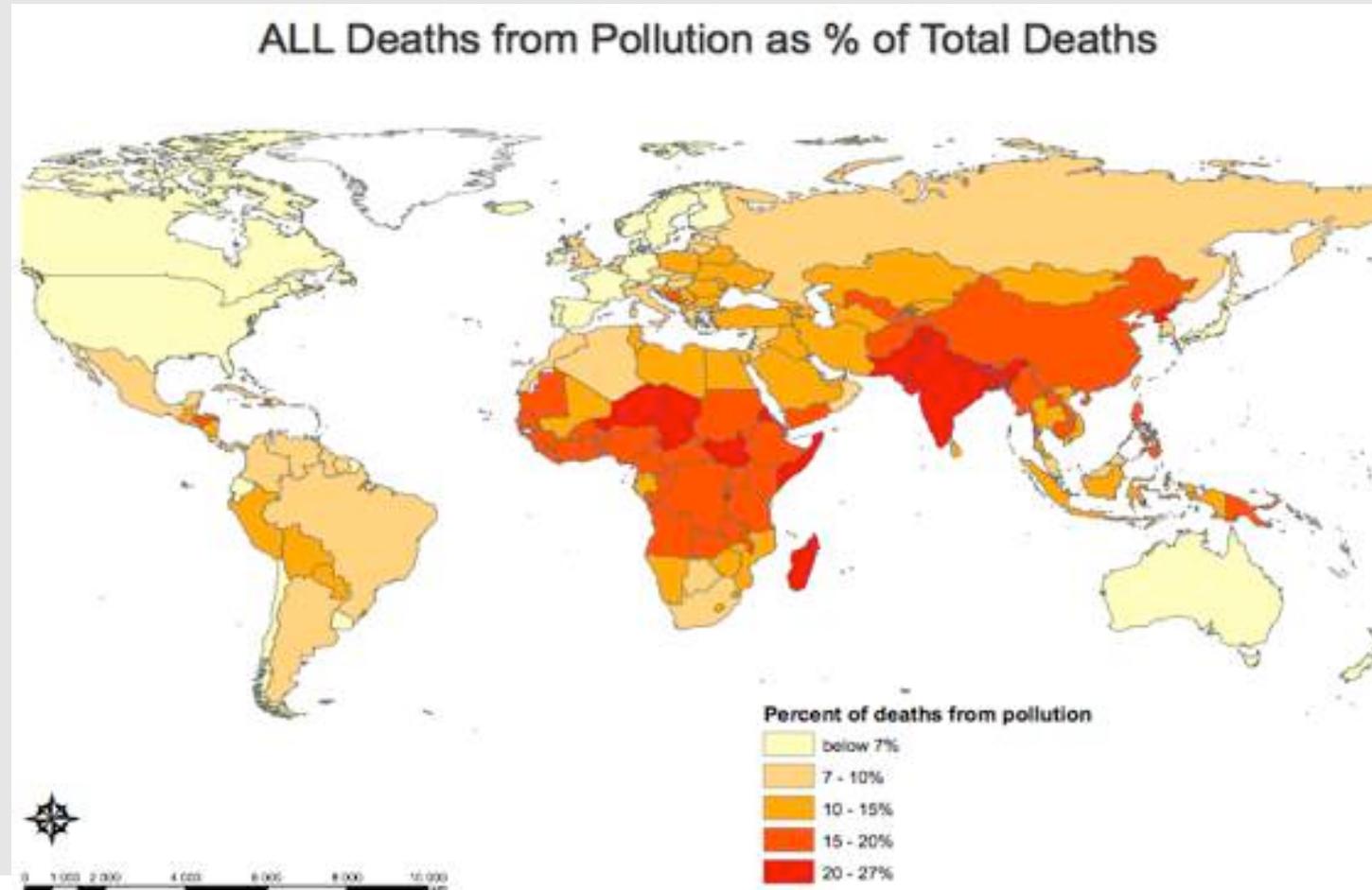


Additional chemicals currently not estimated by IHME*

*Preliminary expert assessment only. Excludes suicides.

