

24-28 March 2019

Documentation of the Work of the United Nations Environment
Assembly



Conference A

United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)

Committee Staff

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Agenda

- I. Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics
- II. Preventing and Reducing Air Pollution to Improve Air Quality Globally
- III. Promoting the Responsible Disposal of Electronic and Hazardous Waste

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
1/1	Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics	115 votes in favor, 10 votes against, 10 abstentions
1/2	Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics	123 votes in favor, 4 votes against, 8 abstentions
1/3	Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics	123 votes in favor, 2 votes against, 10 abstentions
1/4	Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics	122 votes in favor, 6 votes against, 7 abstentions
1/5	Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics	117 votes in favor, 6 votes against, 12 abstentions
1/6	Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics	119 votes in favor, 3 votes against, 13 abstentions
1/7	Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics	115 votes in favor, 7 votes against, 13 abstentions
1/8	Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics	120 votes in favor, 5 votes against, 10 abstentions
1/9	Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics	126 votes in favor, 7 votes against, 2 abstentions
1/10	Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics	126 votes in favor, 3 votes against, 6 abstentions
1/11	Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics	121 votes in favor, 12 votes against, 2 abstentions
1/12	Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics	126 votes in favor, 6 votes against, 3 abstentions

2/1	Preventing and Reducing Air Pollution to Improve Air Quality Globally	130 votes in favor, 5 votes against, no abstentions
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Summary Report

The United Nations Environment Assembly held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics
- II. Preventing and Reducing Air Pollution to Improve Air Quality Globally
- III. Promoting the Responsible Disposal of Electronic and Hazardous Waste

The session was attended by representatives of 139 Member States and three Observers. On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda of I, II, III beginning discussion on the topic of “Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics.” On Monday afternoon, delegations began discussions on education, youth empowerment, technology-sharing, and eliminating single-use plastics. By Tuesday, the Dais received a total of 17 proposals covering a wide range of sub-topics artificial intelligent to clean the oceans, plastic-free sporting events, and eliminating microbeads.

On Wednesday, the 17 proposals had been merged into 12 draft resolutions and all had been approved by the Dais, three of which had amendments. The committee adopted all 12 draft resolutions during voting procedure. Over the course of the sessions, the delegates remained diplomatic with each other and were willing to collaborate and merge when necessary.

Following the adoption of all 12 resolutions, the committee moved into the second topic, “Preventing and Reducing Air Pollution to Improve Air Quality Globally.” The committee discussed and quickly agreed upon the need for reforestation and drafted one working paper. This paper was adopted by the body at the end of the final session, concluding a productive week of collaborative deliberations.



Code: UNEA/1/1

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*
2
3 *Recognizing* the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14, 'Life Below Water', as a pressing and urging
4 matter,
5
6 *Keeping in mind* SDG 12.5, which declares that all Member States should substantially lower the waste
7 for every generation through prevention, reduction and recycling with other programs such as Sustainable
8 Product Procurement and Eco-labelling Project,
9
10 *Applauding* the recent initiative of the European Union Parliament Single-Use Plastics Directive to ban 10
11 single-use plastic items from the Member States markets, and the Ministerial Declaration signed at the
12 Fourth Session of the UN Environment Assembly to significantly reduce single-use plastic products by
13 2030,
14
15 *Emphasizing* bulk selling in grocery stores by selling products previously packaged in plastic containers
16 with biodegradable bulk packaging material as a critical component of reducing plastic production as
17 demonstrated by several European Member States,
18
19 *Paying tribute to* the success of "bio-fences" and other emergent technologies that prevent plastic in
20 rivers from ending up in the oceans, as supported through the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental
21 Research which stated that 90% of the plastic in the oceans comes from rivers,
22
23 *Recognizing* the need for green tax policies in all Member States concerning plastic consumption and
24 production,
25
26 *Concerned* about the rise of illegal plastic recycling factories in least developed countries and the hazards
27 they pose on the environment,
28
29 *Recognizing* the work by the National Recycling Coalition in the United States and Enviromark reverse
30 vending machines (RVM's) initiative to recycle,
31
32 *Noting with concern* the fact that 8.5 million metric tons of plastic enter the ocean yearly and pollute it with
33 marine plastic litter and microplastics, affecting the environment, human and animal health,
34
35 *Acknowledging* the educational frameworks such as the Pioneer Movement of Recyclers of the Future
36 and the Marine Strategy Framework Directive that have been created to reduce the amount of plastics
37 and marine plastics,
38
39 *Affirming* the importance of knowledge sharing and international cooperation in revising and ameliorating
40 environmental practices, as the concept of waste management and plastic producer accountability can be
41 aided through invigorating education,
42
43 *Considering* the United Nations World Youth Report (2018), youth are the principal players in working
44 toward achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,
45
46 *Alarmed* by the massive amount of plastic entering the ocean and the destruction caused by marine
47 plastic, emphasizing the importance of innovative solutions and highlighting the efforts made by the
48 Momentum for Change Award to foster innovative solutions and particularly focusing on the concept of
49 social plastic by the Lighthouse Activity Award Winner 2017 Plastic Bank,

50 *Urging* Member States to globally raise awareness of the threats to animals and humans caused by
51 marine plastic litter and microplastics that often contaminate our oceans food sources and have the
52 potential to poison humans through the consumption of fish,
53
54 *Strongly approving* the work being done by the Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML) and affirming
55 its importance on addressing the problem of marine litter on an international scale,
56
57 *Having considered* the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (2001) which looks for the
58 elimination of problematic plastic packaging and transition towards reusable packaging,
59
60 *Viewing with appreciation* the efforts made by the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment,
61
62 *Emphasizing* the work done by regional initiatives including the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter
63 Management (RAPMaLi) and the Regional Office of Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC) in policy
64 recommendations for reducing plastic litter with the assistance of experts and the UN Environment,
65
66 *Noting the work* done by RAPMaLi in proposing national policy solutions for the reduction of marine
67 plastic litter in the Wider Caribbean Region alongside the UN Environment Regional Seas Campaign,
68
69 *Applauding* the work being done by non-governmental organization (NGOs) such as the Ocean
70 Conservancy, the Ocean Cleanup, Plastic Pollution Coalition to combat this poignant issue and
71 intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), such as the GPML that address the importance of the problem
72 on marine litter,
73
74 *Emphasizing* both United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) resolution 2/11 (2016) “Marine plastic
75 litter and microplastics” and General Assembly resolution 66/288 (2012) “The future we want” with
76 dedication to combating marine plastic litter and microplastics in international, regional and sub regional
77 strategies,
78
79 *Recognizing* with satisfaction UNEA resolution 2/19 (2016) “Midterm review of the fourth Programme for
80 the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law” call for the inclusion of all stakeholders in
81 the development of initiatives directed at waste reduction, and the promotion of recycling,
82
83 *Recalling* General Assembly resolution 70/1 (2015) “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for
84 Sustainable Development”, which recognizes the continued degradation of the planet and calls attention
85 to the need for sustainable production, the sustainable management of natural resources, and mitigating
86 agents for the preservation of marine ecosystems through the "Greening Economies in the European
87 Union's Eastern Neighbourhood" (EAP Green),
88
89 *Recognizing* with satisfaction UNEA resolution 2/19 (2016) call for the inclusion of all stakeholders in the
90 development of initiatives directed at waste reduction, and the promotion of recycling,
91
92 *Acknowledging* the influence of public-private partnerships in increasing international and regional
93 capacity for the sustainable management of marine and terrestrial ecosystems as outlined in the General
94 Assembly resolution 71/257 (2016) “Oceans and the law of the sea”, and resolution 71/312 (2017) “Our
95 ocean, our future: call for action”,
96
97 *Recognizing* the importance of the *Report of the Preparatory Committee* established by the General
98 Assembly resolution 69/292 (2015) which calls for the drafting and implementation of a legal framework
99 binding Member States to conserving the health and integrity of all marine ecosystems outside of national
100 jurisdictions,
101
102 *Drawing upon* UN Environment’s existing Environment Fund, which seeks to meet emergent environment
103 issues that can be used in furthering new initiatives,
104

- 105 1. *Encourages* Member States to re-assess their current regulations surrounding corporate practices,
106 particularly considering the plastics industry and waste disposal, and consider a change in corporate
107 policy that would:
108
- 109 a. Increase producer responsibility in the plastics industry through stricter state regulations;
110
 - 111 b. Accentuate partnerships with existing NGOs including Ocean Conservancy, the Ocean
112 Cleanup, and Plastic Pollution Coalition and regional bodies considering sustainable
113 practices in development, production, and waste management;
114
 - 115 c. Adapt current national policies to make regulations surrounding plastic use and production
116 stricter, as connects to multinational industries;
117
- 118 2. *Supports* the implementation of the circular economy by encouraging private sectors to implement
119 business practices that would incorporate using recycled plastics in the production of consumer
120 goods including clothing, traffic cones, and kitchenware as well as in sustainable development and
121 home building initiatives;
122
- 123 3. *Invites* all Member States to develop and implement new or existing technologies to clean up the
124 oceans and rivers, by taking example on a community project called “bio-fences” that reuse plastic
125 waste to form a physical floating barriers in rivers, blocking the floating plastic running in rivers and
126 preventing it from entering and scattering into the oceans with the aim of reusing the plastic collected
127 to create new barriers or send it to recycling points;
128
- 129 4. *Reiterates* the need for the implementation of local environmental policies on the control,
130 management and prevention of single use plastics by:
131
- 132 a. Recommending that member states ban or lessen their use of single use plastics such as
133 food plastic containers in order to limit the amount of plastic waste entering the ocean;
134
 - 135 b. Implementing a taxation on certain single use plastic products of commercial use such as
136 plastic water bottles and plastic bags:
137
 - 138 i. Focusing on the funding of smaller communities for the recycling of plastic waste;
 - 139 ii. Appreciates Member States that have made an effort to build programs to tackle
140 persistent organic pollutants based on some conventions such as the Stockholm
141 convention;
142
- 143 5. *Requests* UN Environment to expand the mandate of the GPML by:
144
- 145 a. Setting up a multi-level platform to share experiences and best-practices regarding the
146 collection of marine plastic litter both on a global and regional level by national waste
147 agencies;
148
 - 149 b. Expanding upon the Global Plan of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from
150 Land-Based Action in the effort to establish the Global Awareness of the Marine Environment
151 Organisation as a sub organ of the GPML which further specifies that the GPML will be in
152 charge of coordinating and supporting educational efforts of member states and facilitate
153 international cooperation and knowledge transfer for educational purposes;
154
 - 155 c. Establishing the marine plastic litter fund within the GPML to financially and technically
156 support Member States’ national waste agencies in marine plastic litter-related projects;
157
- 158 6. *Encourages* Member States to raise awareness of the threat’s marine plastic litter causes:
159

