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Acknowledgements

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Executive Summary

The virtual regional workshop on ‘Marine Plastic Pollution: Challenges and Inspiring Actions’ was held on March 24, 2021 from 14:30 to 18:30 (GMT+1). The final agenda of the workshop is enclosed as **Annex I** of the report.

The objectives of the workshop were to discuss :

- (a) Marine plastic pollution among the participating countries with a focus on the experiences of the region and the institutional, regulatory, technical, and financial solutions to address marine litter through circular economy approaches;
- (b) Existing initiatives at global and regional levels on how to promote circular economy and how to manage marine plastic pollution; and
- (c) How to develop a common and harmonized regional approach, in collaboration with other partners, and how to reduce and mitigate the impacts of plastic waste, including by considering the measures to be taken in particular within the framework of existing Government initiatives or those under development for the post-pandemic COVID-19 phase.

More than 200 representatives from Governments, international and regional organizations, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), academia, and the private sector

participated in the workshop. The full participant list of the workshop is enclosed as **Annex II** of this report.

The workshop was opened by Mr. Mohamed Benyahia, General Secretary of the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Environment - Department of Environment of the Government of Morocco. Mr. Jesko Hentschel, Director for the Maghreb and Malta of the World Bank gave the opening remarks. Two senior World Bank officers, Ms. Delphine Arri and Mr. Frank Van Woerden, presented an overview of the World Bank’s activities to address marine plastic pollution and highlighted good practices.

The Governments of Morocco, Côte d’Ivoire, Senegal, and Tunisia gave an overview their national activities and shared lessons learned. The European Commission and the Secretariats of the Abidjan Convention and the Barcelona Convention presented their efforts to coordinate actions at the regional level. The Government of Canada also shared its experience in partnership mobilization through the Ocean Plastic Charter. The workshop also provided a forum for exchange among the Moroccan Plastic Industry Federation, the Mohamed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) - North Africa, and the World Bank to discuss how to best engage all relevant stakeholders throughout the plastic value chain.

The following key messages emerged from the workshop:

1. Urgent actions are required to stop marine plastic pollution as the COVID-19 pandemic is worsening the situation. Policy reforms, innovative technology, and financing mechanisms are required to build a greener, more resilient, and inclusive economic recovery.
2. Coordination and cooperation at the regional and international levels are essential to address marine plastic pollution. Information sharing and exchange of good practices, like this workshop, help upscale solutions.
3. Throughout the plastic value chain, all actors need to work together to ensure a sustainable transition to a circular economy. The private sector plays a crucial role in bringing in innovative solutions such as through redesigning products.

Ms. Ayat Soliman, Regional Director, Sustainable Development Department, World Bank and Ms. Lia Sieghart, Practice Manager, Middle East and North Africa, World Bank highlighted the importance of developing a circular economy model to address marine plastic pollution and rebuild a greener, more resilient, and more inclusive society after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Rachid Firadi, Director of Partnership, Communication and Cooperation - Department of Environment, Government of Morocco, concurred that there are opportunities to build a more sustainable society and concluded that this workshop called for an urgent action on international cooperation to tackle marine plastic pollution. Thanking the moderator Ms. Khadija Ihsane and all the panelists, participants, organizers, and interpreters, Mr. Firadi closed the workshop at 18:30.



II. Record of the Workshop

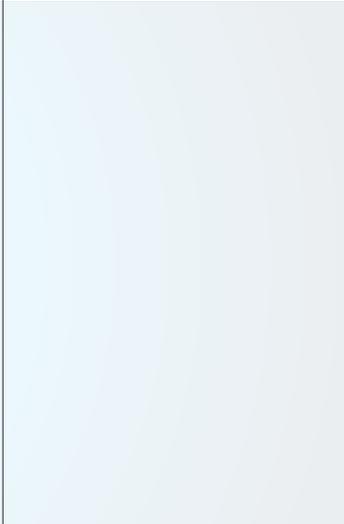
Segment I: Opening

Speaker	Key messages	Image from the session
<p>Mr. Mohamed Benyahia General Secretary of the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Environment - Department of Environment, Government of Morocco</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine plastic pollution has gained international attention, following the intensive work by civil society. • Morocco has given high priority to addressing marine plastic pollution and developed several policies and legal measures, including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coastal law for the sustainable development of the coasts - Draft decree on a national coastal plan - Law for the prohibition of the use of single-use plastic bags • Morocco has also put several programs with municipalities, including the national waste management program and the infrastructure development program for waste management. • It is crucial to ensure knowledge exchange and technology transfer with other countries. 	
<p>Mr. Jesko Hentschel Director for the Maghreb and Malta, World Bank</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressing plastic pollution not only helps protect the environment but also provides socioeconomic benefits. • The transition to a circular economy model to stop marine plastic pollution is an opportunity to create new jobs. • No country can address plastic pollution on its own. Hence, this regional workshop is an important forum to share knowledge, information, and experience across the Middle East and North Africa countries. 	
<p>Ms. Delphine Arri PROBLUE Manager for Marine Pollution, Senior Environmental Engineer, World Bank</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is crucial to ensure collaboration at all levels and intervention at all stages of the plastics life cycle. • The COVID-19 pandemic has brought in a new dimension to the complex problem of marine plastic pollution. • The prevention of plastic pollution provides an opportunity for creating a circular economy model to build a more sustainable and inclusive economy to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and provide much needed jobs. • The transition to a circular economy requires innovations in financing, policies, technologies, and partnerships between the private and public sectors. Governments alone cannot do it all, and the private sector also has a key role in driving the transition to a circular economy: Governments can enact and implement laws that will enable the transition, while the private sector can contribute through increased financing or innovation in redesign and new materials. 	

