

**VIETNAM'S STATEMENT IN THE AD HOC OPEN-ENDED EXPERT GROUP
ON MARINE LITTER AND MICROPLASTICS THIRD MEETING**

Chairman,

Lady and Gentlemen,

We recognize the issues on “Marine Litter and Microplastic” is highly relevant. The challenges of “Marine Litter and Microplastic” are global and require global solutions and initiatives framed within national and regional priorities.

At the G7 Summit in Canada in June 2018, Our Prime Minister advocated for a “plastic free ocean”, and called for a Global Cooperation Mechanism for Plastic Litter Reduction with joint actions from all relevant countries for ever-blue oceans full of fish and shrimps and free from plastic, serving as valuable assets for future generations.

Vietnam has adopted a development strategy to promote maritime economy in parallel with protecting maritime environment and ecosystem.

We do not sacrifice the environment for polluted - economic growth.

We encourage clean energy, green growth and sustainable projects while combating strongly polluting waste for blue and healthy seas.

We welcome solutions and initiatives preventing plastic litter on oceans, and ready to work with partners for implementation.

We welcome and cooperate with other countries, organizations, donors in the principles having contributions for maintaining maritime safety, marine environmental protection on the basis of respecting international law.

Vietnam wish having a blue ocean, a green planet, peace, stability and common prosperity.

Thank you for your kind attention.