



## 2022 United Nations Ocean Conference Side Event

*All hands on deck: Accelerating Solutions to End Plastic Pollution*

Monday June 27, 13:30-14:45

Organized by: Government of the United Kingdom (FCDO and Defra), Global Plastic Action Partnership (World Economic Forum), OECD, Plastic Oceans International, UNEP, World Bank

### **Background on the event (one paragraph)**

The development of the Blue Economy depends on a healthy ocean that is free from plastic pollution, which requires urgent and effective action, as reflected by the international community's decision to negotiate, by 2024, a legally binding international instrument to end plastic pollution. This session brought together representatives from governments, private sector, and civil society to explore existing solutions and policy interventions to deliver on this ambitious agenda. Participants included: Susan Gardner (Ecosystems Division Director, UNEP), Alain de Serres (Environment Acting Director, OECD), Rt Hon Lord Goldsmith of Richmond Park (Minister for Pacific and the Environment of the United Kingdom), Bettina Hoffmann (Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection, Germany), Mari Pangestu (Managing Director Development Policy and Partnership, World Bank), Kristin Hughes (Director, Global Plastic Action Partnership, World Economic Forum), Bianca Dager (Vice Minister of the Environment, Water and Ecological Transition of Ecuador); Willemijn Peters (CEO-Searious Business); Vincent Doumeizel (United Nations, Global Compact), Mark Minneboo (Regional Director for Latin America, Plastic Oceans International). Session Moderator: Julie Andersen, CEO- Plastic Oceans International

### **Key Issues discussed (5- 8 bullet points)**

- Overview of the global challenge plastic pollution poses, including its long-term challenges and opportunities.
- Policy solutions to end plastic pollution presented by [the OECD](#), including an in-depth analysis of the plastic life cycle including economic and environmental drivers.
- New tools, financing instruments and methodologies developed by [the World Bank](#) and the [Global Plastic Action Partnership](#).

- Successful partnerships, initiatives and challenges from civil society.
- Role of the private sector.

### **Key recommendations for action (5 - 6 bullet points)**

- According to World Bank research (“Where is the Value in the Chain? Pathways out of Plastic Pollution”), a comprehensive mix of coherent policy instruments is the most effective to prevent plastic pollution and can turn the value chain from linear to circular and reduce the volume of plastic waste. The research brings insights from two new models, the Plastic Policy Simulator and the Plastic Substitution Trade-off Estimator. Three principles emerge from this work: national action plans on plastic pollution should be tailored to country contexts; policy instruments should be combined in a coherent way, to create the conditions for more sustainable markets; and countries should consider the true cost of plastics and alternatives to society when setting targets.
- The Global Plastic Outlook’s second volume<sup>1</sup>, recently published by the OECD, provides projections of plastics to 2060 and shares policy scenarios to reduce plastic leakage to the environment. Modelling projections estimate that under current policies, by 2060, the use of plastics and its resulting waste could almost triple globally. Suggested policies can be categorised into three main pillars: restrain plastic demand and enhance circularity; enhance recycling; and close leakage pathways. Each pillar includes a number of policy instruments. The Global Ambition policy package for instance, aims to reduce mismanaged waste in 2060 to almost zero and is estimated to cost less than 1% of global GDP annually.
- National Action Partnerships have demonstrated the value of the multi-stakeholder approach in bringing about the systems-wide change needed to enhance the capacity of countries to eradicate plastic pollution and transition towards a circular economy. National Analysis Modelling (NAM) and GPML tools are examples of how multi-stakeholder action can be kick-started by creating baseline assessments and analyses. These tools simulate a multitude of solution scenarios and their environmental, economic and social implications and can confirm the most effective and realistic System Change Scenario. Ahead of a binding agreement on plastic pollution, both national partnerships and metrics are fundamental to moving beyond commitments and towards action.

### **Voluntary Commitments (one paragraph)**

- Until 2025, Plastic Oceans International, together with its international partners, will organise civil society conversations about the legally binding international instrument to end plastic pollution in Latin America. To make sure all voices will be heard and taken into account during negotiations of the instrument in the coming two years.

---

<sup>1</sup> Global Plastic Outlook: Policy Scenarios to 2060. <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/aa1edf33-en/1/2/3/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/aa1edf33-en&csp=ca738cf5d4f327be3b6fec4af9ce5d12&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType=book>