- 160 a. By setting up marine protected areas not only to initially protect the oceans but also to
161 highlight the importance of oceans and use these actions directly to raise awareness;
162
163 b. By creating social media campaigns targeted at various populations;
164
- 165 7. *Encourages* the further implementation of sustainable consumption and production program which
166 has overseen the development of programs such as EAP Green in order to:
167
168 a. Mainstream sustainable consumption and production into national plans, legislation, and
169 regulatory frameworks to ensure incentives are created in line with good international
170 practices;
171
172 b. Promote the implementation of instruments for environmentally sustainable development;
173
- 174 8. *Recommends* that NGOs, IGOs, and corporations gather data and collaborate in raising awareness in
175 the international community regarding the severity of the destruction of the marine ecosystem;
176
- 177 9. *Encourages* the expansion of green economic programs which have overseen the development of
178 programs that increase national recycling capacity, and further encouraging development, so that
179 Member States are able to:
180
181 a. Establish national and regional recycling centers;
182
183 b. Increase regional accountability and policy measures to better work on the:
184
185 i. Implementation of bans policies on single use plastics such as water bottles and
186 plastic bags;
187 ii. Focusing on the funding of smaller communities for the recycling of plastic waste;
188 iii. Requesting of developed states' involvement in regulating the commerce of plastic
189 waste for means of disposal in order to alleviate the burden of the least developed
190 countries;
191
192 c. Work to provide monetary credit deposit-refund system for plastic bottles;
193
- 194 10. *Calls upon* Member States to limit and reduce the use of single use plastics and look for
195 environmentally conscious alternatives on:
196
197 a. The use of non-plastic alternatives;
198
199 b. The development of bulk selling grocery stores;
200
- 201 11. *Encourages* the implementation of a plastic deposit system, according to the Plastic Bank's social
202 plastic approach to advance a circular economy, as it has been established in several Member
203 States, in cooperation with companies such as Henkel, proposing the installation of recycling centers
204 at which collected plastics can be returned for an incentive, cooperating with companies to reuse the
205 recycled plastic and therefore reduce plastic waste;
206
- 207 12. *Invites* all Member States to institutionalized enforcement practices on sustainable production and
208 resource management as it pertains to the plastics industry and plastic disposal.

Annex

- 209 1. *Attempts to ensure*, through new UN Environment policies, that developing Member States have
210 access to the necessary means of production and implementation for a green economy and green tax
211 policies through the public and private sector:
212
- 213 a. Calls upon the implementation of a necessary green tax policy by Member States on
214 industries that manufacture, sell or promote plastic products whereby:
215
 - 216 i. Industries' plastic products would be harmful to the surrounding environment and
217 water bodies when discarded by consumers, such as but not limited to single-use
218 plastics and microbeads in cosmetics and personal care;
 - 219 ii. Taxes can be regulated and collected by each Member States Ministry of
220 environment or governmental entity;
221
 - 222 b. Accentuates that green taxes can be specifically used to clean up surrounding water-bodies
223 of Member States by methods such as but not limited to the use of regional NGOs for
224 landlocked countries and the possible formation of marine task forces specifically for the
225 management and cleanup of marine plastic waste by Member States with surrounding water
226 bodies;
227
 - 228 c. Is enthusiastic to implement initiatives similar to the Marine Strategy Framework Directive
229 that promote alternatives to plastic consumption by Member States for companies to reduce
230 plastic production and take responsibility of plastic waste resulting from their products by
231 reducing the green taxes depending on whether companies have implemented effective
232 awareness campaigns or any form of action to reduce their use of plastics in a way that
233 harms the environment.



Code: UNEA/1/2

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics

- 1 *The United Environment Assembly,*
2
3 *Taking into consideration* United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) resolution 2/11 on “Marine
4 plastic litter and microplastics” specifically targeting clauses 7 and 10 referring to the importance
5 developing capacity building and education to preserve marine ecosystems,
6
7 *Bearing in mind* the efforts made by the Regional Seas Conventions regarding United Nations
8 environment’s marine-related policies and marine preservation,
9
10 *Deeply alarmed* of the huge risk for the marine environment caused by the 1.15 million to 2.41 million
11 tons of gross plastic waste reaching the oceans every year,
12
13 *Affirming* the importance of the private sector in the fight against marine plastic pollution,
14
15 *Noting further* the influence of regional seas programs in harmonizing universally applicable scientific
16 standards,
17
18 *Recognizing* General Assembly resolution 70/1 adopted in 2015 on “Transforming our world: 2030
19 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, especially Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12 aiming in
20 considerable reducing the amount of produced waste by reuse, recycling and reduce strategies by 2030,
21
22 *Emphasizing* the *United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (1982), a binding instrument to
23 regulate ocean-related activities and calls state parties to take legislative action to prevent, reduce and
24 control marine pollution,
25
26 *Recalling* General Assembly resolution 71/312 on “Our ocean, our future: call for action” that is calling
27 Member States to take actions to reduce the production and consumption of plastic products and to avoid
28 marine pollution of all kinds,
29
30 *Taking into consideration* the attempt of UN Environment Programme (UN Environment) in unveiling a
31 low-cost and efficient device for air monitoring to enhance information sharing,
32
33 *Fully believing* that the creation of an internationally agreed upon, scientific, empirical methodology of
34 measurement of plastic pollution and microplastics into the marine world is indispensable,
35
36 *Emphasizing* on the success of the *Paris Agreement* (2015) which respects each Member States
37 capabilities and nationally determined contributions (NDGs) in contributing to climate change,
38
39 *Referring* to the existing mandates of open-ended working group under *Basel Convention on the Control*
40 *of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal* (1992), to increase the number
41 of options for closer partnerships: ubiquitous transboundary movement of marine plastics and
42 microplastics,
43
44 *Emphasizing* the importance of recycling rate which is only around 9% globally,
45
46 1. *Recommends* UN Environment to develop the Blueprint for Oceans Preservation Capacity Building
47 with the guidance of the Cleans Seas Campaign in order to provide capacity building for Least

48 Developed Countries (LDCs) to safeguard the life of marine species reducing plastic disposal into our
49 ocean, in a year-period basis by:

- 50
- 51 a. Promoting partnerships between public and private Sector in order to finance this initiative;
- 52
- 53 b. Involving experts in the field on litter recollection to develop forums on schools, universities
54 and workplaces;
- 55
- 56 c. Encouraging societies to participate in different initiatives of litter recollection such as the
57 World Clean Up Day;
- 58

59 2. *Calls* on UN Environment to establish the International Plastic Negotiating Committee (IPNC) with the
60 purpose of inviting UN Member States to mediate an international convention on sustainable plastic
61 production, consumption and disposal and provide proposals for the negotiation format and timetable
62 until December 2019 to UNEA by:

- 63
- 64 a. Requesting the UN Environment to acknowledge the capabilities of each UN Member States
65 in tackling the issue by building the framework provided by the *Paris Agreement*;
- 66
- 67 b. Encouraging Member States to be a part of the convention that would include national
68 determined efforts in decreasing the effect of microplastic and plastic pollution;
- 69
- 70 c. Calling upon Member States willing to be a part of the convention to annually report to the
71 IPNC on the progress that has been done regarding this issue;
- 72

73 3. *Encourages* all Member States to support, accept and harmonize the implementation of the UN
74 Environment indicator methodologies for SDG 14 and the Target 14.1.1 Index of Coastal
75 Eutrophication (ICEP) and Floating Plastic Debris Density;

76

77 4. *Requests* UN Environment to encourage an increase of data collection measures on marine plastic
78 litter and microplastics to have a clear data set about the amounts of floating plastic debris density in
79 all Member States by:

- 80
- 81 a. Calling upon Member States, with the partnership of United Nations University, to enhance
82 research on devices capable of collecting data and monitor marine plastic litter presence in
83 the water;
- 84
- 85 b. Encouraging UN Environment to focus on the development of a blueprint for a common
86 device that can be used by Member States;
- 87

88 5. *Encourages* Member States to include the private sector in the marine plastic litter and microplastic
89 pollution data gathering effort by:

- 90
- 91 a. Implementing national frameworks to facilitate access to marine plastic monitoring device in
92 factories and production facilities that rejects water in the environment and;
- 93
- 94 b. Including the national fishery industry by requiring it to equip marine plastic litter monitoring
95 devices on boats and related maritime equipment;
- 96

97 6. *Directs attention* at the World Health Organization (WHO) to monitor the amount of plastic present in
98 fish destined for the food market, establish an acceptable limit and, in any case, complete the
99 database with the data they collect in order to be able to map the areas where fish are most impacted
100 by plastic and microplastic;

- 102 7. *Encourages* UN Environment to develop social media awareness campaigns, guided by experts,
103 world leaders and agents of change, with the purpose of informing societies regarding the
104 repercussion of marine litter and micro beads which will contain:
105
106 a. Promotion of partnerships with Funding the Ocean, an organization dedicated to oceans
107 preservation worldwide, to finance this digital campaign which will focuses in promoting
108 videos that will create awareness on daily water usage by:
109
110 i. Ensuring house drainages are unclogged and free of solid and plastic waste;
111 ii. Reducing the use of products which contains microbeads such as toothpaste,
112 shampoos exfoliants and makeup;
113
114 b. Development of strategic plans through tutorial videos in order to encourage local voluntary
115 groups of different sectors to implement new practices of litter recollection on beaches, parks
116 and drains, which will reduce the number of plastics affecting marine life;
117
- 118 8. *Invites* the executive director of the UN Environment to examine the options to increase awareness
119 building for young people in LDCs with regard to SDG 12.8 and prepare recommendation's to be
120 presented to UNEA in 2021;
121
- 122 9. *Further recommends* UN Environment the development of the International Marine Preservation
123 Campaign (IMPC) with the guidance of the Clean Seas Campaign which encourages Member States
124 to reduce the use of plastics, with the purpose raising awareness on communities in order to preserve
125 marine ecosystems by:
126
127 a. Promoting regional action plan on marine litter and microplastics to identify the priority issues
128 relevant to region's marine and coastal environment and sustainable development;
129
130 b. Enhancing elementarily educational level for the younger generation nationally and sub-
131 regionally by engaging primary and secondary school students into cleaning plastic pollutants
132 in several main tourist resorts along seaside;
133
134 c. Suggesting the establishment of press conference among Member States on regional level
135 as a regulatory mechanism to report the progress of plastic managing, based on which a
136 wide-ranging civil education can be fulfilled;
137
138 d. Emphasizing information and advertisements on social media given the situation that our
139 earth is living to young people and future generations;
140
141 e. Suggesting experts and world leaders act as the spokesperson to encourage the participation
142 of young people in association and to voluntary actions;
143
144 f. Seeking cooperation with volunteering programs both internationally and regionally such as
145 Echoing Sustainability Middle East and North Africa to launch short-term projects or
146 campaigns to raise mass environmental awareness of the marine plastic pollution;
147
- 148 10. *Recommends* Member States enlarge the mandate of the *Basel Convention* in order to adopt
149 international trade regulation with plastic waste that defines recycling criteria for exporters of plastic
150 waste by:
151
152 a. Broadening the definition of marine plastic pollution in accordance to the definition set by UN
153 environment;
154
155 b. Reducing the movements of plastic litters between nations, and specifically to prevent
156 transfer of it from developed to least developed countries;
157

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- c. Developing a producer responsibility plan for plastic products on the markets;
11. *Encourages* Member States to reduce the amount of plastic litter by establishing or improving deposit-refund system at local, national, international levels, private sector, civil society, academia, and other stakeholders, considering:
- a. To implement the system nationwide, firstly at a regional level, then to a larger scale;
 - b. The governments should widely set recycle points or recycle machines according to Member States' policy;
 - c. If the plastic bottle is not taken to the recycle points, the deposit will be used for dealing with the undealt garbage.



