DIALOGUE ON PLASTIC POLLUTION AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE PLASTICS TRADE

ONE-OFF MATCHMAKING EVENT

THURSDAY, 9 OCTOBER, 15:00-17:00 (ROOM S3 AND ZOOM)

Concept

The MC13 Ministerial Statement on Plastic Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade (WT/MIN(24)/14) provided for addressing trade-related capacity building and technical assistance needs of developing Members, least-developed Members, SVEs and SIDS, including through the implementation of Aid for Trade and facilitate ongoing efforts to better match existing funding opportunities with specific trade-related needs identified by developing Members to tackle plastic pollution.

Building on the results of the Aid for Trade (AfT) Global Review and Needs Assessment Survey (INF/TE/IDP/W/12) and the informal "matchmaking" facilitation efforts developed following the MC13 Ministerial Statement (*see* INF/TE/IDP/RD/193), this event aims to explore opportunities to further support "ongoing efforts to better match existing funding opportunities with specific trade-related needs" through enhanced cooperation. It will provide a platform for donors, institutions, and private sector actors to present their initiatives and offerings, identify gaps and opportunities to avoid duplication of efforts. It will also allow developing Members to continue sharing their specific trade-related needs and explore potential matches.

A set of surveys were sent to WTO Members and DPP stakeholders with guiding questions to inform the technical discussions (see annex).

Structure

A first segment of the event will examine current and planned trade-related aid, technical assistance and capacity building programmes supported by donors, agencies and institutions. A second segment will focus on the existing trade-related needs to address plastic pollution, based on an update of the 2023 Aid for Trade Survey. To support inputs, delegations have been invited to provide and/or update their inputs to the AfT Survey.[1] A third segment will focus on solutions, services, and other forms of support offered by institutions, private-sector, NGOs and other representatives to address identified trade-related challenges. The discussions for the first and third segments will be also supported by short surveys to be completed by donor organisations/institutions and private sector/NGOs. For each of the three segments of the event, fire-starter speakers will open the discussions, followed by a moderated discussion by Members and stakeholders. A final segment will feature a discussion on reflections and the key takeaways.

Programme

Moderators: Kay Sealy, Barbados and Daniela García, Ecuador

15:00-15:20 **Opening segment**

- *Welcome remarks by the DPP coordinators and co-sponsors*
  - H.E. Omar Zniber, Ambassador of Morocco on behalf of DPP coordinators
  - H.E. Eduardo Ernesto Sperisen-Yurt, Ambassador of Guatemala
- *Presentation by the WTO Secretariat of summary information from surveys*

15:20-15:50 **"Offering" segment**

- *Fire-starter speakers (2-3 minutes each)*

[1] AfT global review and needs assessment survey (Es) - Formstack – Spanish.
AfT global review and needs assessment survey (Fr) - Formstack – French.
AfT global review and needs assessment survey - Formstack – English.

- Ms. Natalia Gamboa Alpizar, UNDP Costa Rica
- Mr. Borja De La Peña Escardó, INBAR

❖ *Moderated discussion by Members and stakeholders*

15:50-16:20 **"Needs and priorities" segment**

❖ *Fire-starter speakers (2-3 minutes each)*

- H.E. Clara Manuela da Luz Delgado Jesus, Ambassador of Cabo Verde
- H.E. Ambassador Nella Pepe Tavita-Levy, Samoa

❖ *Moderated discussion by Members and stakeholders*

16:20-16:50 **"Solutions" segment**

❖ *Fire-starter speakers (2-3 minutes each)*

- Mr. Jeet Kar, World Economic Forum
- Ms. Saloni Sharma, Go!PHA

❖ *Moderated discussion by Members and stakeholders*

17:45-18:00 **"Reflections" segment**

❖ *Moderated discussions by Members and stakeholders: reflections on lessons learnt and key takeaways*

❖ *Conclusions by Moderators*

❖ *Concluding remarks*

- H.E. Clara Manuela da Luz Delgado Jesus, Ambassador of Cabo Verde