Segment I: Opening		
Speaker	Key messages	Image from the session
<p>Mr. Frank Van Woerden Lead Environmental Engineer, World Bank</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Diagnostics on marine plastic pollution are the foundation for identifying solutions. It is essential to understand the mechanisms of how mismanaged waste leaks into the environment. •New technology such as drone and artificial intelligence can be used to conduct surveys and create an inventory of plastic waste. •The World Bank provides policy support to address marine plastic pollution, tailored to national contexts. •The World Bank also supports investment projects. The identification of key sectoral challenges guides the design and direction of these investments. 	

Segment II: Roundtable I		
Guiding questions		
Speaker	Key messages	Image from the session
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Best practices to tackle marine plastic litter: regulatory measures, national strategies and policies (for example, waste management, circular economy strategies) as well as other initiatives carried out in partnership with the private sector, NGOs, and so on. •Challenges in tackling the issue of marine plastic pollution during COVID-19. •Recommendations and opportunities for cooperation. 	
<p>Ms. Seloua Amaziane Head of the Partnership Division-Department of Environment, Government of Morocco</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The main responses and initiatives taken by the Government of Morocco to reduce marine pollution, including by plastic waste: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Strategy for Sustainable Development - Legal measures (Law of the Coast, Waste Management Law, single-use plastic ban, fiscal instruments on plastics, and so on) - Operational Plans and Programs (National Coastal Plan, Regional Coastal Schemes, Domestic Waste National Program, National Waste Recovery Program, National Liquid Sanitation and Used Waters Purification Program, and so on) - ‘Littoral sans Plastiques (LISP)’ Strategy •The mobilization and commitment of all actors (institutions, national agencies, private sector, NGOs, and so on) to ensure coordination and participation of all. •The approaches tested and established at the level of the Mediterranean coast are being transferred to the Atlantic coast. •An innovative approach to identify hotspots and estimate the contributions of the various terrestrial and marine sources, inspired by those established at the Mediterranean level but adapted to the national context will be used. This approach can be shared with the countries in the region as part of the preparation of national action plans to combat marine pollution by plastic. 	



<p>Mr. Gustave Aboua Director General of Environment and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Government of Côte d'Ivoire</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Côte d'Ivoire is committed to combating marine plastic pollution, through the implementation of the circular economy and blue economy approaches. •Côte d'Ivoire's work on marine plastic pollution is based on solid legal and institutional frameworks. It has set up the coastal protection agency (ANAGIL). •Côte d'Ivoire is increasing the number of partnerships to fight against plastic marine pollution, including through south-south cooperation. 	
<p>Ms. Khadijatou Drame Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, Government of Senegal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Senegal's policy measures to fight against plastic include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ban on some single-use plastic products - Deposit scheme for bottles - Selective sorting and recycling - Extended producer responsibility - Prevention of plastic waste - Other financial and fiscal measures such as the tax on non-recyclable bags. •The extended producer responsibility concept in Senegal obligates companies to set up their own systems or to create extended producer responsibility organizations called eco-organizations. •It is important to provide technical support to recycling companies. 	
<p>Ms. Awatef Larbi Messai General Engineer and Director at the General Directorate of Environment and Quality of Life of the Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment, Government of Tunisia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •There is an urgent need at the international level to fight plastic pollution. •Tunisia is working on the ban on single-use plastic bags. The initiative was implemented in supermarkets in 2017 and subsequently in pharmacies in 2018. •Tunisia has been working for the past three years to reinforce the ECO-LEF system to realize an extended producer responsibility model, where the producer is more involved in managing packaging waste. •Tunisia is involved in several initiatives to fight single-use plastic. •Tunisia recommends strengthening the exchange of good practices concerning the development and implementation of national action plans to address marine plastic pollution, including waste management activities. 	
<p>Highlights from the Question and Answer session</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The Moroccan LISP Strategy will be available online once it is endorsed by the inter-ministerial committee. •Fisheries activities is one of the main sources of marine plastic pollution. The project 'Pêche aux déchets' was developed by the Department of Environment of the Government of Morocco and a local association in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)/Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) system. The project aims to collect waste, such as fishing gear, from the marine environment, build capacity, and facilitate knowledge and information sharing. •The COVID-19 pandemic is exacerbating marine plastic pollution as more single-use plastic items are used. It has also affected some programs such as single-use plastic ban programs. 	



Segment II: Roundtable II Panel I

Guiding questions

- How do you see the international mobilization in the fight against marine plastic pollution?
- How do global and regional mechanisms consider the specific needs of developing countries?
- Knowing that marine pollution is transboundary, do you think there is enough coordination between countries to counter this problem?
- Are there platforms for global or regional exchanges on technologies and best practices?



