

9. Among the 53 narrative submissions (using the G20 reporting format) 26 were from UN Member States, 24 from major groups and stakeholders, two from intergovernmental organizations and 11 from UN entities while noting that Member States continue to update and develop their legislation, policies, standards, rules and strategies on marine plastic litter while national frameworks are more prevalent. They further include actions on bans affecting single-use plastics, waste management, Extend Producers Responsibility (EPR), circular economy approach, incentives/disincentives, capacity-building, clean-ups, monitoring actions, the use of biodegradable plastics, and knowledge acquisition. Most activities reported are taking place predominantly at the national to subnational level and are mainly targeting outreach-related work. Legislative actions continue to focus on the downstream part and not on prevention

16. The development of a potential international legally binding global agreement was proposed (while some of other options were also proposed) following options for enhanced coordination and governance ~~were proposed. These options are~~ but are not mutually exclusive and could be explored in parallel:

- Consider strengthening coordination at the global level
- Improve coordination at the regional level
- Encourage new, and enhance existing, forms of financing and technical support to developing countries and small island developing States
- ~~• Consider the feasibility and effectiveness of a potential international legally binding agreement on marine litter and microplastics~~
- Consider the establishment of a forum enabling governments, industry, academia, civil society and other stakeholders to share experiences and coordinate action on a regular or ad hoc basis.

20. The AHEG recommends that UNEA-5 continues work on developing the functions such as those mentioned a – e below. The identified potential options include the following components. These potential options are not mutually exclusive.

- a. Setting new and or sharing existing long-term vision and objective toward elimination of all discharge of plastic into the ocean, Examples of noting a shared vision include: SDG 14.1, G20 Osaka Blue Ocean Vision, and UNEA Resolution 3/7 on the long-term elimination of discharge of litter and microplastics to the ocean and avoidance of detriment to marine ecosystem.
- b. Developing national action plans that cover as far as possible all life cycle stages of plastics from upstream including sustainable production and consumption to downstream including sound waste management, as the basic framework that grounds countermeasures on marine plastic litter, taking into consideration the diverse national contexts. National action plans may include basic policy frameworks, related indicators to review the progress, reporting, and various substantial countermeasures.
- c. Enhancing regional and international cooperation to support effective national responses particularly for countries with limited resources and capacities, and having difficulties in developing and implementing such plans.
  - i. Financial and technical assistance, capacity building and technology transfer, to support states with implementing countermeasures and/or national action plans.
  - ii. Sharing best practices for peer learning and of measuring the progress at the global level.
- d. Further expand, accumulate and share scientific knowledge on marine litter, especially with regard to monitoring and source inventories in order to facilitate the science-based policy approach to measure the success towards achieving common vision and objectives.
  - i. Develop monitoring technology and systems in order to identify sources and flows of plastics.

- ii. Standardize/harmonize monitoring and data reporting on the effect of the response measures.
  - iii. Establish an international scientific advisory panel
- e. Facilitating multi-stakeholder engagement in support of decision-making processes and implementation of actions to address marine litter.

New para 21f. To accelerate above-mentioned ~~action items~~functions by;

- i. Strengthening existing instruments, frameworks, partnerships, and actions that address marine plastic litter and microplastics including efforts to develop and improve the capacity of countries to undertake environmentally sound waste management, such as the Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML), G20 implementation framework and Ocean Plastics Charter.
- ii. Developing a potential global legally binding instrument to provide a legal framework to that could contain either legally binding and/or non-binding elements, such as global and national reduction targets, phasing out avoidable plastic products, facilitation of national and regional action plans, and sharing of scientific knowledge through scientific panel

Either way intends to cover all stages of plastics life-cycle and promote a circular economy.

New para 23. The AHEG therefore recommends that one option for UNEA-5 establishes an Intergovernmental Negotiation Committee to focus on this task with a view to develop a global agreement according to 21. aimed to frame and coordinate the above-mentioned global functions in 20.