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

**DRAFT AID FOR TRADE GLOBAL REVIEW AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY**

The following communication, dated 20 May 2022, is being circulated at the request of the delegations of Australia, Barbados, China, Ecuador, Fiji and Morocco (IDP Coordinators).

1. In our Ministerial Statement from December 2021 (WT/MIN(21)/8/Rev.2) Ministers reached the shared understanding to intensify our work on areas of common interest with a view to identifying actions that participating Members could take collectively to support global efforts to reduce plastics pollution. Amongst others:
  - Addressing trade-related capacity building and technical assistance needs of developing Members, least developed Members and vulnerable Small Island Developing States (SIDS), to support their efforts in several areas; and
  - Considering plastic pollution and environmentally sustainable plastics trade in Aid for Trade with environmentally sustainable objectives.
2. Consistent with this shared understanding that the IDP should consider tackling plastic pollution in Aid for Trade (Aft), as laid out in the Ministerial Statement, please provide your views on the following questions:
  - 1) *[to all participants]* How can plastic pollution in Aft programmes be better reflected in the next Aft Global Review cycle?
    - What relevant information can be gathered, for example through questions specific to plastics and plastic pollution to be included in the questionnaire sent to participants? For example, should participants be invited to simply indicate programmes related to addressing plastic pollution? Should there be some prior categorisation to help better identify the nature of existing programmes (e.g., by objective, type of policy, type of plastics, alternatives and substitutes and services, including access to technologies targeted etc) and the links to trade (e.g. is trade considered in the programme, what trade measures might accompany or support the implementation of the policy/ programme, etc.)?
    - What could IDP co-sponsors and other Members do themselves in their engagement in the process?
    - Should relevant stakeholders, including organisations engaged in global, regional and domestic programmes related to addressing plastic pollution, also be involved? If yes, which and how? For example, through specific Workshops that can be directly embedded into the Aft Work Programme? If so, on what topics?
  - 2) *[to recipient partners]* What trade-related actions are envisioned in relation to objectives identified in the IDP Ministerial Statement (see below)? What specific needs do you require

to efficiently implement trade-related policies and actions to address plastic pollution, namely to:

- move towards more circular plastics economies,
- improve the environmentally sound management, recovery and recycling of plastics,
- facilitate access to key technologies,
- expand trade in environmentally sustainable and effective substitutes and alternatives,
- encourage collaboration with the relevant stakeholders through, inter alia, the exchange of knowledge and experience relating to the development of and access to environmentally sustainable and effective (including cost and functionally effective) substitutes and alternatives to single-use plastics;
- develop and strengthen local capacities to produce environmentally sustainable and effective substitutes and alternatives to single-use plastics;
- design and implement trade policies to address plastic pollution,
- other.

*[participants would be able to provide a score from (low priority) 1 to 5 (high priority) among the following multiple answers to facilitate the analysis of results (the same used in the trade measures survey): access to technology; technical assistance on policy development; technical assistance on policy implementation (e.g. market surveillance); certification, testing and metrology; customs challenges; financial and investment assistance; domestic private sector engagement; domestic civil society engagement; cooperation from exporting Members; cooperation from value chain actors (incl. exporters); regional cooperation; Other (please elaborate)]*

- 3) *[to recipient partners]* What assistance do you already receive in your efforts to address plastic pollution? Does any of this assistance directly address trade-related actions to address plastic pollution? What is your experience with regional AfT programs to address plastic pollution? How do they compare to non-regional programs?
- 4) *[to donor Members and South South partners]* What assistance do you already provide to address plastic pollution? Does any of this assistance directly address trade-related actions to address plastic pollution? What information is needed to help guide the development of your AfT strategy to include a goal of actions to implement trade-related actions to address plastic pollution? What is your experience with regional AfT programs to address plastic pollution? How do they compare to non-regional programs?
- 5) *[to regional and international donor institutions and organisations working on plastics]* What assistance do you provide to address plastic pollution? Does any of this assistance directly address trade-related actions to address plastic pollution?