



Delegation for relations with the countries of Southeast Asia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

DASE_PV(2022)0602

MINUTES

of the meeting of 2 June 2022, 13.00-14.30

Brussels

The meeting opened at 13.05 on Thursday, 2 June 2022, with Daniel Caspary (Chair) presiding.

1. Adoption of draft agenda

There being no comments the agenda was adopted.

2. Adoption of the minutes of the meeting of 28 March 2022

There being no comments the minutes were adopted.

3. Chairman's announcements

The Chair announced that the Delegation was looking at the possibility of having an outgoing inter-parliamentary (IPM) mission in the second half of this year. The Delegation was also looking into the possibility of hosting several incoming IPMs, either online or in-person, depending on the availability of our counterpart parliaments in ASEAN. The incoming IPMs should next year be subject to outgoing IPM missions to those countries.

4. Exchange of views on ocean plastic pollution

- Mr Hugo Maria Schally, Adviser for international negotiations, Directorate General for the Environment, European Commission
- Mr Mushtaq Ahmed Memon, Regional Coordinator for Chemicals and Pollution Action, Asia Pacific Regional Office, United Nations Environment Programme UNEP
- Ms Kirana Agustina, Policy Specialist for Global Plastic Action Partnership from World Resources Institute Indonesia

The DASE Chair Mr Daniel CASPARY reminded that the topic of ocean plastic pollution is timely and of global concern. Mismanagement of plastic waste and its release into rivers and oceans puts an enormous pressure on marine life ecosystems and contributes to climate change. In total 80% of all marine debris is plastic. The plastic in oceans will slowly decay into smaller particles and micro plastics and poses a serious problem for marine life and biodiversity, food safety, human health, fisheries and tourism. Six of the top-10 countries responsible for plastic leakage into oceans are in Southeast Asia. In 2019 ASEAN Member States agreed on the Bangkok Declaration on Combating Marine Debris in the ASEAN Region and a Framework of Action on Marine Debris.

The first expert speaker Mr Hugo Maria SCHALLY, Adviser for international negotiations, Directorate General for the Environment, European Commission said that there is an increasing global awareness regarding plastic pollution and its dire consequences. Plastics are the most harmful pollutants (almost 85%) and their production is only likely to triple by 2040. He also underscored that plastic is not only affecting the sea but also the soil and air.

Mr Schally said that the key to address the problem is plastic life cycle. There are several global efforts to reduce public pollution, which should lead to visible results by 2024. On a global level and many countries are ready to take the required actions to achieve the long and short-term goals. Individual and collective actions will go hand in hand. National plans and voluntary activities albeit praiseworthy are not solutions to this grave problem, as a global agreement is necessary, as all countries are part of the global supply chain.

According to Mr Schally there is a range of instruments for monitoring and international rules for management in chemicals for plastic production. The decision to introduce plastic as a secondary raw material and the types of plastic products that the countries want to have in circulation should be based on the proper waste collection and management infrastructure. An intergovernmental working committee should meet later this year and the progress made from these sessions should aim for a conclusion of an international agreement by spring 2025. All

regions have to ensure participation of society and businesses to reduce the ocean plastic pollution problem. There has to be incentives to encourage reducing pollution, which can be from a technological as well as business perspective.

The second speaker Mr Mushtaq Ahmed MEMON, Regional Coordinator for Chemicals and Pollution Action, Asia Pacific Regional Office, United Nations Environment Programme UNEP, stressed on the value of the resolutions against plastic pollution and on chemical pollution. He suggested that focus should be on the life cycle of plastics and developing into factors such as recyclability, reusability, durability and reducing chemical content and that the solution lies in the transformation of plastic from waste to commodity.

He also mentioned several projects to tackle the plastic problem around the world, which includes the EU-ASEAN sustainable plastic production and consumption project, the German funded project of plastic pollution and tourism. Mr Mushtaq also linked the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with sustainability and plastic usage. He underscored the importance of scientific solutions to the plastic problem and its impact on all other sectors. He called for combining information exchange, green start-ups, targeting the youth with a focus on gender and human rights to fight the multifaceted issue of plastic pollution.

The third speaker was Ms Kirana AGUSTINA, Policy Specialist for Global Plastic Action Partnership from World Resources Institute Indonesia. She identified plastic pollution as a humanitarian crisis as only 15% of the entire plastic volume is recycled and covid was adding an extra pressure on the already multiplying volumes. She also stated how six out of 10 ASEAN countries have mismanaged their plastic waste. However, ASEAN is taking measures to correct that and has adopted several national and regional plans to combat the plastic pollution through legally binding mechanism.

Ms Augustina said that it should also be noted that there is still no collective plan for the region. There have also been a major shift towards achieving green economy and creating green jobs that tackles ASEAN'S plastic problem. Ms Kirana recommended strong collaboration between ASEAN and EU, increased funding and investment, knowledge sharing and strong global partnerships on a local, global, public and private level should be operational to achieve the goals to resolve the plastic pollution problems.

