

21 February 2022

(22-1681) Page: 1/2

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INFORMAL DIALOGUE ON PLASTICS POLLUTION AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE PLASTICS TRADE (IDP)

IDP PLAN 2022

The following communication, dated 21 February 2022, is being circulated at the request of the delegations of Australia, Barbados, China, Ecuador, Fiji and Morocco (IDP Coordinators).

- 1. This plan is intended to outline the implementation of the Ministerial Statement on Plastic Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade (WT/MIN(21)/8/Rev.2). As per the Ministerial Statement the IDP will aim for concrete, pragmatic and effective outcomes on the actions and understanding set out in the Ministerial Statement at the latest by MC13. The IDP coordinators will continue to lead the work of the IDP.
- 2. The IDP will host four open plenary meetings in 2022 and additional intersessional work as set out in this plan. IDP co-sponsors met on 27 January to discuss this plan.
- 3. The IDP plenaries are tentatively scheduled for the following dates:
 - 30 March
 - 25 May
 - 6 October
 - 7 December
- 4. Plenary meetings of the IDP will be open to all interested WTO Members and IDP stakeholders. The IDP will regularly review its progress towards the implementation of the Ministerial Statement. To advance further technical discussions and make progress towards concrete, pragmatic and effective outcomes, the IDP will establish workstreams on the agreed topics from the Ministerial Statement. Workstreams will advance work intersessionally through informal discussions or workshops. Workstreams will be held in an open, inclusive and transparent manner, and in coordination with the co-convenors. Efforts of the workstream will be supported by evidence-based information and data, and any outcomes will be developed in consultation with Members, and relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, including those outlined in paragraph 5 below. Scheduling of workstreams will be managed to support the participation of co-sponsors, noting the resource capacities of delegations, in particular developing and least developed Members.
- 5. Noting the value and importance of proactive engagement by a broad diversity of Members and relevant stakeholders including *inter alia* international organizations and institutions, trade and environmental authorities and domestic bodies, the private sector, academia, and civil society –, relevant stakeholders will be invited to contribute to IDP meetings. The inputs of stakeholders are intended to enhance discussions through technical expertise and experience.

Workstream Plan

Workstream – Crosscutting issues

6. Topics include capacity building and technical assistance; fostering international cooperation on transparency and data; cooperation and collaboration with other international organizations and processes, and collective approaches.¹

• Workstream - Promoting Trade to Tackle Plastic Pollution

7. Topics include environmentally sustainable waste management technologies; environmentally sustainable and effective substitutes and alternatives; reused and recycled plastics, including by incentivizing increased reuse and recycling of plastics (considering evidence of their long-term impacts); and technologies for environmentally sustainable and effective substitutes and alternatives of interest to developing members and least developed members including SIDS which are especially vulnerable to marine litter and plastic pollution, and opportunities for their MSMEs.

• Workstream - Circularity and Reduction to Tackle Plastic Pollution

8. Topics include how trade-related cooperation could help to support efforts to reduce unnecessary or harmful plastics and plastic products, including single-use plastics and plastic packaging associated with international trade; and sharing experiences of effective approaches to move towards more circular resource efficient and environmentally sustainable plastics trade.

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¹ paragraphs 1 and 2, WT/MIN(21)/8/Rev.2.