Code: UNEA/1/3

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Addressing Plastic Marine Litter and Microplastics

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*
2
3 *Recalling* the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as outlined in
4 General Assembly resolution 70/1 (2015) titled “*Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for*
5 *Sustainable Development*” and its mission to provide a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for
6 people and the planet,
7
8 *Emphasizing* SDGs 12 and 14 and their importance in ensuring the recognition and protection of the right
9 to health as outlined in Article 25 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948) and the Human
10 Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) framework,
11
12 *Deeply convinced* that the right to health is failing to be fully recognized for citizens in Least Developed
13 Countries (LDCs) due to health complications that result from plastic and microplastic contamination of
14 food and water sources,
15
16 *Taking into account* that various international agreements, resolutions, and partnerships have not yielded
17 substantial decreases in the continued accumulation of plastic and microplastic contamination in the
18 world’s oceans,
19
20 *Recognizing* that LDCs are the vehicle of transmission through which 70% of the world’s plastics
21 contaminate the oceans,
22
23 *Continuing* to take the view that it is imperative to break away from the global predisposition toward free-
24 market based approaches and move towards people-centered approaches that focus on sustainable
25 development,
26
27 *Concerned* that the global free market system continues to champion profit over people and pushes LDCs
28 to degrade the health of their environments with the implementation of unsustainable recycling and
29 production practices in order to stay economically competitive,
30
31 *Deeply disturbed* that since 2010, the world’s 3,000 largest transnational corporations (TNCs) were
32 responsible for causing \$2.2 trillion in environmental damage globally,
33
34 *Seriously concerned* that TNCs bear significant responsibility for the implementation of these
35 unsustainable recycling and production practices in LDCs,
36
37 *Seeking* the cooperation of TNCs to act on eliminating their commercial production, use, and deployment
38 of single-use plastic materials and the assistance of Member States to facilitate this,
39
40 *Draws attention* to the fact that TNCs business practices and profit goals are highly influenced by public
41 perception and are now more publicly visible than ever before due increased global access to the internet
42 and the use of social media,
43
44 *Noting* that LDCs will continue to be the vehicle of transmission for plastic into the world’s oceans as long
45 as developed Member States maintain their current rates of plastic consumption and waste export,
46
47 *Proclaims* that LDCs’ lack of access to technological solutions that could help them refine plastic
48 production and reduce oceanic plastic pollution are the result of economic barriers, limited access to
49 technological refinements, and a lack of technical knowledge,

50 *Taking into consideration* that creating a circular economy for plastics is the only way to sustainably
51 reduce human injection of plastic pollution into the world's oceans,
52
53 *Keeping in mind* that reusing rather than recycling is more efficient, safer, and reduces the need for new
54 plastic product generation,
55
56 *Having considered* that promoting the reuse of plastic and plastic-based products rather than recycling
57 them helps save energy that comes with dismantling and remanufacturing products,
58
59 *Resolving* that the elimination of new single-use plastic product creation is key to reducing net plastic
60 accumulation in the world's oceans,
61
62 *Acknowledging* with deep gratitude the proof of viability of mitigating and eliminating use of single-use
63 plastics including straws and plastic bags as demonstrated by sub-state actors that include the U.S. state
64 of California, the Canadian city of Montreal, and LDCs including Kenya, Taiwan, and Vanuatu,
65
66 *Notes* with gratitude and satisfaction the efforts of over 127 Member States currently working to phase out
67 commercial single-use plastics,
68
69 *Deeply regretting* that there has been insufficient international support and recognition for the phasing out
70 of single-use plastics and their replacement with biodegradable alternatives that are not harmful to the
71 environment, particularly regarding LDCs;
72
73 1. *Pledging*, through UN Environment, to work on a solution that supports the international phasing-out
74 and eventual banning of distribution of single-use plastics with an up to ten-year time frame for
75 implementation;
76
77 2. *Expresses hope* that the adoption of this resolution will encourage the adoption of a similar resolution
78 by the General Assembly and provide the necessary international legitimacy for the phasing out of
79 single-use plastics;
80
81 3. *Further recommends* the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), through the UN
82 Environment, create a new committee that:
83
84 a. Explores the deployment of biodegradable alternatives to single-use plastic and provides
85 international transparency and accountability for the phasing-out and eventual ban on the
86 distribution of single-use plastics;
87
88 b. Utilizes a voluntary fund with capital provided by Member States to provide incentives to
89 TNCs to innovate their production technology to utilize biodegradable materials, determines
90 allocation of financial resources to LDCs for clean-up of local plastic and microplastic
91 contamination, and gauges the effectiveness of policy implementation in phasing out single-
92 use plastics;
93
94 4. *Further invites* Member States to employ increased utilization of the Intergovernmental
95 Oceanographic Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology to better assist LDCs in
96 overcoming technical and economic barriers that impair their ability to limit plastic pollution in nearby
97 lakes, rivers, and streams;
98
99 5. *Calls for* the UN Environment to host bi-annual conventions that are widely publicized with the help of
100 Member States and NGOs to provide TNCs a public forum to make commitments to plastic use
101 reductions and provide adequate pressure for TNCs to decrease commercial use and distribution of
102 single-use plastics while also encouraging the deploying of practices that promote the reuse rather
103 than recycling of plastic products.



Code: UNEA/1/4

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*

2

3 *Acknowledging* the close work of Member States and the European Union in the achievement of the 11th
4 goal of Aichi Biodiversity Targets on equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected
5 systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into
6 the wider landscapes and seascapes, to partner with the funding of The Blue action fund and the World
7 Bank,

8

9 *Bearing in mind* the *United Nations Convention on the Laws of the Sea* (1982), which states each
10 Member State's sovereign territorial waters extend to a maximum of 12 nautical miles (22 km) beyond its
11 coast while also recognizing that surface runoff, rivers and sewage outfalls are important pathways for
12 plastic litter transfer from land to the sea,

13

14 *Noting with concern* the harmful effects of marine plastic litter and micro plastics on the marine
15 environment,

16

17 *Encouraged* by the comprehensive protection of marine areas as guaranteed by the integration of Areas
18 Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) in regional seas conventions such as the *Barcelona Convention*
19 (1975) and *Noumea Convention* (1986),

20

21 *Acknowledging* the *Cartagena Convention* (1983) which aims to reduce and control by dumping and
22 seabed activities and the importance of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the planning and
23 implementation of action plans with intent of reducing plastic pollution,

24

25 *Seeking* Member States to understand Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) not only as means to preserve
26 marine environments by using testing waters for existing technologies such as those used by the Ocean
27 Cleanup,

28

29 *Endorsing* healthy dialogue between developed and developing nations relating to the maintenance and
30 expanse of MPAs on an even platform,

31

32 *Recognizing* the academic ability of the United Nations University (UNU) along with their partnership with
33 leading scientists among Member States and Research Institutes,

34

35 1. *Endorses* the funding of MPAs by the Blue Action Fund and the World Bank to help the financial
36 strains of developing Member States that aim to attain the Aichi Biodiversity Target 11;

37

38 2. *Invites* states to work with NGOs such as the International Coral Reef Initiative and the United
39 Nations Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UN-WCWC) to develop a monitoring
40 system and to enforce domestic legislation sustainable related to the management and protection of
41 ecosystems such as coral reefs and surface runoff from rain, snowmelt, or other sources that flow
42 over the land such as rivers and streams carrying micro plastics;

43

44 3. *Welcomes* all Member States to commit to increasing the overall coverage of their MPAs as well as
45 including ABNJ in their respective Regional Seas Convention;

46

47 4. *Proposes* the UN-WCMC to propose coordination with the International Union for Conservation of
48 Nature to host a platform to promote cooperation of existing resources between Member States in the

49 purpose of:
50

- 51 a. Providing necessary resources to nations that may be unclear to introducing or expanding
52 MPAs in their region, instilling technical and legislative knowledge with regional powers to
53 ensure member state's MPAs are enforced and maintained effectively;
54
- 55 b. Introducing a universal solution that all member states can be and take part of and thus
56 encouraging dialogue at the next International MPA Congress hosted by Canada in 2021;
57
- 58 c. Encouraging developed and developing states to share perspectives and solutions regarding
59 the value and implementation of MPAs;
60
- 61 d. Taking into consideration that the implementation of MPAs falls within the sovereign
62 jurisdiction of Member States;
63
- 64 5. *Fully supports* Member States to implement a flotation system that sits at the surface of the water by
65 using ocean currents to capture plastics ranging from small pieces just millimeters in size, up to large
66 debris, including massive discarded fishing nets;
67
- 68 6. *Further recommends* that UN Environment direct the UNU to compile data on MPAs;
69
- 70 7. *Supports* discussions on the use of MPAs, which are generally undisturbed by industrial fishing to test
71 techniques that are aimed at tracking the movement of plastic particles within ocean currents,
72 obstructing the influx of plastics into protected areas and extracting plastic particles from ocean
73 waters regarding their effectiveness as well as the threats they may pose to the highly sensitive
74 marine-eco-systems in which they need to operate.