Speaker

Key messages

Image from the session

Mr. Dany Drouin

Director General for Environment and Climate Change Canada, Government of Canada

Mr. Michail Papadoyannakis
Senior Expert, European Commission

Mr. Abou Bamba
Coordinator, Abidjan Convention Secretariat

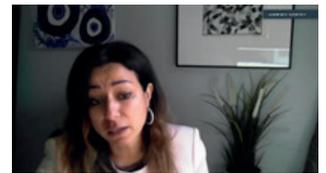
Mr. Gaetano Leone
Coordinator, UNEP/MAP - Barcelona Convention Secretariat

- Regional approaches are crucial for addressing marine plastic pollution. Existing regional mechanisms such as the Abidjan and Barcelona Conventions provide integrated frameworks for cooperation among countries and with partners.
- The implementation and enforcement of existing legal instruments, policies, and action plans need to be enhanced. Sustainable financing mechanisms can help improve implementation.
- An international commitment like the one for climate change could help address marine plastic pollution, while supporting the integrated approach of implementation at the regional level.
- Actions need to be taken at all levels, from local and regional to the global level, including adequate monitoring of quantities and impacts of litter in the coastal and marine environment.
- Measures addressing prevention are crucial to address both land-based and sea-based sources of pollution. The experience from the European Union (EU), including in the Mediterranean, showed that the regional dimension is important to implement a circular economy model. The coordination between the private and public sectors, including NGOs and researchers, is key for success, as is the use of market-based instruments such as Extended Producer Responsibility.
- Monitoring, assessment, and scientific knowledge forms the basis for innovative solutions. It is necessary to understand the source, pathway, and impact of marine plastic pollution to identify solutions and address the gaps, such as better prevention and management of microplastic.
- Canada is implementing a comprehensive approach to address plastic pollution, including innovation, awareness raising, public-private partnerships, and advancing a proposed ban or restricting of certain single-use plastic products.
- It is important to remember that solid waste is not the only problem. Wastewater entering the sea is also a significant source of plastic pollution, particularly microplastics; sea-based sources, such as shipping, fishing, and aquaculture are also important contributors.
- Exchange and dialogue between countries are vital for upscaling successful measures, building capacities, and converting the problem into an opportunity.
- We should think of turning this plastic crisis into an opportunity and transform the current huge stock for the benefit of the population while gradually reducing and stopping the production and usage of single-use plastic in Africa.



Ms. Ayat Soliman
Regional Director, Sustainable Development Department, World Bank

- The World Bank, together with the International Finance Corporation (IFC), supports countries in taking a green, inclusive, and resilient path for the recovery from COVID-19.
- It is time to reflect on the past practices and start making policy reforms and investments to build a circular economy, create green and blue jobs, generate wealth, and protect the environment.
- Climate change will increase vulnerabilities. Taking action to mitigate and adapt to climate change is the only way to ensure a sustainable path forward.
- All actors need to be involved to ensure the transition to a circular economy and stop marine plastic pollution. This workshop is an excellent start for continued regional dialogues involving Governments, NGOs, academia, and the private sector.



Highlights from the Question and Answer session

- Plastic producers are increasingly interested in developing more sustainable products and improving their brand image. Governments are also interested in making a change, facilitating the negotiation process for an international instrument on marine plastic pollution. There is an opportunity to make globally concerted action to stop marine plastic pollution.

Segment II: Roundtable II Panel II

Guiding questions

- What is the role of stakeholders (private sector, civil society, and universities/research institutes) in managing marine plastic pollution?
- What mechanisms, do you think, should be put in place to accelerate the transition to a circular plastic economy model?



Speaker

Key messages

Image from the session

Mr. Hassan Taleb
Program Officer - Clean Beaches, Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment

Mr. Nabil Saouaf
Director, Moroccan Federation of Plastics Industry

Ms. Ghizlane Bolton-Achaoui
Programme Manager - Plastic Smart Cities, WWF North Africa

- Each country can adopt the principles of the circular economy approach. Clear legal frameworks and incentives help make the transition to a circular model.
- Global coordination can help create a circular economy model. Such a global action could include the following measures: harmonized regulatory standards, common definitions in all markets, international monitoring standards, and capacity-building programs on waste management.
- Awareness raising and knowledge sharing will help address marine plastic pollution. The engagement of the youth improves the reach of such campaigns.
- Partnerships among different stakeholders are crucial. For example, Mohamed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection will work within the framework of its #B7arblplastic operation (operation to fight against plastic waste) carried out within the framework of its 'clean beaches' program with its stakeholders (public and private companies) to recycle plastics collected on beaches. WWF is collaborating with Coca Cola and the municipality of Tanger to develop a local system for sorting, collecting, and recycling plastic waste and conducting awareness-raising activities.



Mr. Dario Quaranta
Senior Adviser in the Finance, Competitiveness and Innovation Global Practices, World Bank

- Action needs to be taken throughout the plastic value chain from upstream to downstream. The private sector can start modifying the product design and developing alternative materials to plastics. At the same time, solid waste management practices can be improved at the downstream.
- The delay in setting up a circular economy model is causing loss of opportunity for the plastic industry. Policy instruments such as ECOTAX in Morocco could be used to support the recycling industry besides supporting waste separation at source.
- Improved traceability and adequate waste management, particularly the collection of the post-consumption deposit would help the plastic industry set its management strategies and improve recycling operations.

Highlights from the Question and Answer session

- The private sector plays can improve product design to increase their lifespan, recyclability and ensure circularity.
- The textile sector can play an essential role in preventing and reducing microplastic pollution. The industry may consider changing the material, a sustainable upstream intervention, or improving the downstream treatment processes.

