

Explanatory note on Pre-session, In Session and Post-session documents for the ad hoc open-ended expert group on marine litter and microplastics.

Pre-session documents

The Secretariat prepares Pre-session documents in advance of a UN meeting. They usually consist of documents mandated by a UN resolution or developed in support of discussions under each specific agenda item. .

Pre-session **working documents** are given a specific document number (for example, UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/1). In accordance with rule 30 of the rules of procedure, they should be made available in all 6 UN languages at least six weeks in advance of the meeting, to help meeting participants prepare for consideration of each agenda item. In some cases, additional information is provided in **Information Documents** (INF Documents), which complements the official documentation. INF documents are often prepared in English only.

For the fourth meeting of the ad hoc open-ended expert group on marine litter and microplastics (AHEG -4), the following pre-session working documents are foreseen:

- **UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/1** - Provisional agenda;
- **UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/1/Add.1** - Draft Annotated provisional agenda;
- **UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/2** - Summary of the stocktake of existing activities and action towards the long-term elimination of discharges into the oceans, to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics;
- **UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/3** - Identification of technical and financial resources and mechanisms for supporting countries in addressing marine plastic litter and microplastics;
- **UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/4** - A revised methodology to analyse the effectiveness of existing and potential response options and activities on marine litter and microplastics at all levels to determine the contribution in solving the global problem;
- **UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/5** - Summary of submissions on potential options for continued work for consideration by the United Nations Environment Assembly
- **UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/6** - Meeting report with AHEG summary as an annex

Additional information will be provided in the following INF Documents;

- **UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/1** - Proposed programme of work;
- **UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/2** - Proposed list of documents;
- **UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/3** - Progress on the draft assessment on sources, pathways and hazards of litter including plastic litter and microplastics pollution;
- **UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/4** - Progress of the establishment of a multistakeholder platform for the immediate assessment on sources, pathways and hazards of litter including plastic litter and microplastics pollution;
- **UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/5** - Provisional mapping of all United Nations agencies, programmes, initiatives and other sources of expertise relating to marine

litter, including plastic litter and microplastics by the Environment Management Group

- **UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/6** - Report on the stocktake of existing activities and action towards the long-term elimination of discharges into the oceans, to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics;
- **UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/7** - Report on the Inventory of technical and financial resources and mechanisms for supporting countries in addressing marine plastic litter and microplastics;
- **UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/8** - Initial case studies on partnerships that undertake activities in relation to the prevention of marine litter, including plastic litter and microplastics;
- **UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/9** - A revised methodology to analyse the effectiveness of existing and potential response options and activities on marine litter and microplastics at all levels to determine the contribution in solving the global problem and selected case studies.
- **UNEP/AHEG/2020/4/INF/10** - Submissions on potential options for continued work for consideration by the United Nations Environment Assembly.

In-session documents

In-session documents are documents prepared at or before the meeting. They are often tabled by a Member State or by the Chair of the meeting, sometimes with the support of the Secretariat.

For AHEG-4, it is foreseen that the meeting may agree to develop a summary, which would be annexed to the report of the meeting as well as to the report by the Executive Director to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fifth session on the progress achieved in the implementation of UNEA resolution 4/6.

Post-session docs

Post-session documents are documents that are finalised at the end of or after the meeting, usually to provide a record of the proceedings and interventions held at the meeting. The Secretariat prepares these documents to be reviewed and cleared by the meeting Rapporteur in the Bureau, based on guidance from meeting participants.

For AHEG-4, the report of the fourth meeting of the ad hoc open-ended expert group on marine litter and microplastics would be a post-session document.

AHEG-related documents for the fifth session of the UN Environment Assembly - 5

In accordance with paragraph 9 of UNEA resolution 4/6, the Executive Director of UNEP is requested to report to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fifth session on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution. The report of the fourth meeting of the ad hoc open-ended expert group on marine litter and microplastics will be annexed to the Executive Director's report to UNEA-5.