Code: UNEA/1/5

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*
2
3 *Affirming the Johannesburg Declaration (2002) and the Paris Agreement (2015), which serve to address*
4 *the existential threat that marine pollution and microplastics impose on the environment, human health,*
5 *and that all humans have a right to a pollution free environment,*
6
7 *Recalling General Assembly resolution 71/312 “Our Ocean, Our Future: Call for Action” which*
8 *encourages Member States to decrease or eliminate the production of single-use plastics and*
9 *microplastic beads and the commitment to substantially reduce marine debris by 2025 through the*
10 *adoption of the World Ocean Summit,*
11
12 *Taking note of the G20 Action Plan to Reduce Marine Litter in order to mitigate plastic waste in the*
13 *oceans,*
14
15 *Stressing that, as 79% of plastic produced ends up in the environment and is unable to decompose, the*
16 *production of single-use plastics furthers microplastic pollution and the environmental destruction of all*
17 *Member States,*
18
19 *Bearing in mind that polystyrene foam, which is primarily used in the creation of single-use utensils,*
20 *breaks down into microplastic pieces accumulating in coasts and waterways around the world,*
21
22 *Conscious that tourism is one of the largest and fastest growing sectors which is responsible for at least*
23 *eight million tons of microplastic ending up in our oceans every year, the implementation of ecotourism*
24 *clean-up initiatives and sustainable policy-making can help keep our oceans clean,*
25
26 *Acknowledging the efforts by Member States to support the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and*
27 *committees to identify problems and solutions such as the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology,*
28 *and Innovation (MESTI) in specific Member States with a collaborative goal to find the best innovative*
29 *methods to address issues in the environment, and to reduce the reliance on plastic products resulting in*
30 *the creation of microplastics, such as plastic bags that are consumed at a rate of 500 billion every year*
31 *and supporting the development and use of alternative materials to plastic,*
32
33 *Believing in the importance of knowledge sharing between developed Member States and developing*
34 *Member States, seeing the gap in awareness, and addressing efforts to confront this, as done in the UN*
35 *Clean Sea Campaign and FlipFlopi Project and practiced by the WWFs initiative Plastic Free Oceans or*
36 *the Ocean Cleanup and International Coastal Cleanup,*
37
38 *Recognizing the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) Sea Turtles Forever (STF) that specializes in*
39 *marine microplastic removal and Let’s Do It foundation and their success in organizing a complete*
40 *cleanup of Estonia in five hours, organizing World Cleanup Day, a global social action program geared*
41 *towards tackling the problem of solid waste, and helping to implement zero-waste practices, such as the*
42 *reuse and proper management and recycling of materials in over 169 Member States,*
43
44 *Considering the International Coral Reef Initiative, supported by more than 60 Member States, NGOs,*
45 *and international organizations (IOs), which highlights globally the importance of reducing microbead*
46 *pollution in the marine environment in affirmation of environmental sustainability,*
47

48 *Guided by* the June 2018 Bill passed in the Japan's Upper House which eliminates the production of
49 polyethylene and polypropylene plastic microbeads in personal care products, as these microbeads
50 frequently end up in water sources,
51

52 *Viewing with appreciation* effective legislation banning the use of polystyrene foam and single-use
53 plastics implemented by various island Member States, and imposing both legislation and frameworks for
54 levies in African Member States, which had the effect of bringing awareness within the civil society on
55 sustainable production and consumption, linked to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12,
56

57 *Taking into consideration* the structure of the UN Environment Programme (UN Environment) air quality
58 monitoring program that oversees air quality control for developing Member States, and considering using
59 the same structure for microplastics monitoring in the oceans,
60

61 1. *Encourages* broader Member States participation and sponsorship of the principles outlined in the
62 2030 Agenda and *Paris Agreement*, including nationwide emphasis on Sustainable Development
63 Goals 6 and 14 of the 2030 Agenda, which focuses on cleaner and accessible water systems, by
64 developing infrastructure and resources, namely eco-tourism and waste management, that are
65 pointed in the direction of achieving these stipulations;
66

67 2. *Asks for* the strengthening of the Member States financial contribution to G20 Action Plan to reduce
68 Marine Litter, as to build capacities of less developed states, notably through the provision of advice
69 and knowledge upon reduction of marine plastic litter;
70

71 3. *Encouraging* Member States to introduce taxes on microplastics and virgin plastic in order to reflect
72 the damages done to the environment by goods made from these materials, so that it becomes non
73 profitable for companies to use these;
74

75 4. *Expresses its hope* that Member States will consider adopting legal frameworks surrounding
76 polystyrene foam and that the private sector will further invest and involve itself, as well as
77 universities, in the matter of creating sustainable alternatives to polystyrene foam and plastic such as
78 Polylactic Acid Polyesters and starch-based Polymers by:
79

80 a. Improving the recycling process to reduce the cost of the process and increase the quality of
81 the recycled good in order to have a more sustainable product until plastic is abolished
82 globally;
83

84 b. Strengthening scientific research to find biodegradable alternatives to plastic, including the
85 use of agricultural waste as sustainable packaging alternatives, which are affordable for the
86 consumer and meet the sustainable standards;
87

88 c. Using the January 2018 initiative in St. Vincent and the Grenadines to model legislation
89 prohibiting the importation, manufacture, and sale of expanded polystyrene food service
90 products in order to fulfill SDG 12;
91

92 5. *Calls upon* the introduction of ecotourism to facilitate efforts for all Members States to rid the oceans
93 of larger plastic through marine excursions in order to meet the goals of the G20 Action Plan to
94 reduce marine litter;
95

96 6. *Strongly advises* the utilization of NGOs in local and state-wide cleanup events and enacting zero-
97 waste practices that:
98

99 a. Assist and strengthen local and national efforts enhancing the effectiveness of plastic
100 cleanup endeavors to remove and prevent future plastic from entering the coastal
101 environment;
102

- 103 b. Increase awareness of the impacts of microplastics and microbeads among NGOs so that
104 they are aware of the benefits to them of decreasing plastic use and using alternatives and
105 are more willing and capable to help in the area of marine pollution and cleanup;
106
- 107 7. *Recommends* that Member States support and effectively implement projects that decrease the
108 reliance on plastics through:
109
- 110 a. Further limiting plastic pollution by utilizing deposit refund systems that pay people for
111 returning plastic bottles to collection sites like grocery stores for recycling;
112
- 113 b. Encouraging the use of non-plastic products, like reusable and/or biodegradable to-go
114 containers and make them easier to utilize by creating water fountain and bottle refilling
115 stations;
116
- 117 8. *Proposes* UN Environment establish an international microplastic reduction network between Member
118 States that consists of:
119
- 120 a. Setting in place a tracking system that collects the amount of plastic produced that
121 consequently leads to microplastics, within their economic capacities of Member States;
122
- 123 b. Facilitating means of Member States coordinating cost-effective measures that can be
124 adopted by other Member States to reduce microplastic and plastic pollution;
125
- 126 c. Integrating NGOs to develop required technologies to support Member States for marine
127 microplastic removal;
128
- 129 9. *Calls for* developed Member States to form partnerships and participate in knowledge sharing with
130 developing Member States to aid in solution building and awareness in regard to marine pollution and
131 in line with SDGs 3, 4, 6, 12, 13, 14, and 17 by:
132
- 133 a. Disseminating ideas regarding sustainable waste management systems and recycling
134 practices;
135
- 136 b. Exchanging information on alternative materials that can replace plastic, like plant-based
137 products that are biodegradable, do not contain harmful chemicals, and that are affordable
138 replacements;
139
- 140 c. Contributing to innovations in regard to the application and execution of marine cleanup
141 projects to remove the plastic currently polluting the oceans that are shared by all Member
142 States;
143
- 144 10. *Invites* regional and international NGOs and conventions who already are taking action towards the
145 prevention of land-based marine plastic litter, notably microplastics, to strengthen their action within
146 their mandate through:
147
- 148 a. Regional and international programs already implemented to support capacity building and
149 knowledge sharing on the reduction or banning of single-use plastic and microplastics;
150
- 151 b. International funds designated for each convention with the potential to prevent further
152 marine plastic litter, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Basel Convention
153 on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal;
154
- 155 11. *Urges* Member States to reduce the use of microplastics smaller than five millimeters by:
156
- 157 a. Adopting a legal framework to reduce the use of microplastics embedded in cosmetic
158 and household products;

- 159 b. Modeling Japan's 2018 legislation bill on microbeads to achieve SDGs 12 and 14;
160
161 c. Encouraging all businesses to cease the use of microbeads by:
162
163 i. Transmitting information to businesses and companies on the negative impacts of
164 microbeads in the environment and the effects it has on wildlife and human health to
165 discourage their use in future products, with the help of data and knowledge acquired
166 by the UN Environment and specific environment ministries of each Member States;
167 ii. Stimulating dialogue between public and private enterprises with Member State
168 governments in order to refrain the use of microbeads and to find alternatives that do
169 not contribute to pollution of the environment by:
170
171 a. Encouraging the discussion on microbeads in the UN Sustainable
172 Development Summit or the World Economic Forum with the recommendation of
173 the UN Environment;
174 b. Including not only Member States but also various industries and businesses
175 from Member States;
176
177 d. Demanding that the UN Environment creates a treaty that would impose a full ban on
178 microbeads in the 2030 Agenda timeframe;
179
- 180 12. *Calls upon* Member States to promote legislation that eliminates the production of microplastics
181 smaller than .25 mm by:
182
183 a. Encouraging a movement of reusable plastic products that replace the need for producing
184 frequent consumable microplastic components;
185
186 b. Supporting the creation of a testing committee to find solutions best fit for Member States by
187 a collaboration of the UN and Member States environmental agency on plastic; management
188 by evaluating decisions on a tailored approach similar to the MESTI initiative;
189
190 c. Urging the creation of legislative frameworks in Member States that are capable of imposing
191 levies with large contributing plastic manufacturers modeling some African Member States'
192 current approach;
193
- 194 13. *Further invites* the implementation of a standardized economical blueprint similar to the UN
195 Environment "Air Quality Monitor" that can additionally survey the amount of particles per million of
196 microplastics within coastal water bodies;
197
- 198 14. *Urges* the adoption of measures by Member States similar to those adopted by the G20 Action Plan
199 on Marine Litter, with particular emphasis on microbeads and smaller marine plastics by:
200
201 a. Identifying sound removal measures of microbeads, such as implementing widespread eco-
202 tourism and reducing the cost of recycling;
203
204 b. Developing tool kits for developing and developed Member States alike to aid in these
205 removal efforts;
206
207 c. Promoting human innovation in the advancement of technology so as to increase ideas
208 regarding affordability and the sustainability of microplastic waste management, in the hope
209 that these ideas come into fruition in the sphere of marine litter.



