

## AGENDA

9:00 Clara Manno (British Antarctic Survey): Welcome and introduction to the meeting

9:10 Ilke Peeken (Alfred-Wegener-Institute): Sources and sink of plastic pollution in the Eurasian Arctic

Over the past 15 years large plastic litter has increased on the deep seafloor of the inflow gateway to the Arctic Ocean, the Fram Strait. In addition, microplastic has been found from the sea ice to the deep ocean floor, particularly the latter of which can be considered as a final sink for this form of anthropogenic pollution. To identify the sinks and pathways of litter and microplastic and assess long-term trends a Pollution Observatory was added to FRAM infrastructure. First highlights of this work will be presented. Microplastic research further requires best quality research, so a brief introduction to the JPIO BASEMAN project for harmonizing methods will also be presented.

9:30 Cath Waller (University of Hull): Microplastic pollution in Antarctica, how hard can it be to quantify?

The Southern Ocean has the lowest densities of floating macroplastic litter in the world. It was thought that the region was relatively free of microplastic contamination. However, recent studies and citizen science projects have reported microplastics in deep-sea and shallow sediments and surface waters. Here we present an introduction to the current state of knowledge of macro and microplastics in the Southern Ocean and an evaluation of sampling methods, data recording and quantification of microplastic pollution - how do we standardise measurements and sampling design?

9:50 Ilaria Corsi (University of Siena): Nanoplastics in the Antarctic environment – an invisible threat?

*Nanoplastics constitute the smallest fraction of plastic litter, still poorly studied due to the current limits of detection and quantification. Evidence of the occurrence of nano-sized polymers has been recently provided in water column under the North Atlantic subtropical gyre and as a consequence of biological degradation by Antarctic krill. To reveal the potential effects of nanoplastics to Antarctic wildlife, an ecotoxicological approach can be adopted, applying the expertise acquired in nanotoxicology. In this view, the results of research performed in the framework of PLANET/NANOPANTA projects on nanoplastics impact on Antarctic model organisms will be presented.*

10:10 Renuka Badhe (European Polar Board) Reporting from meeting on “Minimising plastic use and waste in polar research and logistics” held on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

10:20 Claire Waluda (British Antarctic Survey): Introduction to breakout groups and guidelines

10:30 Coffee and networking

10:45 Breakout groups, (each with a chair and rapporteur)

11:30 Re-convene to share results/ideas of breakouts and input into guidelines framework

11:50 Agree statement of intent from the PLASTIC-AG

12:00 Meeting ends

