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United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

Ad hoc open-ended expert group on marine litter and microplastics Second meeting

Geneva, 3–7 December 2018 Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda*

Organizational matters: organization of work

Annotated provisional agenda

Item 1

Opening of the meeting

1. The second meeting of the ad hoc open-ended expert group established by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its third session¹ will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 3 December 2018.

Item 2

Organizational matters

(a) Adoption of the agenda

2. The Co-Chairs of the ad hoc open-ended expert group will draw participants' attention to the provisional agenda (UNEP/AHEG/2018/2/1) and propose its adoption.

(b) Organization of work

3. The Co-Chairs will invite the secretariat to brief participants on the logistical arrangements for the meeting. It is suggested that discussions under agenda item 4 be conducted mainly in smaller groups and discussions under the remaining agenda items mainly in plenary session, with the option of meeting in smaller groups as needed.

(c) Election of officers

4. Pursuant to the relevant rules of procedure of the Environment Assembly, the Co-Chairs and the Rapporteur elected at the expert group's first meeting will continue to fulfil those functions at the second meeting.

^{*} UNEP/AHEG/2018/2/1.

¹ UNEP/EA.3/Res.7.

Item 3

Update on progress since the first meeting of the ad hoc open-ended expert group

5. The Co-Chairs will invite the secretariat to introduce the working and information documents prepared to facilitate the deliberations of the expert group.

Item 4

Workshop discussions

6. The Co-Chairs will invite the secretariat to introduce the workshop discussion topics and the proposed approach for contact group discussions.

(a) Information and monitoring

7. The ad hoc open-ended expert group is expected to provide concrete recommendations for addressing barriers to combating marine litter and microplastics, including challenges and solutions related to resources in developing countries (UNEP/EA.3/Res.7, para. 10 (d) (i)), with a focus on information and monitoring, taking into account the relevant discussion paper (UNEP/AHEG/2018/2/3), as well as relevant resolutions, decisions and reports. The Co-Chairs will invite member States and observers to present their views through contact group discussions and make recommendations regarding the options presented in the summary for policymakers (UNEP/AHEG/2018/1/INF/3) of the assessment of the effectiveness of relevant international, regional and sub-regional governance strategies and approaches for combating marine plastic litter and microplastics², as well as making recommendations regarding barriers and options (summarized in document UNEP/AHEG/2018/2/2).

(b) Governance

8. The ad hoc open-ended expert group is expected to provide concrete recommendations for addressing barriers to combating marine litter and microplastics, including challenges and solutions related to resources in developing countries (UNEP/EA.3/Res.7, para. 10 (d) (i)), with a focus on governance, taking into account the relevant discussion paper (UNEP/AHEG/2018/2/4), as well as relevant resolutions, decisions and reports. The Co-Chairs will invite representatives of member States and observers to present their views through contact group discussions and make recommendations regarding priority areas to address in relation to the options presented in the summary for policymakers (UNEP/AHEG/2018/1/INF/3).

Item 5

Summary of workshop discussions

9. The ad hoc open-ended expert group will hear summaries of the contact group discussions. The Co-Chairs will invite representatives of member States and observers to present their views.

Item 6

Options for continued work

10. Pursuant to paragraph 10 (d) (v) of document UNEP/EA.3/Res.7, and building on the discussions held under agenda items 4 and 5, the ad hoc open-ended expert group is expected to identify potential options for continued work for consideration by the Environment Assembly. It is expected to consider the feasibility and effectiveness of various response options. The Co-Chairs will invite representatives of member States and observers to present their views and make concrete proposals on the basis of the options presented in the summary for policymakers (UNEP/AHEG/2018/1/INF/3).

² The full assessment is available at https://papersmart.unon.org/resolution/uploads/unep_aheg_2018_inf3_full_assessment_en.pdf.

Item 7

Preparation of input to the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

11. A consolidated document based on discussions under agenda item 6 will be prepared for review and discussion, and the expert group will be invited to finalize the options and recommendations therein, with amendments as appropriate.

Item 8

Other matters

12. The ad hoc open-ended expert group may wish to consider any other matters related to its work.

Item 9

Adoption of the report

13. The Co-Chairs will present the input document prepared under agenda item 7 for consideration by members of the ad hoc expert group in plenary session. The expert group may wish to consider the summary and adopt it for inclusion in the meeting report, with the understanding that the proceedings of the meeting will be reflected in a report to be finalized by the Rapporteur after the meeting.

Item 10

Closure of the meeting

14. The meeting is expected to conclude its work by 6 p.m. on Friday, 7 December 2018.