Code: UNEA/1/6

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics

- 1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*
2
3 *Acknowledging* that preservation of ecosystems and wildlife across the world lies within our hands, and
4 during the last decades pollution has grown to a global scale and needs international cooperation in order
5 to solve it, as mentioned in the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* (1992),
6
7 *Recalling* UNEA resolutions 1/6, 2/11 and 3/7 from the “Marine plastic debris and microplastics” agenda
8 which emphasize the harmful nature of marine plastic and call upon the international community for
9 binding action,
10
11 *Acknowledging* the existence of cooperation facility groups like the United Nations Environment
12 Management Group and United Nations Environment that seek to unite the international community as
13 well as governmental agencies like the Supreme Council for the Environment (SCE) which address
14 conservation efforts and penalize those who violate environmental regulations,
15
16 *Reaffirming* the importance of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14.5 which calls for ten percent of
17 marine coastal areas to be conserved by 2020,
18
19 *Emphasizing* the efforts of initiatives like the 10x20 Initiative on Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in hosting
20 conferences where policy-makers and environmental science experts are able to collaborate to create
21 individual environmental policy “roadmaps” for achieving SDG 14.5 in accordance with the Rome Call to
22 Action and the lack of participation in these conferences by non-coastal Member States,
23
24 *Recognizing*, the broader lack of resources and data sharing available to all Member States seeking to
25 establish efficient and sustainable MPAs in alignment with the Rome Call to Action and subsequent need
26 for greater collaboration platforms for Member States both on a regional and international level,
27
28 *Acknowledging* the importance of SDG 12, which emphasizes the importance of responsible production
29 and consumption as vital aspects of the plastic product lifestyle to minimize impacts on human health as
30 well as the condition of the environment as well as providing special assistance directed towards
31 developing countries in education, production, and consumption,
32
33 *Recognizing* the importance of initiating implementation of the 2018 International Maritime Organization
34 Action Plan to Address Marine Plastic Litter which proposes a series of actions and outcomes specific to
35 reducing marine plastic litter such as nets generated by fishing and instituting a reporting system for lost
36 fishing gear as well as related port-reception facilities,
37
38 *Fully aware* that microplastics have been found in 114 aquatic species so far and that fishes account for
39 more than half of the species that human beings consume according to the joint Group of Experts on the
40 Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection study and acknowledging the work of the World
41 Health Organization (WHO) and the Food Agriculture Organization (FAO) which promote human health
42 and defeating hunger,
43
44 1. *Encourages* Member States to cooperate internationally in marine cleanup efforts of their local bodies
45 of water similar to Let’s Do it Mediterranean! which brought together 17 Mediterranean countries for
46 the simultaneous cleanup of the Mediterranean Sea in massive concentrated periods until 2018;
47
48 2. *Calls upon* Member States to generate national guidelines and monitoring programs which
49 recommend regulations about the production and disposal of non-biodegradable plastics by:

- 50
51 a. Collaborating with the UN Environment Management Group and UN Environment;
52
53 b. Creating a policy similar to the SCE;
54
- 55 3. *Recommends* the adoption of the Rome Call to Action by all Member States, including those that are
56 non-coastal, as well as the expansion of the 10x20 initiative on MPAs to facilitate the sharing of
57 knowledge and best practices between Member States, by seeking participation of all Member
58 States;
- 59
60 4. *Encourages* Member States to make their scientific research findings and individual Rome Call to
61 Action roadmaps publicly available by implementing programs similar to the Regional Cooperation
62 Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean which provides a voluntary forum for info sharing,
63 consultation, and partnership so as to strengthen international cooperation and framework;
64
- 65 5. *Recommends* adopting a program to eliminate fishing-related plastic pollution by introducing more
66 accessible recycling facilities at fishing ports for the proper and sustainable disposal of fishing tools
67 such as nets;
68
- 69 6. *Encourages* the legal obligation of manufacturers by Member States to label non-biodegradable
70 fishing equipment by a serial number thus directly linking plastic litter to the consumer in order to
71 ensure that those who litter material in the ocean can be held responsible, keeping in mind domestic
72 privacy laws;
73
- 74 7. *Instructs* UN Environment to invite the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the
75 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to prepare, in cooperation, a report
76 on the possible implementation of a Zero Waste Pollution Network to provide human capacity building
77 measures that contain best practice solutions and implement waste management strategies
78 presented until 2021;
79
- 80 8. *Suggests* that UN Environment share relevant research and information on micro-plastics in fish with
81 WHO and FAO for their consideration to help Member States implement regulations similar to the
82 CAC that includes minimum safety standards for the consumption of fish containing micro-plastics.



Code: UNEA/1/7

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Addressing Marine Litter and Microplastics

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*
2
3 *Deeply concerned that 8 million tons of plastic waste reaches our ocean each year, and that volume is*
4 *projected to double by 2030, and double again by 2050 as highlighted by the United Nations*
5 *Environmental Assembly (UNEA) report of 2018,*
6
7 *Bearing in mind the utmost importance of General Assembly resolution 70/1 (2015) on “Transforming our*
8 *world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” which fosters the reduction of plastic consumption*
9 *and micro plastic litter,*
10
11 *Guided by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (1982), which states that each Member*
12 *State’s sovereign territorial waters extend to a maximum of 12 nautical miles (22 km) beyond its coast*
13 *and reaffirming our commitment to the International Maritime Organization action plan particularly the*
14 *International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) (1997) Annex V that seeks*
15 *to eliminate and reduce the amount of garbage being discharged into the sea from ships,*
16
17 *Recognizing surface runoff, rivers and sewage outfalls are important pathways for litter transfer from land*
18 *to sea as established by UNEA resolution 2/11 (2016) on “Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics” and*
19 *welcoming the success of national regulatory policies such as Poland’s Act on Packaging Management*
20 *and Packaging Waste (2013),*
21
22 *Emphasizing the importance of public knowledge, which may be widely disseminated and accessible by*
23 *all, towards the goals of regulation and minimizing plastic use and pollution,*
24
25 *Noting that lack of data in the scope of pollution and region-specific research on sources of marine litter*
26 *can greatly hinder Member States’ capacity to adequately mitigate marine pollution,*
27
28 *Acknowledging the work of United Nations’ Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine*
29 *Environmental Protection (GESAMP) in conducting marine environmental assessments and analyzing the*
30 *sources, causes, and effects of microplastics, as well as managing the socio-economic and ecological*
31 *consequences of land and sea-based human activities on the marine environment,*
32
33 *Reaffirming our commitment towards the global achievement of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4*
34 *highlighting the importance of quality education,*
35
36 *Fully alarmed by the unfixable damage that 197 tons of PET microplastics that end in the marine*
37 *ecosystem cause to the environment according to United Nations Environment Program (UN*
38 *Environment) annual report EAL.24,*
39
40 *Bearing in mind the importance of implementing action plans for preventing marine litter and discharge of*
41 *microplastics as emphasized by UNEA resolution 3/7 (2018) on “Marine Litter and Microplastics”,*
42
43 *Calling attention to the Directive on the Reduction of the Impact of Certain Plastic Products on the*
44 *Environment (2018),*
45
46 *Recalling to the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development (2002) and General Assembly*
47 *resolution 58/217 on “International Decade for Action, ‘Water for Life,’ 2005-2015”,*
48

- 49 1. *Calls on* Member States to work towards a 50% reduction of plastic waste dumping in our oceans by
50 the year 2030 through:
51
- 52 a. Implementing a ban on the dumping of plastic waste in our oceans by the year 2020;
53
 - 54 b. Requiring all companies producing plastic waste to commit at least 5% of their net profit
55 towards educating their users on the environmental harmfulness marine plastic litter has on
56 our oceans and on how to sustainably dispose of them;
57
- 58 2. *Urges* all Member States to develop sustainable consumption and production patterns by adopting
59 the 3Rs - reduce, reuse and recycle - and plans to foster ocean-related regulatory education, and
60 ensuring responsible production and consumption of plastic litter and microplastics, pledging support
61 to chapter 17 of Agenda 21, which sets for rights and obligations of states and provides the
62 international basis upon which to pursue the protection and sustainable development of the marine
63 and coastal environment and its resources;
64
- 65 3. *Encourages* Member States to enhance existing regulations and introduce new supporting measures
66 to reduce marine plastic litter from ships by:
67
- 68 a. Adopting measures that enhance the proper functioning of port reception facilities for waste
69 and cargo residues which will minimize and monitor marine waste dumping;
70
 - 71 b. Establishing guidelines that would require port reception facilities to provide for separate
72 garbage collection for plastic waste from ships, including fishing gear to facilitate reuse or
73 recycling;
74
 - 75 c. Creating mechanisms to enhance the enforcement of MARPOL Annex V requirements for the
76 delivery of garbage to reception facilities;
77
- 78 4. *Calls upon* Member States to create strategies aiming at reducing the quantity and environmental
79 impact of packaging and packaging waste on the stage of production process, marketing, distribution
80 and processing through:
81
- 82 a. Implementing public-private partnership through proper legislations mandating the industries
83 to reduce their use of plastic in their packaging by formulating a regulatory framework that
84 would require use of biodegradable materials in specific products;
85
 - 86 b. Extending the definition of what can be regulated as plastic to include products that contain at
87 least 40% plastic material;
88
- 89 5. *Advices* Member States to achieve a significant reduction in the consumption of single-use plastic
90 products through setting national consumption reduction targets;
91
- 92 6. *Calls for* the creation of national guidelines and monitoring programs, which recommend regulations
93 about the production and disposal of non-biodegradable plastics by:
94
- 95 a. Collaborating with the UN Environment Management Group, and UN Environment;
96
 - 97 b. Creating policies similar to Environment Public Authority, which address conservation efforts
98 and penalize those who violate environmental regulations;
99
- 100 7. *Supports* Member States' actions to penalize companies' improper disposal of plastic waste as well
101 as encourage those companies' proper disposal of such plastics and other preventive steps to benefit
102 the environment;
103

- 104 8. *Encourages* that the collection of aforementioned data be distributed in order to perpetuate the
105 acknowledgment of how each Member State's usage and disposal of plastic affects their proximal
106 bodies of water;
107
- 108 9. *Recommends* education to industrial workers and school learners on the regulatory policies meant to
109 protect marine waters in both education institutions and plastic disposal work centers, in order to
110 improve the awareness of the whole population towards the importance of reducing plastic use and
111 pollution to work on improving SDG 12 by ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns
112 set when determining the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2015), by the adoption of
113 measures such as:
114
- 115 a. Endorsing the budget percentage from their gross domestic product (GDP), at least with a
116 0.3%, that it will be used on environmental improvement projects focused on finding ways to
117 spread the use of a circular economy;
118
 - 119 b. Instructing the creation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as AIESEC and
120 non-profit organizations that are committed to marine ecosystems preservation through
121 young people education and empowerment to make them learn from the past, act in the
122 present and project to the future a better and cleaner environment in matters of physical
123 waste;
124
 - 125 c. Promoting the introduction of schools' subjects based of the teaching and explanation of the
126 contents of the international regulatory policies;
127
 - 128 d. Supporting the use and production of recycled-plastic solar materials, by incentives to the
129 industries that respect the plastic reduction aims, and at the same time, get the children at
130 school used to the adoption and use of recycled materials;
131
- 132 10. *Encourages* the UN Secretariat with the help of the United Nations University to collect data from the
133 specialized committee and distribute data to all Member States in hopes of creating a transparent
134 relationship between Member States;
135
- 136 11. *Suggests* Member States invest in further regional studies, in cooperation with the Joint Group of
137 Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection and respective national
138 scientific institutes, in order to identify and better combat direct sources of marine pollution;
139
- 140 12. *Invites* the UN Environment to work in partnership with the International Maritime Organization in
141 creating a common monitoring body which will oversee and control global marine waste dumping in
142 purpose of attaining the 50% reduction of global plastic waste dumping in our oceans by:
143
- 144 a. Collecting geo-specific information on the quantity of plastic waste dumped in our oceans;
145
 - 146 b. Writing and publishing an annual report as to best assess the progress of the international
147 community on the issue at hand;
148
 - 149 c. Establishing international guidelines on plastic waste management in order to assist Member
150 States in minimizing domestic marine plastic waste dumping.