Segment III: Conclusions and Closing

Speaker	Key messages	Image from the session
<p>Ms. Lia Sieghart Practice Manager, Environment, Natural Resources and Blue Economy, Middle East and North Africa, World Bank</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The workshop demonstrated the urgent need for international and regional cooperation to stop marine plastic pollution. •No single country can address this problem on its own. Acting together, we can find impactful solutions and build a post-pandemic society in a sustainable and circular manner. •There is an opportunity to build back better and bluer from the COVID-19 pandemic through the cooperation of all sectors across the plastic value chain. •Blue capital can help drive reconstruction and reduce poverty. It is worth the investment. 	
<p>M. Rachid Firadi Director of Partnership, Communication and Cooperation, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Environment - Department of Environment, Government of Morocco</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Despite the significant challenge of marine plastic pollution, particularly due to the pandemic, there are opportunities to make an economic recovery through circular economy approaches. •Regional and international cooperation is crucial for accelerating the efforts to address plastic pollution. Such collaboration could focus on different aspects including the following: financial, technical, information, institutional experiences, partnerships, monitoring, evaluation, assessments, and technical tools for decision-making. •It is important to build capacities, raise awareness, encourage research and development, and find innovative approaches for sustainable financing solutions. 	



III. Opinion of the Participants

During the workshop, a survey on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on marine plastic pollution was conducted. The survey was open from March 24, 2021 to April 2, 2021. In total, 34 people participated in the survey. The survey questions are included as Annex III of this meeting report.

Interpretation of the results of the survey launched during the regional workshop 'Marine Plastic Pollution: Challenges and Inspiring Actions'

Impact of plastic pollution on coastal and maritime sectors

Tourism was considered to be the most affected (very relevant) by 93.75 percent of respondents, followed by artisanal fishing (50 percent), industrial and semi-industrial fishing, and finally by maritime navigation. The level of impact was, however, considered relevant for maritime navigation (67.65 percent of respondents), followed by industrial and semi-industrial fishing (63.64 percent), and artisanal fishing. In terms of weighted average, the impact on the tourism sector ranks first, followed by artisanal fishing, industrial and semi-industrial fishing, and finally by maritime navigation.

Barriers for building circular economy models

From this survey, it appears that institutional,

regulatory, and knowledge barriers have the highest weights, respectively, and are ranked 'relevant' to 'very relevant'. This ranking in terms of weighted averages places market-related barriers and lack of awareness barriers in the fourth, fifth, and the last place, respectively.

Solutions for the proper management of plastic waste

This survey strongly confirmed that poorly managed solid waste is a major source of poorly managed plastic waste. The situation is exacerbated in low- and middle-income countries. Thus, proper solid waste management was given the highest weight in the solutions surveyed. This was followed by solutions relating to source separation, regulation of solid waste and plastics sector, provision of incentive instruments, and formalization of the informal sector.

Added value of recycling plastic waste

The reduction of marine and coastal pollution caused by plastic waste and the preservation of ecosystem services are, very relevantly, the greatest value additions of plastic recycling, followed by employment and wealth creation. This shows that reducing plastic pollution and recycling protects the coastal and marine ecosystem and its resources and generates employment and wealth creation. This is the vision of the blue economy.

Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on plastic waste management

The assessment noted the evidence of the impact of this pandemic, which has been documented around the world. The most important impact according to the survey is the return to the use of single-use plastic bags, followed by the increase in plastic waste deposits and the loss of income among cooperatives, recycling units, and informal collectors.

Ways to federate and optimize efforts to combat marine plastic waste pollution

This issue is regional in scope and aims to identify coordinated regional solutions and a federation and optimization of efforts.

As shown in Figure 1, we can see that good regional coordination is ranked first with a weighted average of 2.7. This crucial path is followed by its two corollaries: capitalizing on country experiences to optimize efforts and harmonizing approaches.

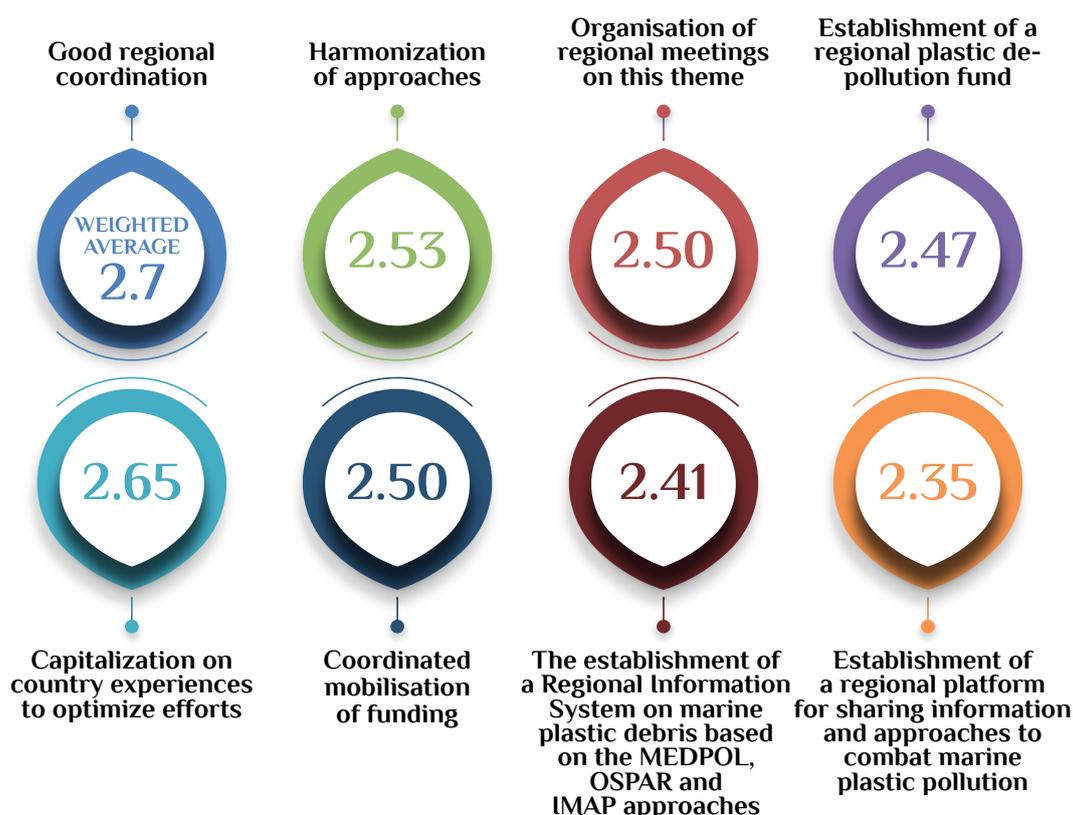
Three other avenues were found to be relevant: coordinated mobilization of funding, organization of regional meetings on the theme of this regional workshop and setting up of a regional plastic de-pollution fund.

