

DRAFT OUTCOME DOCUMENT FROM THE AD HOC OPEN-ENDED EXPERT GROUP ON MARINE LITTER AND MICROPLASTICS

Chair's proposal for consideration by the meeting on 22 November 2019

A. Outcome of the third meeting of the ad hoc open-ended expert group on marine litter and microplastics

1. The ad hoc **open-ended** expert group on marine litter and microplastics ("**the expert group**") met in Bangkok on 18-22 November 2019. This outcome document ~~and~~ summarizes key discussions from the meeting, based on inputs received from participants in plenary, **following the items of the agenda adopted at the first day of the meeting**, in particular to **inform the future work** of the expert group in 2020.
2. The **expert group considered that [the fourth meeting should preferably take place on 4-8 May and that the fifth meeting should preferably take place on 2-6 November, and that]** future meetings will take place at the headquarters of the UN Environment Programme in Nairobi, unless formal offers to host a future meeting from member States are received by the Secretariat by 31 December 2019 at the latest.
3. The **expert group entrusted its** bureau to decide, in close consultation with member States, on the date(s) and venue(s) of its future meetings, by 31 January 2020 at the latest.
4. With the aim of making full use of the intersessional period for the future process, the **expert group** particularly highlighted the following general guidance:
 - The mandate of the expert group is laid out in paragraph 7 of UNEP/EA.4/Res.6 and paragraph 10 of UNEP/EA.3/Res.7.
 - **Other paragraphs under UNEP/EA.4/Res.6 and UNEP/EA.3/Res.7**, as well as other relevant UNEA resolutions, such as UNEP/EA.1/Res.6 and UNEP/EA.2/Res.11, also remain relevant to **inform** the work of the expert group.
 - Future deliberations should build on the work already undertaken by previous meetings of the expert group.

B. Guidance to the UNEP Secretariat on the preparations for the fourth meeting of the expert group

- I) Stocktaking (paragraph 7a of UNEA resolution 4/6)
5. The **expert group** requested the Secretariat to:
 - Consider **relevant work undertaken by UNEP, as well as other relevant** existing bodies of work, such as information submitted as part of studies undertaken by, for example, the Group of 20, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the Regional Seas Programmes **and the Basel Convention**;
 - Invite voluntary contributions to the stocktaking exercise through the survey tool **or through other submissions**; such contributions **need not be exhaustive and may address any activity considered relevant by respondents**.
 - **Capture a wide range of activities**, bearing in mind that the **exercise will not be exhaustive**.

- Provide guidance for the submission process **and provide support as needed.**

II) Financial and technical resources and mechanisms (paragraph 7b of UNEA resolution 4/6)

6. The **expert group** requested the Secretariat to produce one report covering both aspects that will:
- Consider existing bodies of work such as the Basel Convention, the Partnership on Plastic Waste, the Global Partnership on Marine Litter, Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, the Commonwealth Clean Ocean Alliance.
 - Collect information from existing sources, look at funding mechanisms such as bilateral donors, and development assistance, multilateral bodies including the World Bank, IMF, regional and sub-regional development banks, the UN system (including MEAs), the Global Environment Facility and other relevant sources, as well as information from the private sector, including for-profit institutions, non-profit, foundations, capital markets etc.
 - Promote a better understanding of the current state of play of financial resources and mechanisms, as well as of the financing flows between key donors/financial institutions and recipients at regional and national level, including on challenges and barriers.
 - Examine new opportunities through innovative financing including public-private sector partnership, blended finance, policies such as extended producer responsibility and instruments such as polluter pays principles, with the aim to identify ways to promote harmonization and cooperation.
 - Take into consideration other work streams in particular the stocktaking exercise.

III) Partnerships (paragraph 7c of UNEA resolution 4/6)

7. The **expert group** requested the Secretariat to:
- Continue to consider partnerships as a cross-cutting issue.
 - **Present case studies and examples from relevant partnerships, including public-private partnerships.**

IV) Effectiveness (paragraph 7d of UNEA resolution 4/6)

8. The **expert group** requested the Secretariat to:
- **Consider the existing body of work on response options and activities.**
 - **Invite voluntary contributions to provide examples on effectiveness analysis approaches.**
 - **Carry out relevant pilot studies on effectiveness approaches.**