



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 26 April 2023
(OR. en)

8439/23
ADD 1

LIMITE

ENV 377
MAR 54
RECH 134
RELEX 470
ONU 31

NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Commission's intention to join, on behalf of the EU, the Ministerial Statement of the High Ambition Coalition to End Plastic Pollution

DOCUMENT PARTIALLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC (23.05.2023)

Delegations will find in the Annex a concept note from the Commission dated 18 April 2023, including the second draft version of the statement in subject. As at this stage, comments on the second version of the statement had already been agreed at working party level and the third and final version was expected to be shortly issued, the attached Commission note was not distributed on 18 April. The Commission presented on 25 April an updated concept note including the final version of the statement. This note was circulated on 25 April 2023 as document ST 8439/23.



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Directorate-General for the Environment
Green Diplomacy and Multilateralism
Global Environmental Cooperation and Multilateralism

Brussels, 18 April 2023

**NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL WORKING PARTY ON
INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT ISSUES**

SUBJECT: Ministerial Statement of the High Ambition Coalition to End Plastic Pollution

CONTACT POINTS: DG Environment, Unit F.3 – Global Environmental Cooperation and Multilateralism



REMARKS:

“The High Ambition Coalition to End Plastic Pollution” (“HAC”) was established on August 22, 2022, following the adoption of resolution 5/14 “End Plastic Pollution: Towards an international legally binding instrument” at the Fifth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, which established an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) with a mandate to develop a legally binding global agreement on plastic pollution.

The Concept Note of the HAC, which specifies the goals and outlines the key deliverables, has been shared with Member States. This was followed by the Non-Binding Instruments (NBI) procedure to allow the EU to join the Coalition on behalf of the Union, whereby the Commission informed that the Coalition aims to launch numerous statements. Following the endorsement by Council, the Commission joined, on behalf of the EU, the HAC on 14 November 2022.

In the preparations for the second session of the INC for the new international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, the co-chairs of the HAC (Rwanda and Norway) have prepared a joint Ministerial Statement reflecting the priorities of the members of the

coalition. The statement aims to sending a political message prior to the negotiations that will take place in Paris from 29 May 2023 in the second session of the INC (INC-2). In view of endorsing the statement on behalf of the EU, the Commission has launched the procedure on non-binding instruments as referred to in the note to Council on February 20, 2023.

The assessment of the Commission is that the draft joint Ministerial Statement circulated by the HAC co-chairs is in line with the existing EU positions for the negotiations of the new international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution. It also aligns well with the current EU legislation in the area, including the European Green Deal and the Circular Economy Action Plan. The statement does not preclude further development of negotiating positions to be taken on behalf of the EU and its Member States. On this basis, and the assumption that the final version of the Ministerial Statement will not diverge substantially from its current form, the Commission proposes to endorse the joint Ministerial Statement of the HAC, on behalf of the EU. The Commission is therefore seeking Council's prior endorsement for that purpose.

* * *

Attachment: Draft Joint Ministerial Statement of the High Ambition Coalition

DELETED

PUBLIC

DELETED

PUBLIC

DELETED

PUBLIC

Members of the High Ambition Coalition to End Plastic Pollution

Antigua & Barbuda	Finland	New Zealand
Armenia	France	Norway
Australia	Georgia	Panama
Austria	Germany	Peru
Azerbaijan	Ghana	Portugal
Belgium	Greenland	Republic of Korea
Bulgaria	Guinea	Rwanda
Burkina Faso	Iceland	Senegal
Cabo Verde	Ireland	Seychelles
Canada	Jordan	Slovenia
Chile	Luxembourg	Sweden
Colombia	Maldives	Switzerland
Cook Island	Mali	United Arab Emirates
Costa Rica	Mexico	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Denmark	Micronesia, Federated States of	Uruguay
Dominican Republic	Monaco	
Ecuador	Montenegro	
European Union	Netherlands	