This suggests that coordination, funding, and exchange are the most crucial avenues to combat marine plastic waste pollution.

The two other paths, which are more technical in nature, and which are implicit in the coordination, sharing, and capitalization of country experiences, are, in order of relevance, the establishment of a Regional Information System on marine plastic debris based on the MEDPOL, OSPAR, and IMAP approaches and the setting up of a regional platform for sharing information and approaches to combat marine plastic pollution. These will reinforce Morocco's 'hyphen' position through its privileged relationship with the EU, its pioneering position in the Barcelona Convention, and the innovative approaches established under the Technical Assistance (TA) (World Bank) - LISP, which has enabled the transposition of mature approaches from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic coastline. This transfer of experience from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic provides a facilitating environment for a regional scaling up (Mediterranean and Atlantic Africa).



Figure 1. Survey Results



Priority Actions

1. Assess the costs of plastic pollution impacts on tourism, fishing, and shipping activities in countries in terms of deterioration of equipment, loss of resources and income.
2. Establish and strengthen infrastructure and systems for integrated and sustainable solid waste management.
3. Strengthen the regulatory framework for solid waste and plastic waste management.
4. Put in place incentive instruments for the reduction of plastic waste.
5. Establish and scale up source separation with an organization that connects the informal sector to the formal recycling sector.
6. Establish BMCs by overcoming institutional, regulatory, and other barriers.
7. Strengthen knowledge creation and innovation.
8. Improve the effectiveness of circular economy approaches to reduce plastic pollution and generate employment and wealth.
9. Develop and implement awareness programs on marine plastic pollution and its impacts.
10. Ensure regional coordination in the fight against marine debris.
11. Strengthen the exchange of experience between countries to optimize efforts and harmonize approaches.
12. Establish regionally coordinated funding mechanisms.
13. Integrate plastic waste management actions, in the context of pandemics, into post-COVID country recovery plans (sanitary securing of sorting-recycling facilities, formalization of the informal sector, intelligent collection methods, and so on).



IV. Annexes

Annex I: Final agenda

Time	Agenda item
Segment I: Opening	
14:30	<p>Welcome Remarks Facilitator: Ms. Khadija Ihsane</p>
14:30 - 14:40	<p>Opening Remarks by the Government of Morocco Mr. Mohamed Benyahia, General Secretary-Department of Environment, Government of Morocco</p>
14:40 - 14:50	<p>Opening Remarks by the World Bank Mr. Jesko Hentschel, Country Director, Maghreb and Malta, Middle East and North Africa Region, World Bank</p>
14:50 - 15:10	<p>International Experiences under the World Bank <i>Plastic Pollution and the post-COVID-19 era: Opportunities for Job Creation and Green Development - The International Experience</i> Ms. Delphine Arri, PROBLUE Manager for Marine Pollution, Senior Environmental Engineer, World Bank Mr. Frank Van Woerden, Lead Environmental Engineer, World Bank</p>
Segment II: Roundtables	
15:10 - 16:00	<p>Roundtable 1: Best Practices: Challenges and Recommendations for Marine Plastic Pollution Management in the Region Presentations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morocco: The Moroccan Experience on Managing Marine Plastic Pollution Ms. Seloua Amaziane, Head of the Partnership Division -Department of Environment, Government of Morocco • Mr. Gustave Aboua, Director General of Environment and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Government of Côte d'Ivoire • Ms. Khadijatou Drame, Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, Government of Senegal • Ms. Awatef Larbi Messai, General Engineer and Deputy Director at the General Directorate of Environment and Quality of Life of the Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment, Government of Tunisia <p>Question and Answer session with audience</p>



16:00 - 17:20

Roundtable 2: Toward Strengthening Regional Cooperation: What are the Strategies and Programs that Support the Countries in the Region in the Management of Marine Plastic Pollution? How do they Pool their Efforts and Establish an Effective Cooperation?

