

Summary Report of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Expert Group on Marine Litter and Microplastics Fourth Meeting

- 1 - We need regional and global strategies to unite all effort to address plastic litter in an effective way.
- 2 - Different legislations must be applied but each country applies the legislation based on the different marine ecosystems.
- 3 - More studies and data are required to know the effects of plastic litter and their composition on marine biodiversity globally.
- 4 - Guide the public to reduce on single use plastic by different instruments or measures, and support stakeholders to promote producing products from recycled plastic or use different plastic polymers in the production of new plastic products.
- 5 - Involving political members in environmental issues will increase the awareness of plastic litter for more open discussions about the problem, and direct decision makers and investors to conduct projects with the involvement of governmental resources to eliminate such pollution.

Regarding the agendas that were discussed previously, Kuwait has plastic litter on its coasts and in their shallow sea. We have NGO projects that participate in marine plastic litter issue such as Omniya recycling project and Al-Nowair. Al-Nowair conducts beach cleaning campaigns that is organized by H.H. Shaikha Intisar Al-Sabah. Also, recycling plastic is conducted in Kuwait by Omniya, via support and guidance of the Environment Public Authority (EPA). Another NGO team is the volunteers of the Kuwait diving team were they remove any fishing gear left or neglected in cooperation with PAAF (Public Authority of agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources) which is a governmental sector.

Another project by the EPA was a progress projects that was conducted for socioeconomic impacts on coastal areas and marine life of Kuwait. It was a cooperation between EPA, Kuwait University, and Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science. Part of this project was done to assess the marine litter in three locations to sample marine litter in approximately of

100m. type of litter were plastic, wood, metal, rubber, organic material, fabric, and mixed material.

On international agreements; Kuwait has joined the Basel Convention on control of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal as well as the Rotterdam Convention for the prior informed consent (PIC) on hazardous chemicals.

Kuwait also has the New Kuwait 2035 for sustainable development. Which it works on 7 goals: global positioning, developed infrastructure, creative human capital, effective public administration, high quality health care, sustainable diversified economy, and sustainable living environment.