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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
Fourth meeting**

Online, 9–13 November 2020

Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda*

Organizational matters: organization of work

Annotated provisional agenda

Item 1

Opening of the meeting

1. The fourth meeting of the ad hoc open-ended expert group established by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) at its third session,¹ whose mandate was extended at the Assembly's fourth session,² will be opened at 1 p.m. Nairobi time (UTC + 3) on Monday, 9 November 2020. Working documents for the meeting will be provided in all official languages of the United Nations, while information documents will be provided in English only. Interpretation into all United Nations official languages will be provided during all plenary sessions of the meeting.

Item 2

Organizational matters

(a) Election of officers

2. Pursuant to the relevant rules of procedure of the Environment Assembly, Member States will be invited to elect a Chair for the Bureau of the ad hoc open-ended expert group.

(b) Adoption of the agenda

3. The Chair will introduce the provisional agenda for the meeting (UNEP/AHEG/4/1) and invite participants to adopt it.

(c) Organization of work

4. The Chair will invite the secretariat to present the programme of work for the meeting, as outlined in document UNEP/AHEG/4/INF/1, and the list of documents contained in document UNEP/AHEG/4/INF/2 for consideration and approval by the ad hoc open-ended expert group.

* UNEP/AHEG/4/1.

¹ UNEP/EA.3/Res.7.

² UNEP/EA.4/Res.6.

5. The Chair will invite the secretariat to outline the logistical arrangements for the meeting.

Item 3

Progress in relevant work pursuant to United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 4/6 on marine plastic litter and microplastics

6. The secretariat will provide an update on work undertaken as mandated by the Environment Assembly in its resolution 4/6. The progress report will cover the following areas:
 - (a) Draft assessment on sources, pathways and hazards of litter, including plastic litter and microplastics pollution (UNEP/AHEG/4/INF/3);
 - (b) Establishment of a digital multi-stakeholder platform for marine litter and microplastics (UNEP/AHEG/4/INF/4);
 - (c) Provisional mapping of all United Nations agencies, programmes, initiatives and other sources of expertise relating to marine litter, including plastic litter and microplastics (UNEP/AHEG/4/INF/5).
7. The ad hoc open-ended working group may wish to take note of the work undertaken.

Item 4

Consideration of paragraph 7 of United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 4/6

(a) Taking stock of existing activities and action (resolution 4/6, para. 7 (a))

8. The ad hoc open-ended expert group will be invited to consider paragraph 7 (a) of resolution 4/6, by which it is requested to take stock of existing activities and action by governments, regional and global instruments, international organizations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other relevant contributors to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics with the aim of the long-term elimination of discharge into the oceans, on the basis of documents UNEP/AHEG/4/2 (“Summary of the stocktake of existing activities and action towards the long-term elimination of discharges into the oceans to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics”) and UNEP/AHEG/4/INF/6 (“Report on the stocktake of existing activities and action towards the long-term elimination of discharges into the oceans to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics”).

9. The ad hoc open-ended expert group may wish to take note of the findings of the stocktaking activities and consider them in its deliberations under agenda item 6.

(b) Identification of technical and financial resources or mechanisms (resolution 4/6, para. 7 (b))

10. The ad hoc open-ended expert group will be invited to consider paragraph 7 (b) of resolution 4/6, by which it is requested to identify technical and financial resources or mechanisms for supporting countries in addressing marine plastic litter and microplastics, on the basis of documents UNEP/AHEG/4/3 (“Identification of technical and financial resources or mechanisms for supporting countries in addressing marine plastic litter and microplastics”) and UNEP/AHEG/4/INF/7 (“Report on the inventory of technical and financial resources or mechanisms for supporting countries in addressing marine plastic litter and microplastics”).

11. The ad hoc open-ended expert group may wish to take note of the findings of the stocktaking activities and consider them in its deliberations under agenda item 6.

(c) Encouragement of partnerships that undertake activities in relation to the prevention of marine litter (resolution 4/6, para. 7 (c))

12. The ad hoc open-ended expert group will be invited to consider paragraph 7 (c) of resolution 4/6, by which it is requested to encourage partnerships that undertake activities such as the development of source inventories, the improvement of waste management, awareness-raising and the promotion of innovation in relation to the prevention of marine litter, including plastic litter and microplastics, on the basis of document UNEP/AHEG/4/INF/8 (“Initial case studies on partnerships that undertake activities in relation to the prevention of marine litter, including plastic litter and microplastics”).

13. The ad hoc open-ended expert group may wish to take note of the findings of the stocktaking activities and consider them in its deliberations under agenda item 6.

(d) Analysis of the effectiveness of existing and potential response options and activities (resolution 4/6, para. 7 (d))

14. The ad hoc open-ended expert group will be invited to consider paragraph 7 (d) of resolution 4/6, by which it is requested to analyse the effectiveness of existing and potential response options and activities with regard to marine litter and microplastics at all levels, to determine the contribution that they make to solving the global problem, on the basis of documents UNEP/AHEG/4/4 (“Summary of the analysis of the effectiveness of existing and potential response options and activities on marine litter and microplastics at all levels to determine the contribution in solving the global problem”) and UNEP/AHEG/4/INF/9 (“Analysis of the effectiveness of existing and potential response options and activities on marine litter and microplastics at all levels to determine the contribution in solving the global problem and selected case studies”).

15. The ad hoc open-ended expert group may wish to take note of the findings of these stocktaking activities and consider them in its deliberations under agenda item 6.

Item 5

Consideration of submissions on potential response options pursuant to paragraph 10 (d) of United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 3/7 on marine litter and microplastics

16. Pursuant to paragraph 10 (d) of resolution 3/7, the open-ended ad hoc expert group will be invited to consider and identify response options for continued work on the basis of documents UNEP/AHEG/4/5 (“Identification of potential options for continued work for consideration by the United Nations Environment Assembly”) and UNEP/AHEG/4/INF/10 (“Submissions on potential options for continued work for consideration by the United Nations Environment Assembly”).

Item 6

Preparations for the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

17. The ad hoc open-ended expert group will be invited to consider a summary based on the input provided by experts during the various stages of its work. The summary will be annexed to the report of the meeting as well as to the report by the Executive Director of UNEP to the Environment Assembly at its fifth session on the progress achieved in the implementation of resolution 4/6.

Item 7

Other matters

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

Item 8

Adoption of the report of the meeting

19. The ad hoc open-ended expert group will be invited to consider and adopt a draft report of the meeting with the understanding that the report will be finalized by the Rapporteur, with the assistance of the secretariat, after the meeting.

Item 9

Closure of the meeting

20. The expert group is expected to conclude its work by 5.30 p.m. Nairobi time on Friday, 13 November 2020.