

International High-level Conference

Inter-basin Cooperation on Marine Litter: a focus on the Danube River and the Black Sea

Thursday, 4 April 2019

SOFIA HOTEL BALKAN
Sofia, Republic of Bulgaria

Organised by:



Expert Partner: Ministry of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria



Within the framework of the Bulgarian
BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office



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Wednesday 3 April 2019	
19.30 – 21.30	Official Welcome Dinner offered by PABSEC (upon invitation only) <i>Venue tbd</i>
Thursday 4 April 2019	
9.00 – 9.30	Registration
9.30 – 10.00	Welcome Address
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - H.E. Amb. Michael B. CHRISTIDES, Secretary General, BSEC PERMIS - H.E. Mrs. Ekaterina ZAHARIEVA, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria, Chair of the Bulgarian BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office - H.E. Mr. Neno DIMOV, Minister of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria - H.E. Mr. Asaf HAJIYEV, Secretary General, PABSEC - H.E. Mr. Karmenu VELLA, EU Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (video message)
10.00 – 10.20	Keynote Speech
	Mr. Bernhard FRIESS , Maritime Policy and Blue Economy Director, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commission
10.20 – 11.30	Session I: Interregional cooperation & institutional approach.
	<p>Subject: Policy framework and Joint Action Plans to support the policy- and decision-making in tackling marine litter.</p> <p>Moderator: H.E. Amb. Selim YENEL, First Deputy Secretary General, BSEC PERMIS</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Irina MAKARENKO, Pollution Monitoring and Assessment Officer, Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution - Mr. Petar MARGIĆ, Director-General, Danube Commission - Ms. Marta RUIZ, Associate Professional Secretary, Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM) - Prof. Michael SCULLOS, Chairman, Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development
11.30 – 11.45	Coffee Break

11.45 – 13.15	Session II: Increased knowledge and socio-economic impact.
	<p>Subject: <i>Sharing scientific knowledge and comparable data to contribute to targeted and coordinated actions.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Georgios MITRAKOS, Director General, International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Dan VASILIU, Romanian National Institute for Research and Development of Marine Geology and Geoecology (GeoEcoMar) - Dr. Violeta SLABAKOVA, Institute of Oceanology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences - Prof. Dr. Emil STANEV, Institute for Chemistry and Biology of the Marine Environment, Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg - Mr. Giuseppe RIVA, Director Mediterranean Region, Association of Plastics Manufacturers ‘PlasticsEurope’ - Mr. Yordan GOSPODINOV, Chairman, Black Sea Advisory Council - Dr. Mustafa YÜCEL, Associate Professor, Vice Director METU-IMS, ODTU Erdemli Kampusu
13.15– 14.15	Light lunch
14.15 – 15.45	Session III: A European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy.
	<p>Subject: <i>The strategy addresses the challenges posed by plastics throughout the value chain and taking into account their entire life-cycle.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Anton PEYCHEV, Expert, Waste Management Directorate, Ministry of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Maris STULGIS, Policy Officer, DG MARE, European Commission - Mr. Mustafa AYDIN, Regional Cooperation and Marine Information Expert, European Environmental Agency - Mr. Thanos SMANIS, Environmental Consultant, Member of the Facility for Blue Growth in the Black Sea - Ms. Emma GILEVA, Board member & Official Representative, Black Sea NGO Network - Prof. Allan T. WILLIAMS, Faculty of Architecture, Computing and

	<p>Engineering, University of Wales (<i>tbc</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prof. Dr. Tatsiana SAVITSKAYA, Physical Chemistry Dept., Vice-Dean for Science, Faculty of Chemistry, Belarusian State University
15.45 – 16.00	Coffee Break
16.00 – 17.00	Session IV: Improved monitoring and coordinated actions.
	<p>Subject: Coordinated schemes and best practices to manage human activities generating marine litter in the Danube River and the Black Sea.</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Irina MAKARENKO, Pollution Monitoring and Assessment Officer, Commission for the Protection of Black Sea Against Pollution</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Jaroslav SLOBODNIK, EU/UNDP EMBLAS-II Project Team Leader - Prof. Assoc. Dr. Jerina KOLITARI, Dept. of Aquaculture and Fishery, Agricultural University of Tirana, Aquaculture and Fishery Laboratory, Durrës, Albania - Mr. Stavros KALOGNOMOS, Executive Secretary, Balkan and Black Sea Commission, Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) - Ms. Miroslava ROBINSON, Head of Marine Water Protection Department, Black Sea Region Directorate, Ministry of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria
17.15 – 17.30	Conclusions & Perspectives
	Amb. Michael B. CHRISTIDES , Secretary General, BSEC PERMIS