Code: UNEA/1/8

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*
2
3 *Fully alarmed* that 8 million metric tons of plastic enter the ocean every year according to the Center for
4 Biological Diversity,
5
6 *Recalling* General Assembly resolution 71/312 on “Our Ocean Our Future: Call for Action” support on
7 fostering education through including ocean-related education as a part of education curricula and
8 promoting a culture of conservation and sustainable use,
9
10 *Having considered* further education of youth to prevent the addition of plastics in microplastics into the
11 marine ecosystem, the Global Recycling Day created in 2018, to encourage as well as celebrating the
12 importance of recycling, and the future of our planet,
13
14 *Aware* of the lack of a standardized measurement mechanism to compare plastic pollution across
15 Member States, and believing such a mechanism is crucial to further research and understanding of
16 solutions to marine plastic litter,
17
18 *Acknowledging* the UN Secretary General’s #Youth2030initiative, as well as successful partnerships
19 between United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), Wastebuster, an UN-affiliated environmental
20 awareness organization, and Member States’ Education ministries in forming national initiatives to
21 educate children through summer camps on how to eliminate their use of single-use plastics,
22
23 *Recognizing* the viability of using Ideonella sakaiensis 201-F6 due to its ability to produce DNA coding
24 fragments mono-(2-hydroxyethyl) terephthalic acid (MHET), TPA ,and bis-2(hydroxyethyl) TPA (BHET)
25 converting the properties in polyethylene terephthalates (PET’s) into a carbon energy source, thus
26 breaking plastics down and making them less harmful for the environment,
27
28 *Appreciating* the work of Member States and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as Circa, that
29 uses the process of byfusion to convert recycled plastics into viable building material and other essential
30 everyday items,
31
32 *Deeply concerned* that the Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL) estimates by 2024 there will
33 be a 33-36% efflux in the production of global plastics,
34
35 *Fully alarmed* that 8 million metric tons of plastic enter the ocean every year according to the Center for
36 Biological Diversity in 2017,
37
38 *Emphasizing* the importance of funding ambitious technologies as it has been stated in Economic and
39 Social Council resolution 2005/52 emphasizing funding for technological development favoring
40 environmental concerns their own Member States, and creating a green culture among the new
41 generation through education,
42
43 *Reaffirming* United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) resolution 3/7 on the importance of
44 developing and implementing action plans for preventing marine litter and microplastics in order to
45 prevent there being more plastic in the ocean than fish by 2050,
46
47 *Guided by* the General Assembly resolution 68/220 stressing on science, technology and innovation
48 cooperation and collaboration with and among countries is fundamental,
49

50 *Reaffirming* the responsibility of all Member States to contribute to the stability of global environment and
51 the prosperity of the world in order to continue sustainable development,
52

- 53 1. *Encourages* Member States to implement the Back to School Plastic Challenge which promotes the
54 elimination of single-use plastics in schools and communities through awareness campaigns;
55
- 56 2. *Asks* UN Environment to establish an international guideline for the examination of water samples
57 that facilitates uniform comparison of plastic contributions between Member States;
58
- 59 3. *Endorses* the Pioneer Movement Recyclers of the Future program which teach communities and
60 children in over 30 different Member States on environmental and economic issues and mobilizes
61 them to recycle, participating in sustainable habits by:
62
 - 63 a. Promoting the avoidance of single-use plastics and familiarize children with sustainable
64 alternatives;
 - 65 b. Encouraging Member States to implement an international Plastic-Free Day to announce the
66 main causes of microplastics in the ocean;
 - 67 c. Raising public awareness on care tires being the main cause for microplastics in the ocean
68 as in a global average every global citizen emits annually;
 - 69 d. Drawing attention on microplastics being further caused by washing polyester textiles and by
70 polymers in cosmetic products;
 - 71 e. Directing special attention on the impacts of microplastics on human health and biodiversity;
- 72 4. *Calls upon* Member States educational ministries to invite UNICEF and Wastebuster, a UN
73 environmental awareness organization, to cooperatively create a curriculum for primary aged children
74 school children that:
75
 - 76 a. Focuses on local environmental issues and how they can make an impact locally;
 - 77 b. Has local UNICEF-Member State cooperation to ensure the curriculum focuses on issues
78 relevant to the region;
 - 79 c. Draws upon school curriculums and teaching children about biotechnology and marine
80 pollution to help pave the way for future success in this area resulting in long term success;
- 81 5. *Urges* the development of genetically modified marine organisms containing the enzyme PETase and
82 MHETase which are able to eradicate plastics made of PET polymers by:
83
 - 84 a. Inviting United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization association with
85 Microbial Resources Centers (MIRCEN) and biotechnology Education and Training centres
86 (BETCENs) to cooperate on researching and developing modified marine organism for the
87 purpose of decomposing ocean plastic litter;
 - 88 b. Insisting on the limitation of the use of genetically modified organisms in closed facilities to
89 prevent adverse environmental impacts;
 - 90 c. Developing research until it is shown that this organism is not negatively impacting to the
91 environment;
- 92 6. *Recommends* the Global Environment Fund divert funding from current costly ocean cleanup
93 programs;
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- 105 7. *Strongly encourages* Member States' municipalities to implement industrial practices modelled after
106 Byfusion Inc., which converts plastics into advanced building material, by mixing plastics with
107 sediment in industrial processes that produces concrete-like material;
108
- 109 8. *Encourages* increased international cooperation and global public awareness to mobilize individual
110 activism on the topic of marine plastic litter by:
111
- 112 a. Supporting UN Environment's social media #CleanSeas campaign to end marine plastic
113 pollution;
 - 114
 - 115 b. Implementing a communication campaign about the excessive use of plastic that aims to
116 inspire and promote individuals to make a difference;
 - 117
 - 118 c. Working with environmental organizations in supporting community beach cleans ups
119 modelled after the Marine Debris Challenge which are presented and organized in an
120 educational manner to raise awareness of the adverse effects of marine litter on all Member
121 States;
 - 122
- 123 9. *Encourages* Member States to expand on current technologies similar to the Seabin Project which
124 utilizes a catch bag system to collect micro and macro-plastics;
125
- 126 10. *Suggests* Member States to support local expertise and academic through efficient funding with the
127 main focus on research to address marine plastic litter and microplastics such as but not limited to:
128
- 129 a. Addressing microplastics in coastal and deep areas:
 - 130
 - 131 b. Mitigating the economic, environment and marine biodiversity effects of plastics and
132 microplastics;
 - 133
 - 134 c. Identifying the transference of toxic substance from plastic particles to human bodies and
135 their potential health effects;
 - 136
- 137 11. *Urges* Member States to under a goal-centered process to completely ban single use plastics,
138 structured by:
139
- 140 a. Initially eliminating plastic bags and straws;
 - 141
 - 142 b. Leading to a reduction in the amount of single use plastic produced by 50% in 2025;
 - 143
 - 144 c. Requesting Member States establish a complete ban by 2035;
 - 145
- 146 12. *Calls* for joint efforts to clarify the interaction and ultimate trend of microplastics in the marine
147 environment as to improve the degradation process and mechanism and to reduce the toxic effects of
148 marine plastic by:
149
- 150 a. Encouraging the global community to share data, technology and knowledge to collaborate
151 on the efficient management and monitoring of the marine plastics;
 - 152
 - 153 b. Composing an international expert team to assist Member States in develop relevant
154 technology;
 - 155
 - 156 c. Promoting the academic exchange between different countries worldwide;
 - 157
 - 158 d. Welcoming diverse platforms which facilitate the information sharing and technology
159 communication among governments and NGOs;
 - 160

- 161 e. Establishing a database available to all Member States which provides relevant knowledge
162 and latest technology;
163
- 164 f. Suggesting Member States incorporate environmental awareness and marine protection
165 education and disseminate the necessity of reducing and clearing up marine plastics;
166
- 167 13. *Urges* Member States to work in conjunction to face sustainability challenges including transitioning to
168 a more innovative and eco-efficient economy that provides equal opportunities for all people by:
169
- 170 a. Appealing to increase the investment on long standing plastic products and research on the
171 use of biotechnology which reduces the consumption and/or production of single-use plastics;
172
- 173 b. Encouraging Member States to establish and improve energy consumption mechanism;
174
- 175 c. Recommending Member States to achieve a low consumption with high efficiency of the
176 growth model, to reduce, reuse, and recycle.