The following discussion covered what can EU and EP do to support ASEAN to fight its plastic pollution challenge and the three speakers each answered from their perspectives. The proposed

solutions were developing a better waste management infrastructure, promoting recycling and a circular economy waste management plan. In addition, there were recommendations to reduce the EU exports of plastic.

Ms Kirana stated the importance of capacity building and knowledge sharing. Mr Mushtaq shared the problems faced by multinationals (MNCs) in recycling. He emphasized the inclusion of private sector in the forefront backed by the Parliament through policies and financing. Mr Schally added how there should be public policy intervention about changing consumption and distribution patterns in plastic usage. All the three speakers believed that the youth as users and consumers is important to fight plastic pollution and how an overall behavioural change can be achieved.

5. Any other business

There was no other business.

6. Date and place of next meeting

The next ordinary meeting would take place after the summer recess.

The meeting closed at 14.30.

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/
 ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/KATASTAŞH PAPONTΩN/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/
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Daniel Caspary, Marianne Vind
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Bouλευτές/Members/Députés/Zastupnici/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/Képviselők/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputati/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Karolin Braunsberger-Reinhold, Heidi Hautala, Martin Hojsík

209 (7)	
216 (3)	
56 (8) (Точка от дневния ред/Punto del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání (OJ)/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/Päevakorra punkt/Σημείο της ημερήσιας διάταξης/Agenda item/Point OJ/Točka dnevnog reda/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkēs punktas/Napirendi pont/Punt Agenda/Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/Točka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Punkt på föredragningslistan)	

Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatiejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Promatrači/Osservatori/Novērotāji/Stebētojai/Megfigyelők/Osservaturi/Waarnemers/Obserwatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opozovalci/Tarkkailijat/Observatörer

По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Esimehe kutsel/Mε πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair/Sur l'invitation du président/ Na poziv predsjednika/Su invito del presidente/Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/ Fuq stedina tač-'Chairman'/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/La invitación președintelui/Na pozvanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan

Hugo Maria Schally, Mushtaq Ahmed Memon, Kirana Agustina

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nōukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Vijeće/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*)

Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Komissionen/Kommission/Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Komisija/Commissione/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Comissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisia/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)

Hugo Maria Schally

Европейска служба за външна дейност/Servicio Europeo de Acción Exterior/Evropská služba pro vnitřní činnost/EU-Udenrigstjenesten/Europäischer Auswärtiger Dienst/Euroopa väliseenistus/Ευρωπαϊκή Υπηρεσία Εξωτερικής Δράσης/European External Action service/Service européen pour l'action extérieure/Europska služba za vanjsko djelovanje/Servizio europeo per l'azione esterna/Eiropas Ārējās darbības dienests/Europos išorės veiksmų tarnyba/Európai Külügyi Szolgálat/Servizz Ewropew ghall-Azzjoni Esterna/Europese dienst voor extern optreden/Européjska Služba Działań Zewnętrznych/Serviço Europeu para a Ação Externa/Serviciul european pentru acțiune externă/Europska služba pre vonkajšiu činnost'/Evropska služba za zunanje delovanje/Euroopan ulkosuhdehallinto/Europeiska avdelningen för yttrre åtgärd (*)

Jessica Milano

Други институции и органи/Otras instituciones y organismos/Ostatní orgány a instituce/Andre institutioner og organer/Andere Organe und Einrichtungen/Muud institutsioonid ja organid/Λοιπά θεσμικά όργανα και οργανισμοί/Other institutions and bodies/Autres institutions et organes/Druge institucije i tijela/Altre istituzioni e altri organi/Citas iestādes un struktūras/Kitos institucijos ir įstaigos/Más intézmények és szervek/Istituzzjonijiet u korpi oħra/Andere instellingen en organen/Inne instytucje i organy/Outras instituições e outros órgãos/Alte instituiții și organe/Iné inštitúcie a orgány/Muut toimielimet ja elimet/Andra institutioner och organ

Други участници/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Drugi sudionici/Altri partecipanti/Citi klátesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Parteicipanti ohra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Altı participantı/İnî účastníci/Drugi udelezenci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare

Brunei Embassy: M. Auji Azizi Mohd Noor. Cambodia Embassy: H.E. Sakal Nong. Indonesia Embassy: Jessica Clara Shinta. Laos Embassy: Sililat Siengsounthone. Malaysia Embassy: H.E. Ahmad Rozian Abd Ghani. Myanmar Embassy: Myo Pa Pa Htun, May Myat Noe Naing. Philippines Embassy: H.E. Eduardo Jose De Vega. Thailand Embassy: H.E. Sek Wannamethee. Vietnam Embassy: Tran Dinh Viet.

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Renew	Joost Hermans
ID	Christophe Rairie
Verts/ALE	Gesa Storz
ECR	
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Samuel Cantell, Cristina Stanculescu	
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Bettina Sturm	

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