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**DIALOGUE ON PLASTIC POLLUTION AND ENVIRONMENTALLY
SUSTAINABLE PLASTICS TRADE (DPP)**

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON PLASTIC POLLUTION AND ENVIRONMENTALLY
SUSTAINABLE PLASTICS TRADE**

The following communication, dated 18 March 2026, is being circulated at the request of the Ministers of the coordinators of the Dialogue on Plastic Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade (DPP): Australia, Barbados, China, Ecuador, Fiji and Morocco.

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation, including the WTO's Dialogue on Plastic Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade (DPP) and its work since 2020 to explore how improved trade cooperation could contribute to domestic, regional and global efforts to reduce plastic pollution and transition to more environmentally sustainable plastics trade.

Continuing to welcome the intergovernmental negotiations for an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution pursuant to the United Nations Environment Assembly Resolution 5/14, End plastic pollution: towards an international legally binding instrument, without prejudice to the ongoing negotiations.

Highlighting the importance of policies that seek to protect and preserve the environment, including global efforts to end plastic pollution.

Highlighting the progress of the collective work of the Dialogue, including:

- Increasing understanding of plastics trade flows through sessions on statistical approaches to measure plastic content and flows throughout the life cycle of traded goods, including relevant guidelines and approaches shared by delegations and international institutions, and by contributing to the 2028 revision of the World Customs Organization (WCO) Harmonized System (HS) codes to facilitate the identification of plastics trade flows.
- Enhancing the understanding of international standards applicable to non-plastic substitutes and alternatives, including related work by standards development organizations (SDOs).
- Extensive mapping of Members' regulatory and non-regulatory approaches to address single-use plastic (SUP) goods and opportunities for enhanced cooperation, including regional approaches.
- Supporting technical assistance and capacity building by identifying developing Members' needs and available resources and existing funding opportunities, including through a matchmaking event, and facilitating the delivery of existing trade-related projects.

We have accordingly reached the following shared understandings¹:

We will continue to build on the DPP's existing body of work on the trade-related aspects of plastic pollution to reduce plastics pollution and promote more environmentally sustainable plastics trade.

We further agree on the importance of international cooperation and agree to further Member-driven work building on the fruitful discussions reflected in the technical outcomes, including but not limited to the following areas, and to pursue potential actions, including on a voluntary basis, while recognizing different domestic challenges and priorities:

- Improving monitoring and traceability of trade flows throughout the plastics value chain through sharing experiences on policies and statistical approaches and on the implementation of plastic-related elements approved as part of HS 2028 reform.
- Enhancing trade cooperation and coherence, including exploring, where appropriate, opportunities for potential policy alignment, on approaches to address SUPs, including at the regional level, with a view to increasing policy effectiveness and reducing implementation costs for governments and businesses, such as through drawing on Members' experience sharing and notifications, including as captured in the WTO Environmental Database (EDB) and ePing.
- Continue sharing experiences, including through case studies, to further develop a structured document of practices, lessons learnt, and elements Members may consider when adopting trade-related plastics measures.
- Share experiences on innovations, technologies, and solutions, with an interest in the specific steps along the lifecycle of plastics that may facilitate access to and support trade in goods, services, and technologies that help to address plastic pollution, including for clean-up activities and environmentally sound waste management, noting the important role that waste pickers play in plastics recycling in many Members.
- Share experiences on environmentally sound, safe, and effective non-plastic substitutes, alternatives and services, with a particular focus on local and regional solutions respectful of nature, including those that create opportunities for small and medium-sized enterprises and rural development, and explore Members' perspectives and approaches to facilitate trade in such goods and services.
- Draw on prior experiences and encourage trade-related technical assistance and capacity building, based on the needs of developing and least-developed Members, with a focus on matching requests with existing resources, programmes and funding opportunities as well as potential solutions to address plastic pollution, while enhancing coordination among Members and stakeholders, avoiding duplication of efforts, identifying opportunities for collaboration, and maximizing impact.

We will continue to work in an open, inclusive, and transparent manner, including through synergies with relevant WTO bodies, and look for further concrete, pragmatic, and effective outcomes by the Fifteenth Ministerial Conference.

TECHNICAL OUTCOMES ATTACHED TO THE MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

- **Technical outcome A:** Analytical summary of statistical approaches to estimate trade flows of embedded plastics, packaging and single-use products discussed in the DPP.
- **Technical outcome B:** Analytical summary of the different approaches in regulating single-use plastic products discussed in the DPP.
- **Technical outcome C:** Synopsis of Member considerations in the adoption of trade-related plastic measures raised in DPP discussions.
- **Technical outcome D:** Synopsis of goods, services and technologies for waste management and clean-up activities, their challenges and opportunities identified in DPP discussions.
- **Technical outcome E:** Synopsis of services, non-plastic substitutes, alternatives to single-use plastics, their challenges and opportunities identified in DPP discussions.

¹ These are without prejudice to the positions of individual DPP co-sponsors. The technical outcomes attached to this Ministerial Statement provide an overview of the discussions undertaken in DPP meetings under their respective thematic areas.