Code: UNEA/1/9

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*
2
3 *Recalling* General Assembly resolution 70/1 on “Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda on
4 Sustainable Development” (2015) raising awareness among civil societies and private sectors via the
5 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 4, 2, 14 and 17 that emphasize the importance of education,
6 sustainable consumption and production patterns, the preservation of life below water, and the
7 cooperation of Member States on a multilateral level supporting a shared eco-friendly cultural attitude,
8
9 *Highlighting* Our Ocean Conference which focuses on marine protected areas, marine pollution, and
10 climate-related impacts on the ocean and promotes the adaptation of innovative initiatives that address
11 marine plastic litter,
12
13 *Recognizing* with concern that a major sporting event can generate up to 750,000 plastic bottles along
14 with seven tons of waste according to UN Environment,
15
16 *Bearing in mind* the work of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) and the
17 need for specific capacity building on reducing, reusing, and recycling plastic,
18
19 *Emphasizing* that national social services have an important influence on societies and thus have the
20 abilities and responsibilities to inform their citizens about the consequences of their use of plastics as well
21 as the importance of educational non-governmental organizations such as the Global Partnership on
22 Education (GPE),
23
24 *Considering* the United Nations World Youth Report (2018), presenting that youth are the principal
25 players in working toward achieving the *2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development*,
26
27 *Acknowledging* Asian Member States’ programs such as the *Belt and Road Initiative* and the *Partner for*
28 *Quality Infrastructure* as well as other platforms that improve and increase waste management
29 infrastructure,
30
31 *Deeply concerned* about the alarming conditions of the management of plastic waste and polluting agents
32 that specifically affect water in low to middle income countries,
33
34 *Understanding* that on an international scale, high quality waste and wastewater purification technologies
35 are not equally accessible nor affordable, and that technologies and information are not widely shared
36 and need to be modernized,
37
38 *Recognizing* the alarming lack of formal plastic waste disposal regulations and the resulting deterioration
39 of the Earth’s oceans and other ecosystems,
40
41 *Echoing* the sentiments expressed by the UN Secretary-General António Guterres, highlighting the need
42 to utilize artificial intelligence in building resilient and sustainable infrastructure systems that promote
43 inclusivity and foster innovation,
44
45 *Guided by* the 1995 Global Program of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-
46 Based Action (GPA), which provides assessment methods and evaluation strategies for Member States’
47 actions addressing public health and environmental issues,
48

49 *Noting with approval* the Progressive Tax System, inspired by various federal tax codes of Member
50 States, regarding plastic waste production according to the percentage produced per country,
51

52 *Stressing* Member States to contribute with their relative percentage of their gross domestic product
53 (GDP) to contribute to the Education Coalition through educational and social programs in Member
54 States,
55

56 *Understanding* the importance of implementing levy incentives for companies who actively reduce their
57 annual plastic waste and follow other sustainable disposal guidelines of new and existing plastic products
58 such as oil-based monomers and polymer plastics,
59

- 60 1. *Encourages* the international community to further invest in the implementation of plastic litter
61 recollection projects such as the Seabin Initiative which aims to catch waste on ports, decks and
62 coastlines without harming marine species by:
 - 63 a. Developing an international study regarding strategic places in countries with coastlines
64 and ports where the Seabin could be more effective collecting plastic litter and other
65 debris;
66
 - 67 b. Transporting collected waste to each country's recycling facilities in order to develop a
68 comprehensive approach among nations regarding circular economy;
69
 - 70 c. Exchanging results of this project among countries in order to provide data for future
71 recollection inventions that aim to preserve marine ecosystems;
72
- 73 2. *Encourages* the implementation of educational programs with guidance from the United Nations
74 Environment Assembly (UNEA) and the assistance of GPE in educational institutions in order to
75 promote the adaptation of responsible practices for plastic litter management to raise awareness from
76 all members of civil society and to minimize the use of single-use plastics and the production of
77 plastic waste, by:
 - 78 a. Creating seminars to educate teachers within Member States in order to facilitate subsequent
79 education to spread the information on, but not limited to, plastic alternatives, recycling
80 methods, plastic pollution information;
81
 - 82 b. Implementing educational activities as part of the formal educational system that involve
83 youth and encourage them to participate in emulations regarding the issues of reducing,
84 reusing and recycling plastics, as well as plastic alternatives, that could be used and
85 implemented in civil society and communities;
86
 - 87 c. Spreading educational knowledge among private sector actors dealing with the production
88 and consumption of plastics;
89
 - 90 d. Inviting national social services, including but not limited to schools, parks, hospitals and
91 universities, to organize annual coaching sessions on the responsible use of plastics and on
92 possible eco-friendly alternatives to plastics;
93
 - 94 e. Introducing national plans that give incentives, determined by each national government, to
95 their populations in order to collect marine plastic litter and microplastics by their own,
96 including monetary rewards;
97
 - 98 f. Supporting events such as World Environment Day or World Oceans Day so that citizens can
99 develop knowledge and appreciation for the Earth and its ecosystems;
100
- 101 3. *Suggests* to conduct plastic-free sports events, under the name of No Plastic Events, in order to raise
102 awareness in society of all Member States for the problems caused by improper plastic disposal and
103
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- 105 irresponsible consumption and encouraging individuals to refuse single-use plastic products during
106 sport events, by:
- 107
- 108 a. Collaborating with Our Ocean Conference for substitutional funding;
- 109
- 110 b. Conducting events at least once, on every continent during the Our Ocean Conference, the
111 World Environment Day and World Oceans Day;
- 112
- 113 c. Cooperating with UN Environment along with organizers of already existing sport events to
114 use their already established structures to assist in the logistical organization of these events
115 by:
- 116
- 117 i. Providing recyclable bottles and cups for the participants and spectators of these
118 events;
- 119 ii. Assisting in the advertisement of these events and the uptake of responsible use of
120 plastic materials;
- 121
- 122 4. *Encourages* the General Assembly (GA) to create a sub-committee supervised by UN Environment
123 within the HLPF that directly focuses on working multilaterally to create attainable and beneficial
124 education programs within all Member States, by:
- 125
- 126 a. Collaborating with experts from different Member States who have an understanding of
127 ecological impacts, economic impacts, and educational expertise as well as a proper grasp of
128 how to better implement plastic policies;
- 129
- 130 b. Further promoting that this knowledge reaches international and regional NGOs to facilitate
131 efficiency between acquiring knowledge on educational programs and implementing these
132 programs within each Member State;
- 133
- 134 c. Annually coinciding with the HLPF, hosted in different locations rotating through participating
135 Member States;
- 136
- 137 d. Calling upon participating developed Member States possessing advanced knowledge and
138 scientific expertise by encouraging them to share their resources with developing Member
139 States within the sub-committee;
- 140
- 141 5. *Encourages* Member States to consider implementing educational institutions dedicated to the
142 teachings of the impact of marine litter and microplastics accumulating within the oceans in sub
143 regional, regional, and international levels and requests the creation and implementation of student
144 training programs in which youths are provided with skills necessary for establishing eco-friendly
145 decisions for sub regional and regional levels and:
- 146
- 147 a. Recommends the addition of the impacts of litter on the environment into the required
148 curriculum of elementary schools in order to raise awareness of the issue early in childhood;
- 149
- 150 b. Recommends the use unconventional methods, such as professional sporting teams and
151 events, such as triathlons and marathons, to influence youth to adopt sustainable practices
152 as well as journalism to engage youth populations;
- 153
- 154 c. Recommends to educate the masses of the environmental damage caused by plastic bottles
155 through images on the packaging of plastic bottles and containers depicting these damages
156 in order to promote the use of plastic alternatives, as it has been done with cigarettes;
- 157
- 158 d. Recommends to prioritize the awareness of the effects of microplastics and waste within the
159 oceans by increasing online programs and projects in the SDG's Academy website
160 addressing these issues;

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- e. Recommends to expand upon the idea of UN Environment VOICES, university advocates for sustainable development will be selected, specifically for plastic consumption, and will meet annually within their home country to discuss results and potential solutions for implementing green measures within their local community;
 - f. Recommends that the mandate of these UN university advocates would be to create and implement a good practice guide for a zero-waste school that fits the reality and needs of their locality, starting from their university - but not limited to - in order to involve youth and raise awareness about plastic consumption, with the hope that they will become conscious and responsible future citizens that serve as an inspiration for other generations;
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6. *Invites* national social services, for instance schools, hospitals, parks, universities and any other governmental social services, to change their practices in order to reduce their use of single-use plastics, by:
- a. Educating people, especially the youth, to keep better environmentally-friendly habits as well as implementing solutions in kindergartens and schools through:
 - i. Organizing Green Days, dedicated to emphasize the human impact on seas, oceans, rivers, and aquatic flora and fauna, including activities like clean-up projects of beaches;
 - ii. Increasing lessons regarding the environment and the consumption of plastics and its consequences;
 - iii. Promoting the use of alternative plastic materials;
 - iv. Introducing the recycling system in all the schools;
 - b. Integrating all national campaigns developed by different sources, such as the government, businesses and more among these community services to ensure that the same information is given to everyone;
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7. *Encourages* Member States that lack uniform waste management regulation to follow a standardized set of procedures that foster healthier and more environmentally friendly disposal methods such as:
- a. Prohibiting the construction of new dumpsites near large rivers, lakes, and floodplains;
 - b. Reducing large scale plastic debris burial to prevent the deterioration of plastic in soil and groundwater;
 - c. Shaping these new waste management methods to fit within the “Controlled or Semi-Sanitary Landfill” guidelines which prevent plastic pollution by:
 - i. Regular site clean-ups;
 - ii. The collection and treatment of all runoff water;
 - iii. The confinement of all waste to one formal working area;
 - iv. Limiting access to workers and waste dumpers;
 - v. Denying groundwater use within one kilometer of dumpsites;
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8. *Encourages* Member States to involve local communities and youth in waste management practices by including citizens of all ages in the collection and sorting of plastic waste as a more economically effective, personalized and community driven method of waste management by:
- a. Suggesting the establishment of an international clean-up day, called Umuganda Sustainability Day;
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- 216 b. Establishing a national sustainability day competition for the national initiatives with the best
217 spirit and award of a guest seat at the next UNEA meeting for the most innovative initiative;
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- 219 c. Raising awareness for marine plastic litter and micro plastic through social media campaigns
220 by expanding existing social media campaigns such as #CleanSeas Educating young
221 children in schools especially on reducing, reusing and recycling;
222
- 223 9. *Invites* further improvement of solid waste management systems in developing Member States
224 through technical assistance partnership programs and initiatives from industrialized Member States,
225 specifically through obtaining technical assistance and international cooperation through models like
226 the Belt and Road initiative and the Partnership for Quality Infrastructure for the infrastructure for
227 wastewater management:
228
- 229 a. To enhance international cooperation by expanding upon connections already in place in 65
230 Member States in order to improving infrastructure and creating waste management in cities
231 across the globe;
232
- 233 b. By encouraging legislation for fellow Member States to invest in building relative
234 infrastructures and to properly deal with the unmanaged disposal problem in a scientific way,
235 in order to promote social harmony and improve the living standards of the broad mass;
236
- 237 10. *Requests* that Member States move to modernize and enhance their wastewater management
238 systems:
239
- 240 a. Move from the popular linear program of wastewater management to a circular model that
241 will:
242
- 243 i. Remove harmful plastics and microplastics from water;
244 ii. Reuse treated water productively in farming, irrigation, and industrial processes;
245 iii. Battle water scarcity through reuse;
246
- 247 b. By creating public-private partnerships to play an active role in monitoring, evaluating and
248 researching projects with the goals of ensuring cost-effective investments, implementations,
249 and providing high quality data, with the help of substantial sources such as:
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- 251 i. UN Water activities;
252 ii. The World Health Organization/ United Nations Children’s Fund Joint Monitoring
253 Programme for Water Supply;
254 iii. The Sanitation and Hygiene (JMP);
255 iv. The inter-agency initiative GEMI and UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of
256 Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS);
257 v. The World Water Development Report;
258 vi. Updating existing facilities and creating new systems utilizing platforms like the
259 Global Wastewater Initiative hosted by the Global Programme of Action (GPA) to
260 assist developing nations across the globe create and improve wastewater
261 management systems;
262 vii. Utilizing and expanding upon the Global Wastewater Initiative hosted by the GPA to
263 assist developing nations across the globe create and improve wastewater
264 management systems;
265
- 266 11. *Recommends* Member States to establish an assessment program for the purpose of ensuring the
267 practices of domestic and foreign plastic waste disposal enterprises align with environmental
268 objectives by UN Environment through the:
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- 270 a. Promotion of domestic legislation and technical guidelines that specify environmental
271 measures to center proper waste disposal methods and sustainable management habits;

