

► **INC 5.2 side event**

Panel 2 at the Multi-Stakeholder Forum

Perspectives from the world of work, the informal sectors and indigenous peoples in the effort to tackle plastic pollution

Date: August 4, 2025, 14:20-15:10

Location: Palais de Nations, Assembly Hall

Background and Objective

The panel 'Perspectives from the World of Work, the Informal Sectors, and Indigenous Peoples in the effort to tackle plastic pollution' is convened as part of the Multi-Stakeholder Forum organized by Switzerland. This Forum will bring together representatives from Members of the INC, non-governmental organizations, civil society, and other key stakeholders to foster inclusive dialogue and build momentum ahead of INC-5.2.

The panel will feature reflections from diverse stakeholders on adopting a people-centered approach to the Plastics Treaty, with a particular focus on its connections to the world of work, a Just Transition and insights on the informal sector and Indigenous Peoples' knowledge. It will also invite participants to engage in an open discussion on the importance of placing workers and communities at the heart of the treaty process.

This event is open only to all registered INC-5.2 participants (access with INC-5.2 badge).

Tentative Agenda (TBC)

14:20-14:25	Welcoming and opening remarks – ILO AP JT Moustapha Kamal Gueye 5 minutes
14:25-14:45	Soledad Mella, International Alliance of Waste Pickers - 7 minutes (including interpretation) Frankie Orona, Indigenous Peoples' Caucus / Society of Native Nations- 5 minutes Ambassador Tovar da Silva Nunes, Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations Office in Geneva - 5 minutes

	Moderation: ILO AP JT Moustapha Kamal Gueye
14:45-15:00	Q&A session – 15 minutes
15:00-15:06	Concluding reflections from Daria Cibrario, Public Services International – 3 minutes Concluding reflections from Robert Marinkovic, International Organisation of Employers – 3 minutes
15:06-15:10	Closing of the panel – ILO AP JT Moustapha Kamal Gueye - 4 minutes

Questions for the panellists

Question for Soledad Mella (International Alliance of Waste Pickers):

Waste pickers play a vital role in managing plastic waste, yet they often face precarious working conditions and limited recognition. In your view, what is needed to support and protect the rights, livelihoods, and contributions of waste pickers in the transition away from plastic pollution?

Question for Frankie Orona (Indigenous Peoples' Caucus / Society of Native Nations):

Indigenous Peoples have long-standing knowledge and practices that foster harmony with nature. How can Indigenous Peoples' knowledge contribute to plastic pollution solutions, and how could Indigenous Peoples' rights be strengthened?

Question for Ambassador Tovar da Silva Nunes (Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations Office in Geneva):

Brazil has an interesting experience in environmental policymaking that includes engagement with informal workers and Indigenous communities. How is Brazil approaching the integration of just transition principles, in particular social dialogue and equity, in its national efforts to address plastic pollution, and what lessons might inform the global treaty process?

Introduction to concluding reflections from Daria Cibrario (Public Services International) and Robert Marinkovic (International Organisation of Employers)

Workers and employers have a key role to play in addressing plastic pollution and in making the most of the opportunities that come with the transition to more sustainable systems in a fair and inclusive manner. PSI and IOE are invited to share some concluding insights from their perspectives on this topic, also reflecting on the panel's discussion.