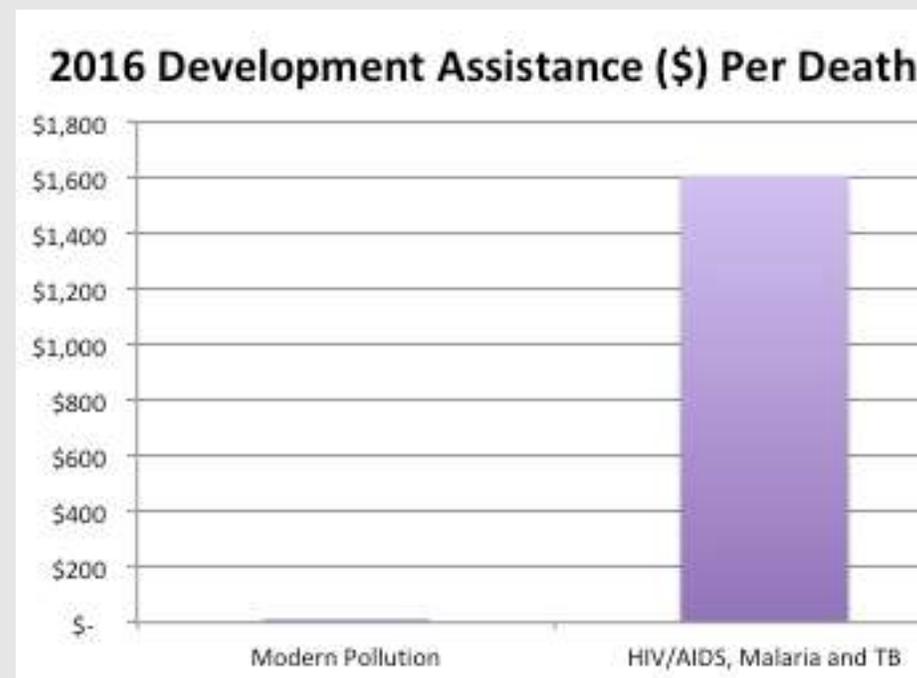
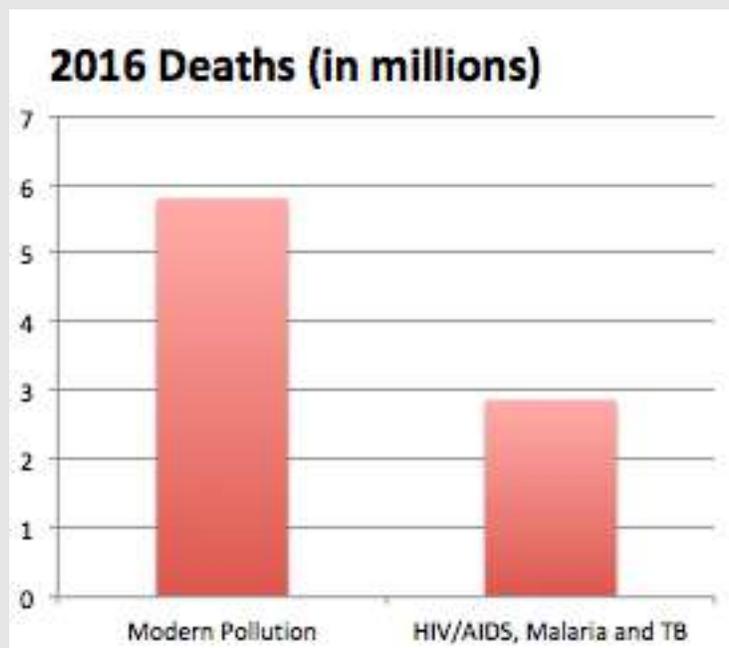


LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES ARE THE WORST IMPACTED



92 PERCENT OF POLLUTION-RELATED DEATHS OCCUR IN LMICs

Impacts are undercounted—solutions are underfunded



(Modern Pollution - Chemicals/soil and ambient air)

Swinehart S, et al. Rethinking Aid Allocation: Analysis of Official Development Spending on Modern Pollution Reduction. *Annals of Global Health*. 2019; 85(1): 132, 1–11. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5334/aogh.2633>

A science policy panel on chemicals and waste and pollution will help bring much needed visibility and focused attention to this critical issue.

Such a body would ensure:

- application of the best science to policy making and solutions, and
- the focused attention of governments and others (private sector, academia, civil society)

Thank you!

