

**REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE ROLE OF THE CO-CHAIR,  
NGO's MAJOR GROUP OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME  
(UNEP)**

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**Submitted to**

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## **1. Introduction**

This report presents the main activities undertaken by Griffins Ochieng, co-chair (facilitator) of the NGOs major group and member of the Major Groups Facilitating Committee (MGFC) of the United Nations Environment Programme (MGFC).

The report describes the activities undertaken in implementing my mandate as elected member of the MGFC and includes activities such as; participation in the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA 4) held in March 2019, Ad Hoc Open-Ended Expert Group (AHOEEG) on Marine Litter and Microplastics, a UNEA subsidiary body at its 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> meetings held in Geneva, Switzerland and Bangkok, Thailand and the Africa Ministers Conference on Environment (AMCEN) at its 17<sup>th</sup> session held in November 2019 where I was financially supported by UNEP.

In addition, the report describes other relevant activities I undertook such as participation in the meetings of the chemicals and waste cluster, such as Intersessional Process of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) beyond 2020 and the Conference of Parties (COP) to Minamata Convention on Mercury.

## **2. The main activities undertaken under the mandate as elected member of MGFC**

### **2.1. Participation in UNEA 4**

In March 2019, I actively participated in the UNEA 4 meeting held on 11-15 March 2019. Prior to UNEA 4 meeting, I also participated in the global Major Groups Stakeholders Forum (MGSF) and 4th Meeting of the Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN Environment Programme (UNEP). In the MGSF, I facilitated the break out group on resource efficiency, chemical and waste cluster, by collecting comments/contributions of the participants present on the resolutions under this cluster. These inputs/contributions were used to develop a joint common statement of the major groups, which was one of the main outcomes of the MGSF.

### **2.2. Ad-hoc Open-Ended Expert Groups Meetings (AHOEEG 2&3)**

As a member of the MGFC, I actively participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> meetings of Ad Hoc Open-Ended Expert Group (AHOEEG) on marine litter which were held in Geneva, Switzerland on 3-7 December 2018 and Bangkok, Thailand on 18-22 November 2019 respectively. The AHOEEG is a subsidiary body of UNEA and the meetings were organized by UN Environment (UNEP). The meetings brought together member states to the UNEP, from all UN regions across the globe as well as participants from the major groups and stakeholders accredited to the UNEP. Major groups and stakeholders meeting were held a day prior to the meetings, both in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> meetings, which I actively participated. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, I co-facilitated the breakout group (group 3) on Technical and Financial Resources. See annex 1

### **2.3. 17<sup>th</sup> AMCEN Session**

In November 2019, I participated in the 17<sup>th</sup> session of the Africa Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) held on 11-15 November 2019 in Durban, South Africa. The meeting was organized by UN Environment (regional office for Africa) and involved participation of Africa ministers of Environment, Environment experts, policy makers and major groups and stakeholders drawn from the Africa region.

As a co-chair of the NGOs major group and member of the MGFC, I actively participated in the organization of the Major Groups and Stakeholders meeting which was held on 9-10 November 2019, prior to the 17th session of AMCEN.

### **3. Main activities undertaken under other relevant meetings in Chemicals and Waste Cluster**

#### **3.1. Participation in the Conference of Parties to Minamata Convention on Mercury**

Since 2017, I have actively participated in the COPs of the Minamata Convention. These included the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> COPs, which were held in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively in Geneva, Switzerland. In the meetings, I lobbied for NGOs views in the COP meetings such as contact groups and side events.

#### **3.2. Participation in the Intersessional Process of SAICM beyond 2020**

Since 2018, I have actively participated as an NGO representative in the intersessional process to prepare recommendations regarding the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020. The intersessional process (IP) was initiated through resolution IV/4 during the fourth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM4) held in 2015. A total of three IP meetings have been held since its creation in ICCM 4 and I have actively participated in all the meetings as NGO representative, and lobbied for NGOs views in the negotiation process.

**Annex 1:**

TUESDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2019

WEDNESDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2019

|                                  |  |   |  |  |   |
|----------------------------------|--|---|--|--|---|
| 10:00<br>-<br>13:00              | PLENARY<br><br><b>Agenda item 6: Introduction to activities included in the mandate of the ad hoc open-ended expert group pursuant to resolution 4/6</b><br><br>Presentations introducing the topics for the breakout group will be made during the plenary:<br><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stocktaking (7a, UNEA/EA.4/Res.6);</li> <li>• Technical and financial resources or mechanisms (7b);</li> <li>• Methodology for assessment of effectiveness (7d).</li> </ul> | <b>Agenda item 6 (continued)</b><br>PLENARY   |  |  |   |
|                                  | <b>CR1</b><br><u>Group 3:</u><br>Technical & Financial (7b)<br><br>Co-facilitators:<br>Sri Lanka & Griffins<br>Ochieng, CEJD   | <b>Room A</b><br><u>Group 4:</u><br>Technical & Financial (7b)<br>Co-facilitators:<br>Tbc & Philip Jacob, ISDR  | <b>CR4</b><br><u>Group 1:</u><br>Stocktaking (7a) & Effectiveness (7c)<br><br>Co-facilitators:<br>Russia & Leida, SFSF   | <b>Room H/ Foyer</b><br><u>Group 2:</u><br>Stocktaking (7a) & Effectiveness (7c)<br><br>Co-facilitators:<br>Kenya & Ralph Schneider, WPC               | <b>Agenda item 6 (continued)</b><br><br>PLENARY |
| <b>Agenda item 6 (continued)</b> |  |   |  |  |   |
| 15:00<br>-<br>18:00              | <b>CR1</b><br><u>Group 1:</u><br>Stocktaking (7a) & Effectiveness (7c)<br><br><u>Co-facilitators:</u><br>Ruslan Butovsky, Russian Federation & Leida Rijnhout, Stakeholder Forum for a Sust. Future  | <b>Room H/ Foyer</b><br><u>Group 2:</u><br>Stocktaking (7a) & Effectiveness (7c)<br><br><u>Co-facilitators:</u><br>Ayub Macharia, Kenya & Ralph Schneider, World Plastics Council | <b>CR4</b><br><u>Group 3:</u><br>Technical & Financial (7b)<br><br><u>Co-facilitators:</u><br>Temey Pradeep Kumara, Sri Lanka & Griffins Ochieng, Center for Env. Justice and Dev. | <b>Room A</b><br><u>Group 4:</u><br>Technical & Financial (7b)<br><br><u>Co-facilitators:</u><br>Tbc & Philip Jacob, Inst. for Sust. Dev. and Research | <b>Agenda item 6 (continued)</b><br><br>PLENARY |
|                                  | <b>Agenda item 6 (continued)</b>   |   |  |  |   |

= Plenary session
  = Stocktaking and Effectiveness break-out group
  = Technical and Finance break-out group