

Agenda item 5

Summary of Information Document UNEP/AHEG/2019/3/INF/5

Mapping of all United Nations agencies, programmes, initiatives and expertise with relevance for the issue of marine litter, including plastic litter and microplastics

Third meeting of the ad hoc open-ended expert group on marine litter and microplastics
18-22 November 2019 – Bangkok, Thailand

Pursuant to UNEA Resolution 4/6*

Paragraph 8:

“Invites the Environment Management Group to engage in and contribute to the work of the ad hoc open-ended expert group on marine litter and microplastics by providing, inter alia, mapping of all United Nations agencies, programmes, initiatives and other sources of expertise relating to marine litter, including plastic litter and microplastics;

*(UNEP/EA.4/Res.6)

Purpose of Task Team

Environment Management Group Senior Officials established an interagency Task Team to prepare the requested system-wide contribution to be finalized by October 2020,

and:

- expand UN system involvement;
- strengthen the coordination of UN-system support to Member States in addressing the global challenge posed by marine plastic debris and microplastics.

Task Team Composition



Key objectives of the Task Team (1/2)

- To provide a comprehensive overview of UN system activities and initiatives that directly or indirectly address marine litter and microplastics, contributing to a broader stock-taking and “state of action” analysis under way by the ad hoc open-ended expert group on marine litter and microplastics;
- Serve as a platform for information exchange among UN system entities on activities and expertise related to marine litter and microplastics;

Key objectives of the Task Team (2/2)

- To create synergy and avoid duplication of work by identifying further collaboration opportunities and prospects to expand existing initiatives within the UN system related marine litter and microplastics;
- To raise awareness within and outside of the UN system on sources and impacts of marine litter and microplastics, highlighting the linkages to the issue of different sectors and mandates, and identifying entry points to addressing the challenge.

Main activities of the Task Team (1/2)

The Task Team shall organize its work to undertake the following main activities:

- Undertake a mapping exercise of initiatives and expertise with relevance to marine litter including plastic litter and microplastics, identifying possible gaps, overlaps, areas of synergy and opportunities for further cooperation.
- Based on the outcome of the mapping report, provide inputs, case studies and recommendations to the work of the ad hoc open-ended expert group on marine litter and microplastics.

Main activities of the Task Team (2/2)

- Enable information and knowledge exchange among EMG members on mandates, expertise, events and initiatives, for instance, in the form of webinars with the purpose to generate prerequisites for informed decision making, efficient use of funds and avoided duplication of efforts.
- Timeline

Thank you

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