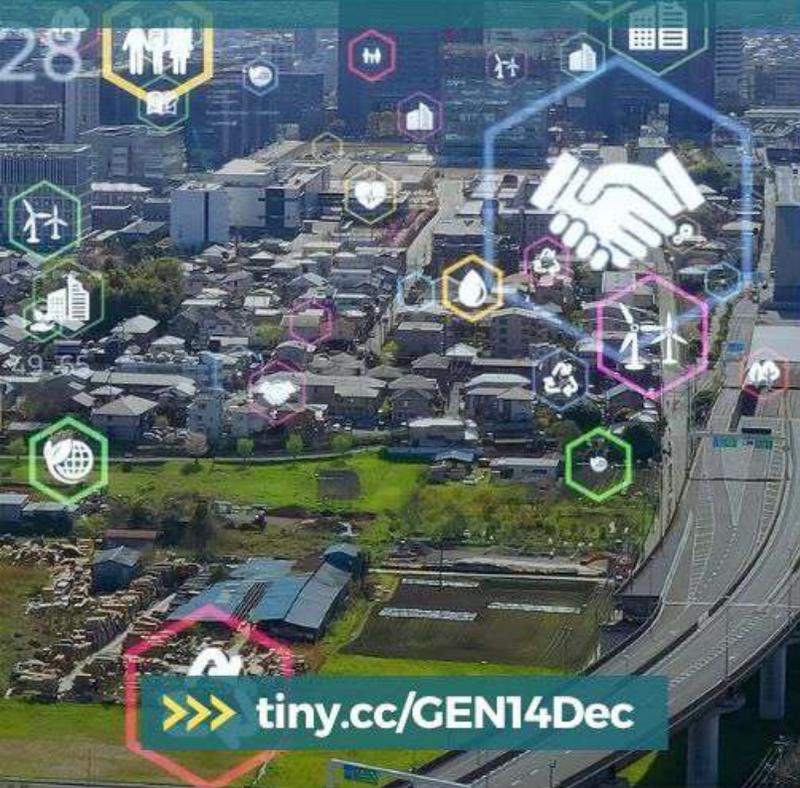


Rachael Kupka, Executive Director
Rachael@gahp.net

ON THE ROAD TO UNEA 5.2

Establishing a Science-Policy Panel (SPP) for Chemicals, Waste and Pollution

14 DECEMBER 2021 | 14.00 – 15.30 CET



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AGENDA

Welcoming Remarks

- Valentina SIERRA, Permanent Mission of Uruguay to the United Nations in Geneva

Introduction of the UNEP Assessment Report & Key features

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Question and Answer Session

Concluding Remark

- Kay WILLIAMS, Joint Head of International Chemicals, Pesticides and Hazardous Waste Hub – Environmental Quality, Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs, United Kingdom

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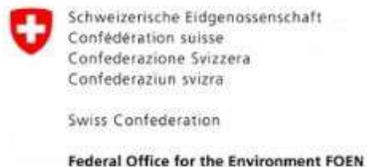


Marcos ORELLANA

UN Special Rapporteur on
toxics and human rights



SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS
INDEPENDENT EXPERTS
& WORKING GROUPS



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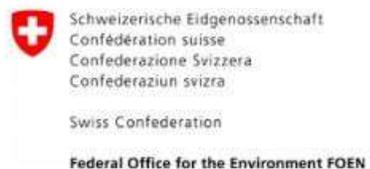


Michel TSCHIRREN

Global Affairs Section of the
Swiss Federal Office for the Environment



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra





Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of the Environment, Transport,
Energy and Communications DETEC
Federal Office for the Environment FOEN
International Affairs Division

Draft Resolution on a Science Policy Panel for Chemicals, Waste and Pollution

**On the road to UNEA 5.2: Establishing a Science-Policy Panel (SPP)
for Chemicals, Waste and Pollution” - Webinar**





Where are we coming from ?

Global Chemical Outlook

- There are still gaps in knowledge/information about effects on humans and the environment of many chemicals;
- Information about hazardous substances in products is insufficiently disseminated/accessible;
- In many areas where knowledge/information is available, action is nevertheless insufficient;
- Will not achieve SDG 12.4 (sound management of Chemicals & Waste) > business as usual is no option



Where are we coming from ?

UNEA 4

- Resolution by African Group & Switzerland
 - Recognised key role of science and science-based decision-making

New Mid-Term-Strategy UNEP (2022-2025)

- 3 Subprogrammes
 - Climate action >> IPCC
 - Nature action (Biodiversity) >> IPBES
 - Chemicals and Pollution action >> ????????
- Multiple disadvantages for Chemicals & Pollution cluster!



The resolution provides that UNEA agrees

to establish a science-policy panel to support action on chemicals, waste and pollution

that the panel should be autonomous and inter-governmental;

that the functions of a panel should be:

- Horizon scanning;
- Carrying out Assessments of issues;
- Providing up-to-date, relevant information, catalysing research, disseminating information, and raising awareness.



