

Guidance to the co-organizers of thematic side events for INC-2 (9 May 2023)

Dates and room locations:

Twelve thematic side events will be held on the margins of INC-2 from 1:30-2:45pm daily, 29 May-1 June 2023 at UNESCO headquarters, Paris. In-person and in English only.

	Date	Theme
1	Monday 29 May	Promoting sustainable consumption and production of plastics
2		Oceans and the marine environment, including transport, ghost fishing gears, dumping, pellet loss and impacts on biodiversity
3		The role of trade measures in the future instrument: challenges and opportunities
4	Tuesday 30 May	Monitoring the situation and monitoring progress of the future instrument: objectives/targets and their associated baselines, indicators and timelines.
5		Plastic pollution, toxicity, chemicals, and potential risks to human health
6		Means of implementation, including resource mobilization and financial mechanism
7	Wednesday 31 May	Microplastic: understanding the challenge and its impacts
8		Promoting circular economy to retain plastics in the economy and out of the environment, including innovation and expanding the share of circular plastics
9		Enabling change at local, national and regional levels
10	Thursday 1 June	Promoting environmentally sound management of plastic waste, including collection, sorting and recycling, and consideration of investments
11		Existing plastic pollution: Challenges of SIDs and remote communities
12		Socio-economic considerations in the transition to circular approaches to plastic, including human rights approaches and inclusion of the informal waste sector

The themes have been chosen based on the discussions at INC-1, the written submissions received, and were decided in consultation with the Chair and the host country.

The side event rooms, which will be announced by 22 May, are all equipped with a computer, a projector, a screen, internet access and microphones. Organizers of side events who need to rent equipment or supplies on a commercial basis other than those provided free of charge may contact the Secretariat by 15 May (the contact person is Nader Ibrahim - nader.ibrahim@un.org).

Participation in the thematic side events

In addition to the individual meeting badges for INC-2, secondary floating badges are needed to enter the meeting premises to present and participate in the thematic side events.

Role of the co-organizers

- Work together to develop an inclusive event that can inform the INC process, including the discussions of the INC-2.
- Appoint one focal point for communication with the INC secretariat (submit name and contact information to the secretariat by 15 May).
- Prepare an agenda for the side event, submit it to the secretariat through the focal point by 22 May. The agenda should include time for questions and dialogue with the participants in the

event. The secretariat will post the agenda on the INC website. The event must take due account of gender considerations and regional balance.

- Strictly respect the timeframe allotted, from 1.30 – 2.45 pm.
- The focal point for each session is requested, in consultation with the co-organizers, to prepare a summary of the event (proposed outline for the summary included in the Annex to this guidance note) and submit it to the secretariat no later than 9 June 2023. The secretariat will make the summaries available on the INC website.

Catering

No lunch will be provided by the host country or the INC secretariat for the side events. If co-organizers of the side events wish to provide lunch for their event, one of the co-organizers must arrange and pay directly to the catering facilities at UNESCO.

Contact person from UNESCO for catering:

Ms. Sarah Coquet: attachecommercial.unesco@serenest.fr

With copy to Ms. Anna Ferrari: anna.f@serenest.fr and r.gomez-de-cedron@unesco.org

For further information about the venue and rooms please contact:

Mr. Nader Ibrahim: nader.ibrahim@un.org

unep-incplastic.secretariat@un.org

ANNEX

Template for written report back from the thematic side events during INC-2, Paris, 29 May – 1 June

Co-organizers of the thematic side events are asked to prepare a summary of the event (maximum 2 pages, excluding the annexes) and submit it to the secretariat no later than 9 June 2023. The secretariat will make the summaries available on the INC web-site.

1. Title of the side event:
2. Date:
3. Co-organizers (name, title and organization):
4. Presenters and titles:
5. Number of participants and breakdown of types of participants:
6. Key messages resulting from the event:
 - a. ...
 - b. ...
 - c. ...
 - d. ...
7. Key policy considerations for the INC process resulting from the event, including the INC-2 discussions, and outstanding gaps to address in moving forward towards an international legally binding instrument:
 - a. ...
 - b. ...
 - c. ...
 - d. ...
8. What are the key knowledge products and resource tools that are currently available to inform negotiators in this process (this is not intended as a bibliography, please provide a maximum 3-5 resources)? Please also comment on any data and knowledge gaps (if any).
9. Annex I: Agenda of the event
10. Annex II: Feedback to the secretariat on the approach to the thematic side events. (Note: will not be posted on the INC web-site)
11. Annex III: List of those that requested to co-organize this side event at INC-2 (for reference in moving forward / list to be provided to co-organizers by the secretariat)
12. Annex IV (optional): Additional information any of the co-organizers may wish to share, if any