

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

Ad hoc intersessional open-ended expert group to identify and analyse criteria and non criteria based approaches with regard to plastic products and chemicals of concern in plastic products, and product design focusing on recyclability and reusability of plastic products, considering their uses and applications

In-person meeting

24-28 August 2024

ESCAP Hall, Level 2, United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organizational matters.
3. Update on previous work, including the virtual meetings of the expert group.
4. Identification and analysis of criteria and non criteria based approaches with regard to plastic products and chemicals of concern in plastic products, and product design focusing on recyclability and reusability of plastic products, considering their uses and applications.
 - (a) Identification and analysis of criteria and non criteria based approaches with regard to plastic products, considering their uses and applications;
 - (b) Identification and analysis of criteria and non criteria based approaches with regard to chemicals of concern in plastic products, considering their uses and applications;
 - (c) Identification and analysis of criteria and non criteria based approaches with regard to product design, focusing on recyclability and reusability, considering their uses and applications.
5. Summary of the discussions.
6. Other matters.
7. Closure of the meeting.

Annotated agenda

Item 1

Opening of the meeting.

1. The in-person meeting of the ad hoc intersessional open-ended expert group (hereinafter “expert group”) to identify and analyse criteria and non criteria based approaches with regard to plastic products and chemicals of concern in plastic products, and product design focusing on recyclability and reusability of plastic products, considering their uses and applications, established by the intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (INC) at its fourth session¹ will be opened at 9.30 a.m. on Saturday, 24 August 2024.

Item 2

Organizational matters.

2. The Co-Chairs will brief participants on the proposed organization of work as outlined in the Annex to the present document and will invite the Secretariat to provide information on logistical arrangements for the meeting.

Item 3

Update on previous work, including the virtual meetings of the expert group.

3. An update will be provided by the Co-Chairs on the work undertaken by the expert group thus far during the intersessional period, including during its three virtual meetings held in July and August 2024.

Item 4

Identification and analysis of criteria and non criteria based approaches with regard to plastic products and chemicals of concern in plastic products, and product design focusing on recyclability and reusability of plastic products, considering their uses and applications.

4. The Co-Chairs will invite the expert group to identify and analyse criteria and non criteria based approaches in the following three key areas, building on the previous work of the expert group, including the three virtual meetings held in July and August.

(a) Identification and analysis of criteria and non criteria based approaches with regard to plastic products, considering their uses and applications;

5. The Co-Chairs will invite the expert group to analyse criteria and non criteria based types of approaches identified with regard to plastic products, considering their uses and applications, taking into account the work of the expert group to date, including the nominated experts’ responses to the online questionnaire and the Co-Chairs’ synthesis document. A set of guiding questions has been made available in the annex to the present document to guide the discussions.

¹ [UNEP/PP/INC.4/5](#), Annex.

(b) Identification and analysis of criteria and non criteria based approaches with regard to chemicals of concern in plastic products, considering their uses and applications;

6. The Co-Chairs will invite the expert group to analyse criteria and non criteria based types of approaches identified with regard to chemicals of concern in plastic products, considering their uses and applications, taking into account the work of the expert group to date, including the nominated experts' responses to the online questionnaire and the Co-Chairs' synthesis document. A set of guiding questions has been made available in the annex to the present note to guide the discussions.

(c) Identification and analysis of criteria and non criteria based approaches with regard to product design, focusing on recyclability and reusability, considering their uses and applications.

7. The Co-Chairs will invite the expert group to analyse criteria and non criteria based types of approaches identified with regard to product design focusing on recyclability and reusability of plastic products, considering their uses and applications, taking into account the work of the expert group to date, including the nominated experts' responses to the online questionnaire and the Co-Chairs' synthesis document. A set of guiding questions has been made available in the annex to the present note to guide the discussions.

Item 5

Summary of the discussions.

8. The Co-Chairs will summarize the meeting discussions.

Item 6

Other matters.

9. The expert group may wish to consider any other matters related to its work.

Item 7

Closure of the meeting.

10. The meeting is expected to conclude its work by 5.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 28 August 2024.

Annex: Proposed organization of work^{2,3}

| | Date and time | Agenda item | Approach and guiding questions |
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| Session 1 | Saturday, 24 August 2024 (9.30-12.30) | <p><u>Agenda item 1:</u> Opening of the meeting</p> <p><u>Agenda item 2:</u> Organizational matters</p> <p><u>Agenda item 3:</u> Update on previous work, including the virtual meetings of the expert group</p> <p><u>Agenda item 4:</u> (a) Identification and analysis of criteria and non criteria based approaches with regard to <u>plastic products</u>, considering their uses and applications</p> | <p>Agenda item 4(a)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open discussion on the sub-item, building on the synthesis document, discussions in the three virtual meetings held in July and August and responses to the questionnaires. • Discuss the identified criteria and non criteria based approaches, in light of the broad categories set out in paragraph 25 under section III of the synthesis document, taking into account the proposed guiding questions below. • Guiding questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. What are the main characteristics, pros, cons and similarities of the identified approaches, to address plastic products, for the purposes of the ILBI, including in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Effectiveness in addressing plastic pollution in national, regional and global contexts? ii. Complementarity of the identified approaches, for possible application in combination at global and/or national levels? iii. Capacity to allow monitoring of progress and evaluation of effectiveness? iv. Potential to follow a stepwise, phased approach in regulation of plastic products? v. Capacity to take into account evolutions in the state of relevant knowledge? |

² The timing is indicative, and the Co-Chairs may propose extending discussions, where necessary.

³ A reception is hosted by the Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee from 17:30 to 19:30 on 24 August at the reception hall on the ground floor of the United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok.