The resolution provides that UNEA agrees

that a SPP could provide authoritative, independent, credible, policy-relevant advice;

that a panel could support international agencies & instruments, countries and private sector

to establish a Open Ended Working Group (OEWG)

to invite the WHO to play a role regarding the organization and the content of these meetings



Taking account of the need:

to be policy relevant,
without being policy
prescriptive;

to be interdisciplinary,
with geographical,
regional and gender
balance;

to have authority,
credibility, legitimacy,
and transparency;

to complement and
not duplicate with
work of other agencies
or scientific bodies;

to address conflicts of
interest and to
manage confidential
information;

to be flexible, and
cost-effective.



A OEWG would prepare proposals for the panel, making recommendations on:

Institutional design

Process for determining the work programme,

How to identify and work with experts & internat. policy-making actors

How to agree reports

Administrative issues (Rules of Procedure, Budget, Funding etc.)



Added value of SPP on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution:

Contribute to enhance action on the sound management and chemicals and to reduce pollution by increased awareness & increased resources

Availability of advice will enable more timely action, minimise and prevent the adverse effects of pollution, including chemicals and waste, and can promote sustainable and green chemistry solutions

Policy relevant advice will support United Nations agencies, global Multilateral Agreements, other international instruments, such as the beyond 2020 instrument, countries and the private sector in their work

Stronger interaction with Climate and Biodiversity Cluster (IPCC & IPBES) > 2 strongly interlinked clusters



Let's start the journey – next steps:

- ✓ Webinars in all the regions, Geneva & Nairobi
 - ✓ Circulation of draft resolution text - open for comments, questions ... and co-sponsorship !
 - ✓ Official submission of draft resolution text on 10th of December
- Further outreach and informal discussions – comments, questions and co-sponsorship!
- Launch of negotiations at the OECPR on the 22nd of February**

Contact: felix.wertli@bafu.admin.ch; Michel.Tschirren@bafu.admin.ch; co-conveners & co-sponsors

ON THE ROAD TO UNEA 5.2

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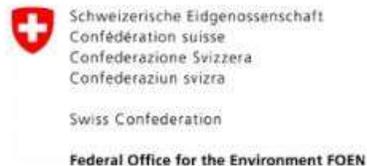
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QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION



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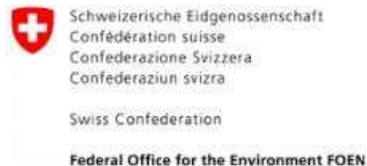
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ON THE ROAD TO UNEA 5.2

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CLOSING REMARKS



ON THE ROAD TO UNEA 5.2

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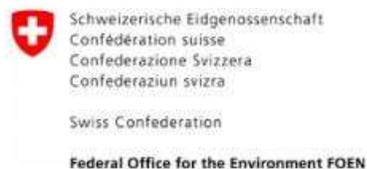


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Department
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Food & Rural Affairs



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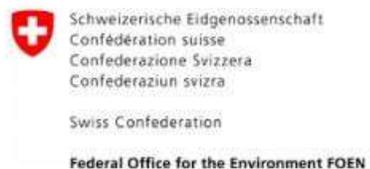


Ellie Bates

Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs,
United Kingdom



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THANK YOU!



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Permanent Mission of Uruguay to the United Nations



Monika MACDEVETTE

Head, Chemicals and Health Branch, UNEP



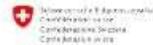
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Michel TSCHIRREN

Global Affairs Section of the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN)



John ROBERTS

Former Co-Chair and Chair of Working Groups, Contact Groups, and Expert Groups related to the Development of the Minamata Convention, and the Implementation of the Stockholm Convention



Sir Robert WATSON



Co-author of Assessment Report, former Chair of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) & Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)



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WHAT'S NEXT?

genevaenvironmentnetwork.org

GENEVA CITIES HUB GENEVA ENVIRONMENT NETWORK

HYBRID EVENT
**City Diplomacy Series -
Cities & COP26 negotiations**
16 December 2021 | 16h00 - 17:00 CET
Villa Rigot, Geneva
[Registration on our website](https://registration.citieshub.org)
www.genevacitieshub.org

EVENT | CONFERENCE
**Cities & COP26
Negotiations | City
Diplomacy Series**
16 DEC 2021 16:00 - 17:00
Villa Rigot & Online | Zoom
Geneva Cities Hub

☉ Climate
☉ SDG11 | SDG13

EVENT | VIRTUAL
**UN System Response to
Marine Litter and Plastic
Pollution | Geneva Beat
Plastic Pollution
Dialogues**
13 JAN 2022 14:00 - 15:30
Online | Webex
GEN, UN EMG

☉ Chemicals and Pollution | Plastics
☉ SDG3 | SDG12 | SDG17