**Webinar of the Small Intersessional Working Group on Plastic wastes
technical guidelines (teleconference)**

Date: 29 of July 2020
Time: 14h to 16h (Geneva Time)

**Agenda**

1. Opening remarks
2. Information on the OEWG-12 meeting
3. Discussion on the (proposed) revised workplan
4. Any other matter
5. **Opening remarks**

The representative of the Secretariat explained that the main objective of this meeting was to take stock of where the group stands in relation to the plan of activities until COP-15, and to discuss the next steps.

The representative of one of the co-lead countries, Mr. Patrick McKell, thanked the group for their time and started chairing the meeting.

1. **Information on the OEWG-12 meeting**

The representative of the Secretariat provided some details about the OEWG-12 meeting now planned to take place in September. Here is an extract of the communication on this meeting that was sent to Parties and Observers to the convention. The paragraph in grey below explains the possibilities for the provision of comments by Parties and observer.

*The online segment will comprise two online sessions which will be held in the first week of September (31 August – 4 September 2020) with a duration of three hours each. Participants will be informed soon on the exact timing of those two sessions. The sessions will consist of technical briefings and run through the entire OEWG-12 agenda in a consecutive manner.*

*Parties and observers will be able to provide oral or written statements and/or comments on topics and products of the intersessional processes (e.g., draft reports, manuals, technical guidelines, guidance, recommendations, etc.) in front of OEWG-12 during the online segment in any of the six official languages of the United Nations, and will also be able to provide written comments on those products, in any of the six official languages of the United Nations, preferably in English, after the meeting according to specific deadlines as detailed in the attached agreed approach for organizing OEWG-12.*

*OEWG-12 will be suspended at the end of the online segment and reconvened during a face to face meeting of up to 4 days in March 2021, in Nairobi, Kenya, back to back with fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-5), subject to the availability of resources, a positive development of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) situation, as well as the availability of the meeting venue.*

*Both the online and face to face segments of the OEWG-12 will be conducted in all six UN languages.*

Comments on the technical guidelines on plastic wastes (INF 14) are expected by 15 September 2020.

The INF document is available on the OEWG-12 webpage. [http://www.basel.int/TheConvention/OpenendedWorkingGroup(OEWG)/Meetings/OEWG12/Overview/tabid/8264/Default.aspx](http://www.basel.int/TheConvention/OpenendedWorkingGroup%28OEWG%29/Meetings/OEWG12/Overview/tabid/8264/Default.aspx)

Mr. Patrick McKell has also agreed to provide a short summary on the SIWG and its work during the OEWG, on behalf of the working group and of the co-lead countries.

1. **Discussion on the (proposed) revised workplan**

The group agreed that the tentative schedule should be organized assuming that the technical guidelines will be prepared for possible adoption at COP-15.

However, some participants explained that it might be difficult to reach the level of maturity required for the technical guidelines to be adopted at COP-15 if there is not enough time for negotiations beforehand. This relates to the fact that the group does not have a chance to meet face-to-face in 2020, as it was originally planned.

A final decision on whether adoption is a possible scenario or not should take place at or after an online meeting of the group, tentatively to be scheduled to take place in December 2020 (dates to be confirmed). This meeting should consider the next revised version of the technical guidelines to be prepared in October/November, taking into account the comments at and following OEWG-12. The Secretariat will discuss with the co-leads about the duration of the online meeting and will get back to the group later on.

The Secretariat and co-leads have agreed to hire one or more consultants to update the technical guidelines based on the comments at and following OEWG-12 (with deadline of 15 September).

The group also agreed that it would be better to have the next revised version of the guidelines 3 weeks or longer before the online meeting, so that the group gets enough time to prepare for the negotiations. Additionally, the group would be invited to provide comments in advance of the meeting on this next revised version of the technical guidelines (deadline for comments to be defined).

The output of the online meeting should be used for the preparation of COP-15 documents, going for translation.

After that, the group might be able to meet back to back with the OEWG-12 face-to-face segment, which is planned to take place in Nairobi, Kenya, in March 2021. Additionally, the group may also decide to hold other online meetings previous or back-to-back to the COP in order to allow for further negotiations.

1. **Any other business**

Chair McKell thanked everyone for their constructive suggestions and closed the meeting at 16:00h.

**Annex I – List of attendees**

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| **Parties** |
| **Name** | **Representing** |
| Agustin Harte | Argentina |
| Marcela Paola Zamorano | Argentina |
| Christopher Mariano | Canada |
| Maxime Dube | Canada |
| Guo Yan | China |
| Zhao Nana | China |
| Peter Wessman | European Commission |
| Michael Ernst | Germany |
| Juliane Koch-Jugl | Germany |
| Toru Terai | Japan |
| Mazriah Ayu Abu Bakar | Malaysia |
| Prof. Alo | Nigeria |
| Bernt Sigmund Ringvold | Norway |
| Patrick McKell | United Kingdom |

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| **Observers** |
| **Name** | **Representing** |
| Stewart Harris | American Chemistry Council |
| Natalia Maciel | BCCC-SCRC, Uruguay |
| Virginia Santana | BCCC-SCRC, Uruguay |
| Ryann Howard | US Department of State |
| Liabeth Yohannes | USEPA |
| Osamu Sakamoto | EX Research Institute Ltd. (EXRI) |
| Kishor Parajuli | EX Research Institute Ltd. (EXRI), Japan |
| Steve Wong | Fukutomi Recycling Limited |
| Lee Bell | IPEN |
| Adina Renee Adler | ISRI |
| Patrick de Kort | Plastics Recyclers - Europe |
| Marzia Scopelliti | PlasticsEurope |
| Ronald van der Meer | Borealis AG |

**BRS Secretariat**

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| Ms. Carla Valle-Klann |
| Ms. Melisa Lim |