

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

Bureau meeting

Thursday, 10 October 2024

15:00- 17:00 EAT

Online

DRAFT ACTION POINTS

INC BUREAU MEETING 10 OCTOBER 2024

1. The meeting was attended by the following members:
 - INC Chair: Mr. Luis Vayas Valdivieso (Ecuador);
 - African States: Mr. Ndiaye Cheikh Sylla (Senegal);
 - Asia-Pacific States: Mr. Hiroshi Ono (Japan);
 - Eastern European States: Ms. Irma Gurguliani (Georgia); Mr. Harry Liiv (Estonia);
 - Latin American and Caribbean States: Mr. Gustavo Meza-Cuadra Velasquez (Peru);
 - Small-Island Developing States: Ms. Asha Challenger (Antigua and Barbuda);
 - Western European and Other States: Ms. Johanna Lissinger-Peitz (Sweden); Ms. Larke Williams (United States of America).
2. The Secretariat was represented by the Executive Secretary of the INC, Ms. Jyoti Mathur-Filipp, and INC Legal Adviser, Ms. Marianna Bolshakova.
3. The INC Chair, Luis Vayas Valdivieso outlined elements of his Scenario note, which were discussed amongst the Bureau, and recapped action points from the meeting:
 - a. The Chair outlined **elements of his Scenario Note**, which will be published the following week, mid-October 2024. The elements outlined include establishment of four contact groups, with two groups on control measures, and two on means of implementation. The Chair noted that he was fully cognisant of the need to accommodate the limitation of smaller delegations when organizing the work at INC-5. He noted that there was a need for at least two contact group meetings in parallel as the session commences. He also emphasized that the limited time available mean that he will seek flexibility from delegations to finalize negotiations at INC-5. The Chair also indicated that the use of informal meetings could be essential in progressing within the limited time available. In this regard, not only the number of contact groups was important, but also the contact group work distribution, with sufficient time-allocation for each area of work.

- b. The Chair recapped that the **legal drafting group** established at INC-4 would need to be tasked to start its review of provisions, beginning with final provisions early in the session and would be forwarded other provisions for review as negotiations progress. It was also essential to ensure sufficient time for the group to carry out legal linguistic and consistency checks (informally referred to as the “legal scrub”) of the text as a whole before it is presented to the plenary for approval. He highlighted that the group was not of negotiating nature, and therefore meetings of the legal drafting group would not be counted towards the two parallel meetings.
- c. Chair’s consultations on possible **presiding officers of the contact groups and the legal drafting group** were ongoing.
- d. A further virtual Heads of Delegation meeting would be scheduled, in advance of the session, on the **organization of work at INC-5 and a discussion of the potential work in the intersessional period between the Diplomatic Conference and COP-1**.
- e. The Chair recalled the call he heard from delegations **to optimize time during the opening plenary** and therefore proposed that national statements be submitted in writing only to be made available on the session website. Any statements from groups of states would be to be concise and maximum of 5 minutes in length. Member’s positions on specific areas were best addressed in the context of contact groups.
- f. The **third iteration of the Chair’s non-paper** prepared under the Chair’s own authority and due to be made available in late October is intended to facilitate progress at the session. The third iteration of the non-paper could, if the Committee agrees, serve as the basis for negotiations. It is expected that the non-paper would include draft text, as well as a more detailed description to advance text on specific elements. It will draw on the compilation text, the non-paper 2.0 and the range of views raised at the Heads of Delegations level meetings. The Committee will also have available to it the scenario note, the compilation text and the reports of the Co-chairs of the intersessional expert groups.
- g. In response to inquiries from the Bureau members, the Chair clarified that he proposes to **continue applying the draft rules of procedure on a provisional basis**, and that his intention was to conduct the session, as was done at previous INCs, in the spirit of cooperation and consensus. This will be reflected in the Scenario Note and the Chair’s remarks to the plenary under the relevant agenda item.
- h. The Bureau members stressed the importance of the logistical aspects of INC-5 being in place and welcomed the efforts of the host country and the secretariat in this regard.
- i. The Executive Secretary provided information on the status of registration for INC-5. As of 10 October, a total of 3465 registrations have been received, out of which 2759 are approved. The remaining are being processed. Currently, these consist of:
- 879 approved delegates from 160 Members of the Committee
 - 1583 approved observers from 486 NGOs
 - 42 approved observers from 13 intergovernmental organizations

- 189 approved observers from 21 UN entities and
 - 66 approved participants from 39 Media outlets.
- j. The Executive Secretary also reminded the Bureau to relay to their regions a reminder to apply for the entry visas for the Republic of Korea, if they have not already done so. Detailed information on the application process has been circulated via e-mail notifications from the Secretariat and is also available in the information note to participants available on the website. Should delegates have additional questions, a form to request assistance is available on the Indico site, the link to which can be accessed through the e-mail circulated or in the letter approving each registration.