

Intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment

Bureau meeting

Thursday, 12 September 2024

15:15- 17:15 EAT

Online

MEETING REPORT

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda.

1. The Chair of the INC, Luis Vayas Valdivieso (Ecuador), welcomed members of the INC Bureau and opened the meeting.
2. The meeting was attended by the following members:
INC Chair: Mr. Luis Vayas Valdivieso (Ecuador);
African States: Mr. Ndiaye Cheikh Sylla (Senegal);
Asia-Pacific States: Mr. Hiroshi Ono (Japan);
Eastern European States: Ms. Irma Gurguliani (Georgia); Mr. Harry Liiv (Estonia);
Latin American and Caribbean States: Mr. Gustavo Meza-Cuadra Velasquez (Peru);
Small-Island Developing States: Ms. Asha Challenger (Antigua and Barbuda);
Western European and Other States: Ms. Johanna Lissinger-Peitz (Sweden); Ms. Larke Williams (United States of America).
3. The Secretariat was represented by the Executive Secretary of the INC, Ms. Jyoti Mathur-Filipp, and INC Legal Adviser, Ms. Marianna Bolshakova.
4. The INC Chair welcomed the Bureau from Rio de Janeiro, where he was currently attending meetings together with the Executive Secretary. He outlined the purpose of the meeting, which was the preparation of the informal HOD meeting on Monday, 16 September, for which a non-paper and proposed approach for the meeting, including several guiding questions, had been circulated.
5. The Executive Secretary welcomed the Bureau and emphasized the importance of the virtual informal HODs on Monday. She also provided an update on registrations for INC-5 and the in-person HODs, taking place in Nairobi from 30 September until 1 October. As of 12 September, 113 registrations from 80 Members of the INC had been received for INC-5. For the in-person HODs, 180 registrations from 108 Members of

the INC had been received. The virtual HODs on Monday was mentioned as an important stepping-stone on the road to Busan.

6. The meeting agenda was adopted without further additions.

Agenda Item 2: Preparations for the informal virtual meeting at the Head of Delegations level on 16 September 2024.

Summary of discussions

7. The INC Chair informed the Bureau that, at his request, the Secretariat circulated his non-paper to the focal points participating at the virtual Heads of Delegation (HOD) meeting. The non-paper would be revised in time for the in-person HODs meeting in Nairobi, building on the informal virtual HODs discussions on Monday, 16 September 2024. A communication also went out to the focal points and Heads of Delegation on the proposed approach to the meeting and guiding questions, to frame the virtual HOD discussions on Monday.
8. The Bureau thanked the Chair for the non-paper as well the guiding questions. Both were received well. The questions were considered well-grounded and reflecting a wide range of views. Suggestions were heard for the Chair to present his non-paper briefly during the HOD on 16 September 2024 to provide a framing to the headings included as well as those omitted. The Bureau also expressed support for the further development of the non-paper based on the upcoming discussions and emphasized the importance of tying discussion outcomes of the HOD and those of the intersessional expert groups together. The Chair indicated his intention of providing opening as well as closing remarks to frame the discussions at the HOD and emphasized the importance of encouraging head of delegation participation on 16 September 2024.

Agenda Item 3: Other matters.

9. The Executive Secretary reminded the Bureau that registration for INC-5 was closing on Friday, 20 September 2024. The deadline to apply for travel support to participate in INC-5 was extended until Friday, 13 September 2024. Detailed instructions on registration were to be found in the invitation letter.
10. The INC Chair identified subsequent Bureau meeting dates as:
 - Wednesday, 2 October 2024 from 9:30 – 13:00 in-person in Nairobi
 - Monday, 14 October 2024 from 15:00 – 17:00 EAT, online
 - Monday, 28 October 2024 from 15:00 – 17:00 EAT, online
 - Monday, 11 November 2024 from 15:00 - 17:00 EAT, online
 - 23 November 2024 in-person in Busan

A meeting was also to be scheduled on 17 or 18 September 2024, for which the Chair sought the Bureau's availability. The Secretariat would send out the calendar invites on Friday, 13 September 2024. As discussed during the Bureau retreat, should the need

arise, extraordinary or informal Bureau meetings may be scheduled in addition to the scheduled dates.

Discussion outcomes and follow-up

INC Secretariat to circulate calendar invites for the upcoming Bureau meetings on Friday, 13 September.

Agenda Item 4: Closure of the meeting.

11. The meeting closed at 16:15.