

GLOBAL CIVIL SOCIETY MEETING

Geneva, 1 December, 2018

THE PROBLEM

Every year about 8 millions tonnes of plastic waste enter the world's oceans, the equivalent of dumping one garbage truck of waste every minute. Plastic pollution spreads across the world's oceans and affects wildlife, contaminates fish stocks, and degrades the natural habitat. It also poses a growing potential hazard to both livelihoods and human health. Marine plastic pollution is a classic example of an international coordination problem that requires a global response. It is a problem that requires a new legally binding international treaty.

THE EXPERT MEETING ON MARINE PLASTIC

The world's governments have started to discuss the nature of such a response under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Assembly. The UNEA Ad Hoc Open-Ended Expert Group on Marine Litter and Microplastics will meet in Geneva on the 3rd to 7th of December and there is a potential for significant progress to be made by the upcoming fourth session of UNEA, in March 2019.

WHY A CIVIL SOCIETY MEETING ON MARINE PLASTIC POLLUTION?

Progress towards a new treaty will not happen by itself, and we believe the role of civil society will be key in driving this process forward. This is why WWF, in collaboration with the Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL), the Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA), and the Norwegian Academy of International Law (NAIL), is planning a full day civil society forum in the lead-up to the meeting of the Expert Group. We are bringing together world leading experts and civil society organizations from across the world to explore, discuss and design the global response needed to combat the plastic pollution of our oceans. We would like you to be part of this global civil society movement.



Of the plastic waste produced between 1950 and 2015, only 9 percent was recycled



Should everything stay the same by 2050 there will be more plastics than fish in the oceans



80% of waste in the ocean comes from land-based sources.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

09:30-10:00	Registration, coffee and snacks
10:00-10:30	SETTING THE STAGE: Welcome and opening remarks
10:30-11:15	SESSION 1: PLASTICS IN THE OCEAN What is the status of the problem? What are the projections for the future?
11:30-13:00	SESSION 2: A GLOBAL RESPONSE TO A GLOBAL PROBLEM Why is a new legally binding international treaty needed? Would such a treaty have an impact?
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-15:00	SESSION 3: THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY What can civil society do to promote a new treaty? What lessons can be learned from other processes?
15:15-16:45	SESSION 4: THE EXPERT GROUP AND THE ROAD TO UNEA-4 What to expect from the upcoming meeting of the Ad-Hoc Open-Ended Expert Group (3-7 Dec)? How should civil society work to promote the goal of a new legally binding treaty?
16:45-17:00	Closing

VENUE Club de la Presse (Route de Ferney 106), Geneva, Switzerland

FORMAT Expert presentations, panel debates, breakout groups, stage interviews, and more.

SPEAKERS

- Karen Raubenheimer, University of Wollongong and lead author of UN Environment's assessment of the current global framework
- Linda Finska, University of Tromsø
- Tim Grabel, Environment Investigation Agency
- Chris Sherrington, Eunomia
- Imogen P Ingram, Island Sustainability Alliance CIS Incl
...among others!

The meeting is free of charge and open to all.

To register please fill the [Registration Form](#) by 23 November 2018!

The Civil Society Meeting is organised in collaboration with:

