

Reference: UNE-2022-00869

23 April 2022

Dear Minister,

I am honored to invite you to attend the meeting of the ad hoc open-ended working group (OEWG) scheduled to take place 30 May – 1 June 2022 in Dakar, Senegal, with regional consultations and multi-stakeholder dialogues taking place 29 May 2022.

The meeting of the OEWG, as requested by the UNEA resolution 5/14 entitled 'End plastic pollution: Towards an international legally binding instrument', will prepare for the work of the intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC) to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution. In line with paragraph 5 of the UNE resolution, the meeting is expected to discuss the timetable and organization of work of the committee, taking into account the provisions and elements identified in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the resolution.

Furthermore, the UNEA resolution envisages that the future instrument would include provisions to encourage action by all stakeholders (sub-paragraph 3(l)) and to initiate a multi-stakeholder action agenda (sub-paragraph 3(m)). In order to prepare for future deliberations on these provisions, UNEP will organize a series of multi-stakeholder dialogues, to be initiated at the OEWG, with the objective of creating a space for constructive engagement and innovative thinking.

The meeting will be organized in a hybrid format, with both in-person and online participation. Delegations and accredited stakeholders are invited to attend in person. To minimize the risk associated with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, access to the in-person meeting rooms will be limited to two representatives per government delegation. Member States who are unable to join in person will have the opportunity to participate in the discussions online with speaking rights assured. Further information will be provided in a logistical note to be issued soon.

UNEP will be in a position to support the participation of one representative per developing country, with priority given to Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States, thanks to extrabudgetary contributions generously provided by Member States. Those requesting financial support will need to register and email unep-incplastic.secretariat@un.org by 30 April 2022. To promote universal participation, all Member States are once again invited to consider providing extrabudgetary resources.

The agenda, meeting documentation, programme for the multi-stakeholder dialogues and registration details are available on the [meeting website](#). Your office should feel free to reach out to Ms. Leticia Carvalho, Principal Coordinator, UNEP (unep-incplastic.secretariat@un.org), who stands ready to provide any information that your office may require.

Finally, I wish to underline our commitment to advance gender equality and empowering all women and youth in international decision-making processes. To this end, we invite Member States as well as stakeholders to promote the participation of women and youth in their delegations.

Yours sincerely,


Inger Andersen
Executive Director

To: Ministers responsible for the Environment

cc: Permanent Representatives to UNEP