Panel 1: Regional Cooperation and Resource Mobilization

- Mr. Dany Drouin, Director General for Environment and Climate Change Canada, Government of Canada
- Mr. Michail Papadoyannakis, Senior Expert, European Commission
- Mr. Abou Bamba, Coordinator, Abidjan Convention Secretariat
- Mr. Gaetano Leone, Coordinator, UNEP/MAP - Barcelona Convention Secretariat

Panel 2: Partner Mobilization

- Mr. Hassan Taleb, Program Officer - Clean Beaches, Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment
- Mr. Nabil Saouaf, Director, Moroccan Federation of Plastics Industry
- Ms. Ghizlane Bolton-Achaoui, Programme Manager - Plastic Smart Cities, WWF North Africa
- Mr. Dario Quaranta, Senior Advisor in the Finance, Competitiveness and Innovation Global Practices, World Bank

Question and Answer session with audience

Segment III: Conclusion and Closing

17:20 - 17:30

Conclusions and Closing Remarks

Ms. Ayat Soliman, Regional Director, MNA Sustainable Development, World Bank
Ms. Lia Sieghart, Practice Manager for MNA Environment, Natural Resources and Blue Economy, World Bank

Mr. Rachid Firadi, Director of Partnership, Communication and Cooperation, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Environment - Department of Environment, Government of Morocco



Annex II: Final participant list

Title	First Name	Last Name	Organization	Job Title	Country/ Region Name
Mr	Abdelilah	Farah			France
Mr	Abdellah	Srouf	General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean/Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Executive Secretary	Italy
Mr	Abdelrahman	Kamel	Energy, Chemical, Utilities	Ministry of Environment of Egypt, Environmental Specialist	Egypt
Mr	Abdeslam	Abid	National Laboratory for Pollution Studies and Monitoring (LNESP) / Ministry of Energy, Mines and Sustainable Development (MEME)		Morocco
Mr	Abou	Bamba	Abidjan Convention/United Nations Environment	Executive Secretary	Côte d'Ivoire
Mr	Aboua Gustave	Aboua		Director General for Sustainable Development	France
Mr	Abtal	Fnideq	Association Champions Fnideq underwater hunting		Morocco
Mr	Achraf	El Bahi		Conference Interpreter	Morocco
Mr	Adel	Lisser	National Agency for the Development of Aquaculture	Health monitoring and management plans	Morocco
Mr	Ahmed	Slimi		French-Arabic-English AICC interpreter	Belgium
Mr	Ahmed	Senhoury	PRCM	Executive Director	Senegal
Ms	Alessandra	Sensi	Union for the Mediterranean	Head of Sector - Environment and Blue Economy	Spain
Mr	Ali	Benryane	SDI Global Consult	Managing Partner	Morocco
Mr	Amos	Abu			Tunisia
Ms	Anabella	Palacios			United States
Ms	Anne-Gaelle	Collot	Energy, Chemical, Utilities, Plastics Europe	Senior Manager Circularity	Belgium
Ms	Anuja	Shukla			United States
Ms	Arianna	Panarella			Italy
Mr	Atef	Jaber	Environmental Quality Authority (EQA) - Palestine	Director of Solid and Hazardous Waste Department	Palestinian Territories
Ms	Awatef	Larbi Messai	Ministry of Local Affairs and the Environment	Director	Tunisia



Title	First Name	Last Name	Organization	Job Title	Country/ Region Name
Ms	Ayat	Soliman	World Bank Group	Regional Director, Sustainable Development, Middle East and North Africa Region	United States
Ms	Azzaoui	Samira			Morocco
Mr	Baba	Drame	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	Director of Environment and Classified Establishments	Senegal
Ms	Barbara	Segato			Brazil
Ms	Bérengère	Prince			United States
Ms	Bouchra	Nyoubé	Direction des Ports et du Domaine Public Maritime/Metle		Morocco
Mr	Brahim	Soudi	World Bank	Consultant	United States
Ms	Btissam	El Menour			Morocco
Ms	Carole	Megeavnd	World Bank	Sector Leader	Morocco
Ms	Cecilia	Martinez	World Bank	Communication Consultant	Uruguay
Ms	Charlotte	Karibuhoye Said	MAVA Foundation	Director, West Africa Programme	Senegal
Ms	Chaymae	Khalidi	World Bank	Transport Consultant	United States
Ms	Chen-Chen	Tung			United States
	Cj		World Bank		India
Ms	Cynthia	Bainbridge	Environment and Climate Change Canada		Canada
Mr	Cyrill	Gutsch	Parley for the Oceans	CEO/founder	United States
Ms	Dahlia	Lotayef	World Bank	Lead Environmental Specialist	United States
Ms	Dalal	Afa	Environment-Ministry of Energy, Mines and Environment	Head of Information and Outreach	Morocco
Mr	Dany	Drouin	Environnement et Changement Climatique Canada	Director General	Canada
Mr	Dario	Quaranta			Italy
Ms	Darshani	De Silva			Sri Lanka
Ms	De Dpr				Morocco
Ms	Delphine	Arri	World Bank	Senior Environmental Engineer	United States
Ms	Djibril	LY			Mauritania

