UNEA 4 - Proposed Side Event on Plastics (Canada and Kenya)

Title of Event:	STRENGTHENING THE GLOBAL MOMENTUM TO TACKLE PLASTIC POLLUTION
	There is unprecedented momentum to tackle plastic pollution. This is demonstrated by the increasing
Description of event	number of initiatives launched in recent years and the continuing expansion to new partners of the
	Ocean Plastics Charter, launched under Canada's 2018 G7 Presidency. Now is the time to seize this
Provide opportunity for various stakeholders	momentum and turn commitments into action. This UNEA side event will build on the success of the
to highlight and address critical issues in	"Building the Global Momentum on Marine/Aquatic Plastics Litter" event held at the Sustainable Blue
accordance with next Assembly	Economy Conference (SBEC) in Kenya in November 2018. At the SBEC side event, it became clear that
	tackling plastic pollution requires a global movement of like-minded partners to stop the flow of plastic
	waste into lakes, rivers and oceans, accelerate the transition toward a circular economy, and recover
	plastic's economic value. The side event will bring together key leaders from governments, the private
	sector and civil society to highlight leadership, best practices, and innovative social and technological
	solutions in support of the <i>Ocean Plastics Charter</i> and in line with the recommendations of the outcome
	of the Sustainable Blue Economy Conference.
	Presentations will be followed by a moderated Q&A with the audience.
Link to UNEA priorities	This side event directly supports the overall theme of the Fourth Session of the United Nations
	Environmental Assembly (UNEA-4), "Innovative Solutions for Environmental Challenges and Sustainable
	Consumption and Production" by advancing circular economy principles and by driving global
	momentum to address marine plastic pollution. The event will provide a global perspective. Speakers from diverse regions will provide tangible examples of national-level actions to address marine plastic
	pollution across the plastic lifecycle, and will address issues within UNEA-4 subtheme B) "Lifecycle
	approaches to resource efficiency, energy, chemicals, and waste management".
Potential sponsors or partners	Canada (Environment and Climate Change Canada)
	Kenya (National Environment Management Authority and Ministry of Environment and Forestry)
Potential Panelists or speakers	Government representatives:
	- Canada
	- Kenya

	- SIDS
	Other representative: international organizations, private sector and civil society
	Moderator: TBD
	Note: In addition to reflecting a broad geographic perspective, gender-balance will be prioritized in selecting panelists.
Funding Requirements	Will organizers cover the cost of the side event: Yes or No? Yes
Additional Application Details	 Contact emails: marion.guayarcand@canada.ca; edeche@nema.go.ke; Dgnema@nema.go.ke; mmamo@nema.go.ke Organizations Names: Environment and Climate Change Canada, Government of Canada; Kenya National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) and Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Government of Kenya Organization Websites: www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change.html https://www.nema.go.ke/www.environment.go.ke
Additional Information	 Key features of the Oceans Plastics Charter include: increase efficient use of resources using a life-cycle approach; strengthen waste diversion and collection infrastructure; recapture value of plastics in the economy; stimulate private sector innovation for solutions, technologies and alternatives; mobilize and support collaborative government, industry, academia, citizen and youth-led initiatives.
	 The Ocean Plastics Charter has now been formally endorsed by: 16 countries: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, United Kingdom, Cabo Verde, the European Union, Jamaica, Kenya, Mexico, Nauru, the Netherlands, Norway, Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Senegal; 20 businesses and NGOs, including Walmart, Nestle, IKEA, The Coca-Cola Company, BASF

Canada and A&W Canada.

The Government of Canada has announced the following commitments in support of the Charter:

- Funding to support international work on plastics:
 - \$65 million for plastic waste solutions in developing countries through the World Bank;
 - \$6 million for innovative private-public partnerships through the World Economic Forum;
 - \$20 million for an international G7 Innovation Challenge to Address Marine Plastics Litter.
- Over \$12 million on domestic plastic innovation challenges through the Innovative Solutions Canada program.
 - Participating departments include ECCC, DFO, AAFC, NRCan and Transport Canada.
- Three new commitments under the Greening Government Strategy for reducing plastic waste in government operations:
 - waste reduction target to divert 75% of plastic waste by 2030;
 - eliminate unnecessary use of single-use plastics in government operations;
 - Leverage procurement practices to focus on sustainable plastic products.