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United Nations Environment Programme

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Intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment
First session
Punta del Este, Uruguay, 28 November–2 December 2022

Proposed timetable for the intergovernmental negotiating committee process

Introduction

1. In its resolution UNEP/EA.5/Res.14, the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) requested the Executive Director of UNEP to convene an intergovernmental negotiating committee, to begin its work during the second half of 2022, with the ambition of completing its work by the end of 2024. The same resolution requested the Executive Director to convene a diplomatic conference of plenipotentiaries upon completion of negotiations by the intergovernmental negotiating committee, for the purpose of adopting the instrument and opening it for signature.

2. An ad hoc open-ended working group met in Dakar from 30 May to 1 June 2022 to prepare for the work of the intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment. The ad hoc open-ended working group agreed on a proposed approach to the work of the intergovernmental negotiating committee, where a proposed timetable for INC meetings was included.

3. The annex to the present note sets out a timetable for the intergovernmental negotiating committee process, taking into account the outcome from the ad hoc open-ended working group and the offers received by the secretariat to host the future intergovernmental negotiating committee sessions.

Annex

Proposed timetable for the intergovernmental negotiating committee process

Confirmed sessions

Meeting	*Dates*	*Host*
OEWG	30 May to 1 June 2022	Senegal
INC-1	28 November to 2 December 2022	Uruguay

Nominal timetable for future sessions[1]

Meeting	*Nominal Timeline*	*Host offers*
INC-2	April/May 2023	France
INC-3	13 - 17 November 2023	Kenya
UNEA-6	Week of 26 February 2024 (The UNEP Executive Director to report on progress)	
INC-4	Early April 2024	Canada
INC-5	October/November 2024	Republic of Korea
Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries	Mid 2025	Ecuador, Peru, Rwanda, Senegal

[1] Other offers the secretariat has received to host one of the INCs are from Chile and Rwanda.