

# Update on progress of UNEP's work to address plastic pollution and marine litter

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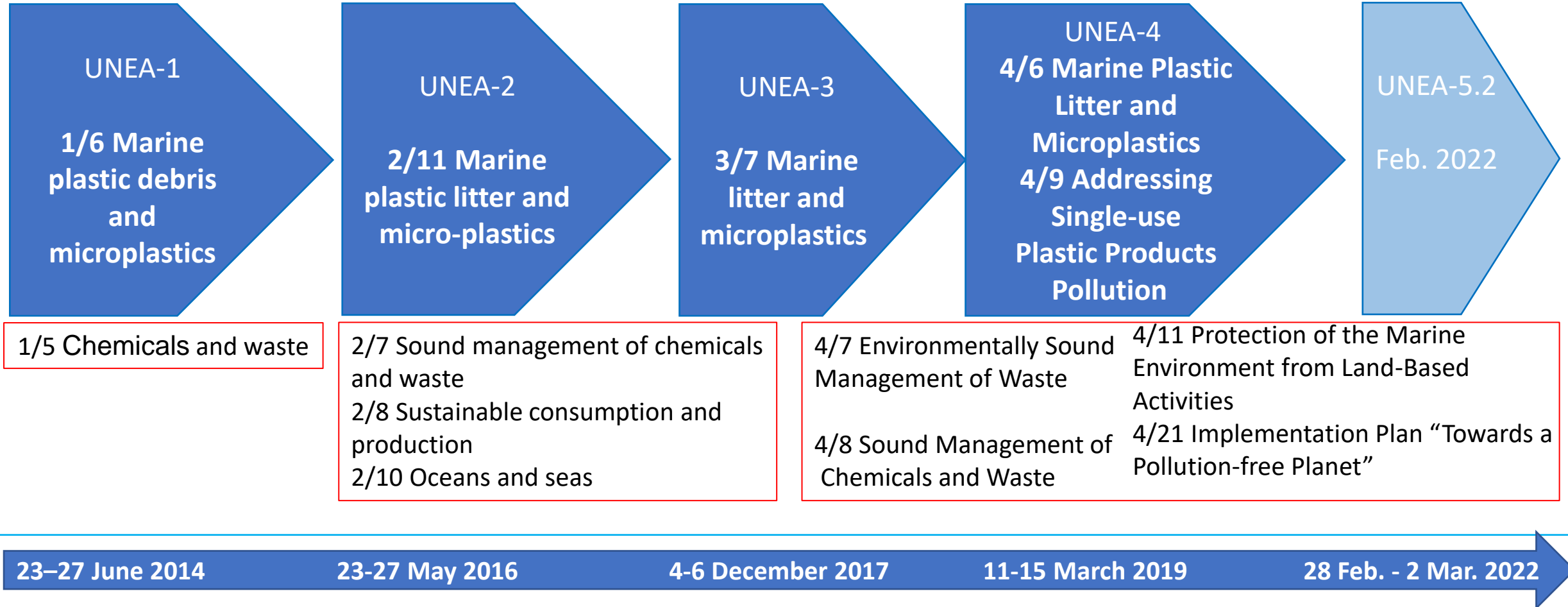
Ministerial Conference on Marine Litter and Plastic Pollution

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Leticia Carvalho, Head of Marine and Freshwater, UN Environment Programme  
01 September 2021 – Geneva, Switzerland (hybrid meeting)

# Evolving mandate on Marine Litter and Plastic Pollution

Scope of the debate has evolved:



# Knowledge Products and Action Plans

## Recently published knowledge products:

- Legislative Guide for the Regulation of Single-Use Plastic Products (2020)
- Can I Recycle This? A Global Mapping and Assessment of Standards, Labels and Claims on Plastic Packaging (2020)
- Monitoring Plastics in Rivers and Lakes: Guidelines for the Harmonization of Methodologies (2021)
- Addressing Single-Use Plastic Products Pollution using a Life Cycle Approach (2021)

## In the pipeline:

- From Pollution to Solution: a global assessment
- Rapid Response Assessment on COVID-related impacts
- Marine Litter and Plastic Waste Vital Graphics (with BRS and Grid-A)
- Agricultural plastics

## Action Plans:

- UNEP has helped support the development of **Regional Action Plans** on marine litter in all corners of the globe (13 established & 3 in draft stage)
- UNEP has ongoing work supporting the development of **National Action Plans**, upon request, including through the National Source Inventory approach

# The Clean Seas Campaign



UNEP's Clean Seas Campaign, launched in 2017 as a rallying call to unite all stakeholders dramatically reduce marine litter and its impacts.

Since its launch, **63 countries** have joined the Campaign, representing more than 60% of the world's coastlines, and more than **111,000 people** having made individual pledges to help turn the tide on plastic.

The Campaign continues to grow and aims to include over 100 countries by the end of 2022.

# One UN – Tackling Marine Litter and Plastic Pollution

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**IMO:** sea-based sources of marine litter, including guidelines on fiberglass boat management

**FAO:** sea-based sources of marine litter; impacts of microplastics in seafood quality; plastics in agriculture

**UN-Habitat:** Launch of Waste Wise Cities Tool to measure plastic waste leakage from cities

**WTO:** trade-related aspects of environmental sustainability, Informal Dialogue on Plastics Pollution

**WHO:** potential human health aspects of microplastics in freshwater and drinking water, as well as food and air

**Basel Convention** Plastic Waste Amendments; Basel Convention Plastic Waste Partnership (PWP)

**GEF:** “Reduce marine plastics and plastic pollution in Latin American and Caribbean cities through a circular economy approach”

# Thank you

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Leticia Carvalho  
Head of Marine and Freshwater, UN Environment Programme  
[leticia.carvalho@un.org](mailto:leticia.carvalho@un.org)

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