

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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9.00 – 9.30	Registration
9.30 – 10.00	Welcome Address
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - H.E. Mrs. Ekaterina ZAHARIEVA, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria, Chair of the Bulgarian BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office (tbc) - H.E. Mr. Neno DIMOV, Minister of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria - H.E. Amb. Michael B. CHRISTIDES, Secretary General, BSEC PERMIS - 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 – 11.20	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>
11.20 – 11.45	Coffee Break
11.45 – 13.00	Session II: Increased knowledge and socio-economic impact.
	<p>Subject: Sharing scientific knowledge and comparable data to contribute to targeted and coordinated actions.</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Georgios MITRAKOS, Director General, International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS)</p>
13.00– 14.00	Light lunch
14.00 – 14.45	Session III: A European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy.
	<p>Subject: The strategy addresses the challenges posed by plastics throughout the value chain and taking into account their entire life-cycle.</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Anton PEYCHEV, Expert, Waste Management Directorate, Ministry of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria</p>
14.45 – 15.00	Coffee Break

15.00 – 16.15	Session IV: Improved monitoring and coordinated actions.
	<p>Subject: <i>Coordinated schemes and best practices to manage human activities generating marine litter in the Danube River and the Black Sea.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Irina MAKARENKO, Pollution Monitoring and Assessment Officer, Commission for the Protection of Black Sea Against Pollution (tbc)</p>
16.15 – 16.30	Conclusions & Perspectives
	H.E. Amb. Michael B. CHRISTIDES, Secretary General, BSEC PERMIS
19:30 - 21.30	Official Event (upon invitation only) (venue tbd)



DRAMA