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| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vi. Suitability for grouping of products and capacity to accommodate different types of uses and applications? vii. Capacity to accommodate flexibility, including based on different national circumstances and capabilities? viii. The replicability and applicability of approaches under existing MEAs to the ILBI? ix. Complementarity by measures in other existing instruments? x. Expected socio-economic impacts and their implications? <p>b. What are the necessary conditions and prerequisites for an effective application of the identified approaches to plastic products, for the purposes of the implementation of the ILBI?</p> |
| Session 2 | Saturday, 24 August 2024 (14.00-17.00) | <u>Agenda item 4: (a) (Cont.)</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue discussion on 4(a). |
| Session 3 | Sunday, 25 August 2024 (9.30-12.30) | <u>Agenda item 4: (a) (Cont.)</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue discussion on 4(a). |
| Session 4 | Sunday, 25 August 2024 (14.00-17.00) | <u>Agenda item 4: (b) Identification and analysis of criteria and non criteria based approaches with regard to <u>chemicals of concern in plastic products</u>, considering their uses and applications</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open discussion on the sub-item, building on the synthesis document, discussions in the three virtual meetings held in July and August and responses to the questionnaires. • Discuss the identified criteria and non criteria based approaches, in light of the broad categories set out under paragraph 49 section IV of the synthesis document, taking into account the proposed guiding questions below. • Guiding questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. What are the main characteristics, pros, cons and similarities of the identified approaches, to address chemicals of concern in plastic products, for the purposes of the ILBI, including in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Effectiveness in addressing plastic pollution in national, regional and global contexts? ii. Complementarity of the identified approaches, for possible application in combination at global and/or national levels? |

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| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. Capacity to allow monitoring of progress and evaluation of effectiveness? iv. Potential to follow a stepwise, phased approach in regulation of chemicals of concern in plastic products? v. Capacity to take into account evolutions in the state of relevant knowledge? vi. Suitability for grouping of chemicals of concern in plastic products and capacity to accommodate different types of uses and applications? vii. Capacity to accommodate flexibility, including based on different national circumstances and capabilities? viii. The replicability and applicability of approaches under existing MEAs to the ILBI? ix. Complementarity by measures in other existing instruments? x. Expected socio-economic impacts and their implications? xi. Addressing gaps of and avoiding duplications with existing mechanisms? <p>b. What are the necessary conditions and prerequisites for an effective implementation of the identified broad categories with regard to chemicals of concern in plastic products, for the purposes of the ILBI?</p> |
| <p>Session 5</p> | <p>Monday, 26 August 2024 (9.30-12.30)</p> | <p><u>Agenda item 4:</u> (b) (Cont.)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue discussion on 4(b). |
| <p>Session 6</p> | <p>Monday, 26 August 2024 (14.00-17.00)</p> | <p><u>Agenda item 4:</u> (c) Identification and analysis of criteria and non criteria based approaches with regard to <u>product design, focusing on recyclability and reusability</u>, considering their uses and applications.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open discussion on the sub-item, building on the synthesis document, discussions in the three virtual meetings held in July and August and responses to the questionnaires. • Discuss the identified criteria and non criteria based approaches, in light of the broad categories set out in paragraph 72 under section V of the synthesis document, taking into account the proposed guiding questions below. • Guiding questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. What are the main characteristics, pros, cons and similarities of the identified approaches, including the combination of complementary |

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| | | | <p>approaches at global and national levels, to address product design focusing on recyclability and reusability, for the purposes of the ILBI, including in terms of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Effectiveness in addressing plastic pollution in national, regional and global contexts? ii. Complementarity of the identified approaches, for possible application in combination at global and/or national levels? iii. Capacity to allow monitoring of progress and evaluation of effectiveness? iv. Potential to follow a stepwise, phased approach in regulation of product design? v. Capacity to take into account evolutions in the state of relevant knowledge? vi. Capability to accommodate different types of uses and applications? vii. Capacity to accommodate flexibility, including based on different national circumstances and capabilities? viii. The replicability and applicability of approaches under existing MEAs to the ILBI? ix. Complementarity by measures in other existing instruments? x. Expected socio-economic impacts and their implications? xi. Other potential attributes, apart from improved reusability and recyclability? <p>b. What are the necessary conditions and prerequisites for an effective implementation of the identified broad categories with regard to product design, focusing on reusability and recyclability, for the purposes of the ILBI?</p> |
| <p>Session 7</p> | <p>Tuesday, 27 August 2024 (9.30-12.30)</p> | <p><u>Agenda item 4: (c) (Cont.)</u></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue discussion under 4(c). |
| <p>Session 8</p> | <p>Tuesday,</p> | <p><u>Agenda item 4: (Cont.)</u></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue discussion under agenda item 4 as needed. |

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| | 27 August 2024 (14.00-17.00) | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek input from Experts to synthesise and summarise work to this point |
| Session 9 | Wednesday, 28 August 2024 (9.30-12.30) | <u>Agenda item 4:</u> (Cont.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wrap-up discussions under agenda item 4. |
| Session 10 | Wednesday, 28 August 2024 (14.00-17.00) | <p><u>Agenda item 5:</u> Summary of the discussions</p> <p><u>Agenda item 6:</u> Other matters</p> <p><u>Agenda item 7:</u> Closure of the meeting.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Chairs provide an overview to the expert group 2 of key elements to be included in the Co-Chairs’ report and of the meeting summary of the session. • Experts are invited to discuss any other matters related to their mandated work. • Co-Chairs provide an overview on the process and anticipated timing for finalization of the co-chairs’ report. |