Title	First Name	Last Name	Organization	Job Title	Country/ Region Name
Mr	Driss	Nachite			Morocco
Ms	Yousra	El Hilali	Department of the Environment	Communication	Morocco
Mr	Emeran Serge Marie	Menang Evouna	World Bank	Senior Environmental Engineer	United States
Ms	Emiliana	Gunawan	World Bank Group	Senior Program Assistant	United States
	Erol	Cavus	UNEP/MAP	Programme Management Officer	Greece
Ms	Eunji	Shin	World Bank	Environmental Consultant	Korea
Ms	Fadoumo	Malow	World Bank	Environment specialist	Djibouti
Mr	Fathi Amine	Saanane		Head of the Environment Department / ANP	Morocco
Ms	Fatima Zahra	Lahlali	Ministry of Energy, Mines and Environment	Advisor to the Minister for International Cooperation	Morocco
Ms	Fatima Zahra	Hassouni	Marine Fisheries Department	Head of Division	Morocco
Ms	Fatou	Benjelloun	Ministry of Energy, Mines and Environment	Communication Team	Morocco
Ms	Fleur	Ruckley	Wood		United Kingdom
Ms	Fnu	Hanny	World Bank		United States
Mr	Francois	Galgani	Ifremer	Project manager (marine litter) and member of European Commission's «Oceans» mission	France
Mr	Frank	Van Woerden	World Bank	Lead Environmental Engineer	United States
Ms	Freya	Tooley	DEFRA	Policy Advisor	United Kingdom
Mr	Gaetano	Leone	UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention	Coordinator	Greece
Mr	Georges	Gassita	High Commission for the Environment and Environment and Living Environment at the Presidency of the Republic	Inspector of the Environment	Gabon
MS	Ghada	Moghny			United States
MS	Ghada	Moghny			Egypt
MS	Ghizlane	Bolton-Achaoui	WWF NA - Morocco	Plastic Smart Cities - Program Manager	Morocco
MS	Hafida	Laghmari	National Fisheries Office	Head of Safety and Environment	Morocco
MR	Hassan	Taleb	Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment	Program Manager	Morocco



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Mr	Hatim	Sebbata			Morocco
Mr	Hecham	El Hamri	National Institute of Hygiene Ministry of Health	Responsable département de Toxicologie	Morocco
Ms	Helena	Clavero	IUCN		Spain
Ms	Helena	Naber			United States
Ms	Houda	Alaoui	IUCN-MED	North Africa Programme officer	Spain
Mr	Houssine	Nibani	AGIR	President	Morocco
Ms	Ilyas	Sebbata			Morocco
Ms	Ilham	Bonvenuto	Crossmedia Communication		Morocco
Ms	Ilham	M'nouny	Department of Maritime Fisheries		Morocco
Mr	Jesko	Hentschel	World Bank	Director for the Maghreb and Malta	Morocco
Ms	Jessey	Niyongabo	World Bank		United States
Ms	Julie	Gonnet	AFD	Head of the Transversal Support Unit of AFD's Regional Office for North Africa	Morocco
Mr	Jyoti	Bisbey	World Bank	Infrastructure	United States
Ms	Katerina	Karalegkou	D-WASTE		Greece
Ms	Kanako	Hasegawa	World Bank	Environmental Specialist	United States
Ms	Kaoutar	Belqaid	World Bank	Team Assistant	Morocco
Ms	Kenza	Elazkem	Association Zero Zbel	Advocacy Officer	Morocco
Ms	Khadidiatou	Drame	Gouvernement	Juriste	Senegal
Ms	Khadija	Rhayour	Energy, Chemical, Utilities	Ministry of Energy and Mining and Environment	Morocco
Ms	Khadija	Ihsane			Morocco
Mr	Khalid	Anouar	World Bank Group	Environmental specialist	Morocco
Mr	Khalid	Margaa	Environment	Program Division Manager	Morocco
Ms	Khaoula	Lagrini	Ministry of Energy, Mines and Environment - Environment Department	Head of the Multilateral Cooperation Department	Morocco
Mr	Lahcen	Essabar	Marine Fisheries Department	Head of the Fishing Vessel, Shipping and Pollution Prevention Department	Morocco

Title	First Name	Last Name	Organization	Job Title	Country/ Region Name
Ms	Laila	Bensmail	Department of Maritime Fisheries	Cadre	Morocco
Ms	Lamyae	Qaidi	Department of Maritime Fisheries/ Rabat	Cadre	Morocco
Ms	Laurence	Henkinet	Dar Laurence		Morocco
Ms	Leila	Akhmisse	CAM Foundation for Sustainable Development	Executive Director	Morocco
Ms	Lia	Sieghart	World Bank		United States
Ms	Lina	Abdallah	World Bank Group	Senior Urban Specialist	Jordan
Ms	Loubna	Salhi			Morocco
Ms	Lulwa	Ali			United States
Mr	Magali	Outters	SCP/RAC (UNEP/MAP)	Team Leader Policy Area	Spain
Ms	Mala	Alahmadi	World Bank Group		
Ms	Malika Amélie Sonia	Taoufiq- Cailliau	ONU/PNUE/BRS	Legal Officer	Switzerland
Mr	Marcelo	Acerbi	World Bank	Senior Environmental Specialist	United States
Ms	Maria Amparo	Perez Roda	FAO	International Consultant	Italy
Mr	Martin	Heger	World Bank		United States
Ms	Mary	Wang			
Ms	Maysra	Ali Shamseldin	World Bank	Environmental Specialist	Egypt
Mr	Michael	Scoullas	Water and Environment Support (WES)	Team Leader	Greece
Mr	Michail	Papadoyannakis	European Union	Senior Expert	Belgium
Mr	Mohamad	Kayyal	UNEP/MAP		Greece
Mr	Mohamed	Benyahia	Ministry of Energy, Mines and the Environment/ Department of the Environment	Secretary General	Morocco
Mr	Mohamed	Amounas	Department of Environment		Morocco
Mr	Mohamed	Hussein	Arab Office for Youth and Environment	Manager	Egypt
Mr	Mohammed	Chaoui		Environmental Expert	Morocco
Mr	Mohammed	Tadlaoui	Federation Nationale des Cooperatives de Tri et Valorisation	Secetaire General	Morocco
Mr	Mohammed	El Bouch			Morocco
Mr	Monsif	Charai	Valplast	Co-manager	Morocco
Mr	Mostapha	Benomar	Energy, Chemical, Utilities, INRH/Morocco	Researcher in Marine Geochemistry	Morocco



