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**UNOFFICIAL ROOM DOCUMENT<sup>1</sup>**

**DIALOGUE ON PLASTICS POLLUTION AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE  
PLASTICS TRADE**

STATEMENT BY UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD)

*Plenary Meeting – 26 January 2024*

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**DOCUMENT DE SÉANCE NON OFFICIEL<sup>1</sup>**

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UNCTAD statement below:

Dear Chair,

The UNCTAD Secretariat would like to congratulate all efforts and results achieved by the co-conveners and the efficient work of the WTO Secretariat.

UNCTAD fully supports WTO Members efforts in the Dialogue on Plastics Pollution. The Bridgetown Covenant (2021) clearly mandates UNCTAD to support “conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources, including addressing the discharge of plastic litter and other waste in oceans and significantly reducing marine pollution of all kinds and ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns”.

The draft statement looks very balanced, practical and action oriented. In this regard, the UNCTAD Secretariat stands ready to support the key actions to be finally agreed by WTO Members under the statement, as they relate to SDGs implementation, and particularly on trade and development.

UNCTAD organized various special events at INC 3, INC 4, and UNFCCC COP28 with WTO, UNEP, BRS Secretariat, TESS, CIEL, on the role of trade measures in a future binding instrument on plastic pollution as well as on how combatting plastic pollution and illegal traffic in plastic waste can help reduce carbon emissions. All to enable further coherence between multilateral trade and environment policies.

UNCTAD reiterates its engagement at the DPP process. In this regard, UNCTAD will be organizing a Brief to UNCTAD Members on key issues on the trade and environment nexus, including on trade in plastics, plastic pollution, and the value of non-plastic material substitutes to inform our members on advances in these topics in the road to WTO MC13, UNEA-6 and INC-4. The briefing will take place on the 02 February. All WTO Members are also invited.

Thank you Chair.

  

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