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Mr	Nabil	Saouaf	Moroccan Plastics Federation	Managing Director	Morocco
Ms	Nadege	Mertus	World Bank		United States
Ms	Nadia	Kassali	World Bank	Consultant	Morocco
Mr	Naoual	Zoubair			
Ms	Nassima	Sami	MICEVN	Cadre	Morocco
Mr	Nassira	Rheyati	Department of Environment/ Ministry of Energy, Mines and Environment	Head of the International Cooperation Division	Morocco
Ms	Natividad	Sánchez	Oceana	Campaign Director	Spain
Mr	Nikola	Ille	World Bank	Senior Environmental Engineer	United States
Ms	Noha	Samy	Egyptian Ministry of Environment	Engineer	Egypt
Ms	Ouiam	Ouadghiri			Morocco
Mr	Pedro	Fernández	SCP/RAC	Project manager	Spain
Mr	Peter	Kohler	Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas)		United Kingdom
Ms	Peter	Kristensen	World Bank	Lead Environmental Specialist	United States
Mr	Pierre	Renson	Interpreter Morocco	Conference Interpreter	Morocco
Mr	Rachid	Firadi	Department of Environment	Director of Partnership, Communication and Cooperation	Morocco
Mr	Rami	Nassif			Lebanon
Ms	Rheyati	Rheyati			Morocco
Ms	Sabine	Ghosn	Ministry of Environment	Head of Department	Lebanon
Ms	Safae	Lyazidi	Direction des Ports et du Domaine Public Maritime	In charge of the Safety, Security and Environment Division	Morocco
Mr	Sameh	Ayoub	Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA)	Egyptian MEDPOL National Focal point	Egypt
Mr	Samir	Benbrahim	INRH	Head of Department	Morocco
Mr	Samir	Bachouche	Cnrdpa	Researcher	Algeria
Ms	Seloua	Amaziane			France
Ms	Siddharth	Merchant			India
Mr	Slimane	Maliki	Department of the Environment	Head of Department	Morocco
Ms	Sonja	Ruijters	Center of International Environmental Law	Legal Intern	Belgium

Title	First Name	Last Name	Organization	Job Title	Country/ Region Name
Ms	Stanislas	Mouba	DGEPN	DG	Gabon
Ms	Suiko	Yoshijima	Senior Environmental Specialist	Senior Environmental Specialist	Thailand
Mr	Thami	Ben Halima	AgroTech Souss Massa	Director	Morocco
Mr	Thomais	Vlachogianni	Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development	Senior Policy/Programme Officer	Greece
Mr	Tobias	Becker			United States
Mr	Wahid	Rahmoune	Tanger Med Port Authority	Deputy Commander Security and Intervention	Morocco
Mr	Wahid	Moufaddal	Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment	Remote Sensing Expert	Kuwait
Ms	Wanessa	Matos	World Bank		Brazil
Ms	Wassim	Chaabane	World Bank	Expert	United States
Mr	Younes	Baghdidi			France
Mr	Youssef	Houmaidi			Morocco
Mr	Z.	Haddou	National Fisheries Office	Directeur QSE	France
Mr	Zaher	Alagwan	PERSGA (Regional Organization for Conservation of Environment of Red Sea and Gulf of Aden)	Marine Litter Program Coordinator	Saudi Arabia
Ms	Wiame	Bakkali	Ministry of Energy, Mines and Environment	Advisor	Morocco



Annex III: Survey questions

The participants were invited to rank the level of relevance for each item.

Questions	Scoring		
	Not relevant	Relevant	Very relevant
Q1: Impact of plastic waste pollution on the sea and coasts			
• Semi-industrial and industrial fisheries			
• Small-scale fishing			
• Tourism			
• Maritime navigation			
Q2: Barriers to overcome in establishing circular and inclusive business models			
• Institutional/governance			
• Regulatory			
• Lack of knowledge and technology			
• Market barriers (low price of virgin materials, resistance from stakeholders with interests in the linear model, etc.)			
• Lack of awareness			
Q3: Solutions for good plastic waste management			
• Proper solid waste management			
• Formalization/organization of the informal sector (waste-pickers and industrial link)			
• Introduction of source separation and selective collection			
• Strict regulations			
• The implementation of incentive instruments			
Q4: Added value of recycling plastic waste			
• Reduction of marine pollution and preservation of ecosystem services			
• Job creation for coastal populations			
• Wealth creation			
Q5: Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on plastic waste management			
• Increasing plastic waste deposits			
• Loss of income among waste pickers			
• Loss of income in cooperatives and recycling units			
• Return to the use of single-use bags			
Q6: To unite efforts to combat marine and coastal plastic waste pollution			
• Good regional coordination			
• Harmonization of approaches			
• Capitalizing on country experiences to optimize efforts			
• Coordinated mobilization of funding			
• Establishment of a regional plastic de-pollution fund			
• Establishment of a regional platform for sharing information and approaches to combat marine plastic pollution			
• Establishment of a Regional Information System on marine plastic debris based on the MEDPOL, OSPAR, and IMAP approaches			
• Organization of regional meetings on this theme			

Annex V: Link to the Recording of the Workshop

The recording of the workshop will be available on the following website:

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/mena-blue-program>