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- b. Communication of potential transboundary threats relating to environmental to neighboring Member States;
 - c. Voluntary participation in monthly and extensive annual tests monitoring levels of microplastics and plastics as well as general levels of pollution to be shared openly accessible and globally;
12. *Recommends* the use of technology, especially artificial intelligence, to clear existing marine litter focusing particularly on plastics and microplastics, which are currently a big issue and thus;
13. *Encourages* Member States to incorporate the use of artificial intelligence to capture plastic ranging from small pieces to large debris and extracting them from the ocean by:
- a. Creating youth programs like science engineering fairs that involve youth interested in AI to innovate and create artificial intelligence algorithms that will be used for extracting the litter:
 - i. Placing floaters that will be controlled by the algorithms to sense and extract any marine litter in the ocean;
 - ii. Transporting the litter collected by the floaters to the specified extraction zones;
 - iii. Having systems that will fully rely on natural forces of the ocean and will not require any use of external energy as it will only use solar energy;
 - iv. Providing basic education on the issue by calling upon developed Member States to transmit their knowledge and scientific expertise to developing Member States;
14. *Requests* Member States to implement the guidelines outlined by the GPA at the national level to effectively define all protective and mitigative measures for public health and environmental impacts that occur within communities lacking standardized procedures;
15. *Recommends* Member States implement a progressive bracket levy system that is reflective of plastic production of companies within that Member State characterized by:
- a. The amount of plastic produced by companies will be taxed by their respective Member State based on a progressive levy system;
 - b. Meaning that higher brackets will pay higher levies for amounts of plastic production over a base level determined by the Member State;
 - c. These higher levy rates will encourage companies to lower plastic production in order to access lower levy rates;
 - d. Done at the discretion of Member States with full support by the UNEA so that Member States may best address the needs of their companies and citizens;
 - e. Recommending that the Member States adopt a weighted levy system so that lower plastic production is incentivized;
 - f. So that the revenue collected by the Member State may, therefore, be implemented into the State to benefit National education campaigns and technological developments;
 - g. Also allowing the inclusion of voluntary donations of Member States that can extend beyond the standard levy system contribution;
16. *Calls upon* the Member States to create levies for companies who actively reduce their annual plastic waste and follow other sustainable disposal guidelines as set forth by the Member State by:

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- a. Suggesting all Member States consider and offer tiered levy's to major multinational corporations, providing they comply with all guidelines and regulations regarding how and when to responsibly dispose of all plastic related waste;
 - b. Encouraging other multinational companies to follow in the same direction including production and execution of campaigns and programs that support the reduction of single plastic waste.

335 *Annex*

336

337 1. Further recommends the implementation of domestic legislation that upholds responsible advertising,
338 to inform consumers on all of the ecological impacts of single-use plastic products, such as bottles,
339 utensils, straws, containers, bags, etc. by:

340

341 a. Calling upon plastic manufacturers to print images and respective company logos which
342 documents the environmental destruction, on single-use plastic products and creates
343 frameworks to hold manufacturers accountable;

344

345 b. Including information concerning the ecological impacts of specific single-use plastic products
346 on social media;

347

348 c. Further promoting the awareness of the problems and the undertaking of solutions through
349 television advertisements, social networks and billboards.



Code: UNEA/1/10

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*

2

3 *Alarmed* by the lack of resources available to Member States concerning public awareness-raising
4 campaigns for sustainable eco-friendly community engagement,

5

6 *Notes* with deep concern a lack of cognizance regarding plastic pollution, especially microplastics, of
7 younger generations,

8

9 *Expressing* appreciation that curricula are being established and implemented to educate the youth aged
10 15-24 on environmental issues, the importance of conserving the environment, and sustainable practices
11 which will result in less plastic pollution,

12

13 *Keeping in mind* that many curricula, while touching lightly on environmental issues and sustainable
14 practices, have not developed core curriculum that teaches about the earth's processes and the
15 importance of sustainable practices,

16

17 *Acknowledging* the efforts made through the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) as
18 established by the 2015 General Assembly resolution 70/1 "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for
19 Sustainable Development", regarding specifically SDG 3, Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 6 Clean
20 Water and Sanitation, SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, and SDG 12 Responsible
21 Consumption and Production, and SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals,

22

23 *Drawing attention* to the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Accelerated Modalities of Action which is
24 used to connect developing Member States to higher-quality resources to further address marine plastic
25 litter and microplastics in coastline health,

26

27 *Referring* to United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) resolution 3/2 "Pollution Mitigation by
28 Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Key Sectors", which focuses on environmental capacity building through
29 educational initiatives,

30

31 *Having considered* that according to the Economic and Social Council's *Facts and Figures on Marine*
32 *Pollution*, there is an annual production of more than 220 thousand tons of plastic,

33

34 *Recognizing* that accurately measuring individual Member States' plastic footprint remains arduous,

35

36 *Alarmed* that enough plastic to fill a truck is emptied into the ocean every minute, as stated in a 2016
37 World Economic Forum report *The New Plastics Economy Rethinking the Future of Plastics*,

38

39 *Noting with deep concern* that 90% of plastics entering the ocean from rivers come from the top 10
40 polluted rivers globally, according to the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research report *Estimation*
41 *of Global Plastic Loads Delivered by Rivers into the Sea*,

42

43 *Recognizing the success* of river cleanup initiatives such as VeryNile which compensates fishermen to
44 remove plastic litter in rivers in order to reduce the amount of plastic pollution in rivers,

45

46 *Noting* the success of the Seabin Project which utilizes floating trash bins to collect litter from marinas,
47 docks, and ports,

48 *Noting* the importance of connections between Member States and regional marine and coastal
49 development organizations and the necessity of involvement of non-state actors and global organizations
50 to provide opportunities for greater technology for pollution cleanup and unique partnerships between
51 Member states and pollution related non-state actors,

52
53 *Acknowledging the need* for immediate effective plastic waste management techniques and practices
54 through steadfast Member State cooperation,

55
56 *Bearing in mind* the establishment of the United Nations Technology Innovation Labs by the United
57 Nations Office of Information and Communication Technology,

58
59 *Reminding* Member States that, according to the UN Environment 2018 report, *Single Use Plastics - A*
60 *Roadmap to Sustainability*, about 300 million tons of plastic waste wash into the ocean every year,

61
62 *Encouraged by* the implementation of innovative measures to recycle plastic while serving the purpose of
63 public infrastructure development like using plastic bottles to pave new roads, such as the Green Road
64 Project,

65
66 *Identifies* the necessity to include citizens to better economies, waste management, through monetary
67 incentives,

68
69 *Recognizing* the pivotal role of cooperation between private corporations and the general public on
70 environmental concerns,

71
72 *Noting* the strides made through the *Kyoto Protocol* (1997) and the *Paris Agreement* (2015) in enhancing
73 cooperation among Member States to combat and adapt to climate change,

74
75 *Underscoring* the production and waste issues in relation to the linear economy which almost all Member
76 States still use and highlight the benefits of a circular economy as stated by the United Nations
77 Framework Convention on Climate Change's 2018 study *Circular Economy Crucial for Paris Climate*
78 *Goals*, as well as United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 2/11 "Marine Plastic Litter and
79 *Microplastics*";

- 80
81 1. *Encourages* Member States to promote environmental consciousness through community
82 engagement to change consumer practices, which will limit the amount of plastic being improperly
83 disposed through:
- 84
85 a. Partnerships with regional non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to engage and educate
86 local communities about reusable plastic alternatives, clean consumption practices, and
87 recycling processes with a focus towards youth;
 - 88
89 b. Awareness-raising campaigns through news, television, and other media aiming to inform
90 people to the overproduction of plastics and microplastics;
 - 91
92 c. Promoting recycled art campaigns to increase awareness on coastlines;
 - 93
94 d. Appealing for issues through the use of Public Service Announcements (PSAs) issues by big
95 companies which highlight adverse impacts of marine plastic litter to enhance public
96 awareness;
- 97
98 2. *Recommends* the creation of local conferences that will annually unite global leaders, NGOs,
99 community leaders, and the general public to reform education specifically in land-locked Member
100 States which will be launched by the UN Environment;

101

- 102 3. *Recommends* that all Member States work with their ministries or departments of education to
103 develop a core environmental curriculum to prevent plastic litter and microplastics for each year of
104 school that will be adapted to every stage of the educational systems through:
- 105
- 106 a. Aligning with the culture and already-established education system within the country;
- 107
- 108 b. Encouraging youth involvement in environmental issues like plastic litter;
- 109
- 110 c. Including both formal education at schools and informal education such as educational
111 material provided by UN Environment;
- 112
- 113 d. Suggesting using United Nations-based educational programs such as the Cooperative
114 Massive Online Open Course in order to formally educate youth on the dangers of
115 microplastics at no cost to them;
- 116
- 117 e. Addressing the importance of recycling and other eco-friendly daily tasks within the middle
118 school curriculums once a week;
- 119
- 120 f. Creating projects in high school in which students can express their ideas in regard to the
121 environment, such as the development of databases to share solutions and any other kind of
122 legal initiative that is moved by the younger minds creativity;
- 123
- 124 g. Requesting universities to introduce study journeys, where students can theoretically and
125 practically deepen their knowledge about the effects of irresponsible plastic waste
126 management;
- 127
- 128 4. *Urges* Member States to develop programs similar to the Mbesese Initiative for Sustainable
129 Development, to create educational workshops on the detriments of using sludge and waste water
130 potentially containing micro-plastic and persistent organic pollutants for agriculture;
- 131
- 132 5. *Suggests* using the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Accelerated Modalities of Action to create
133 partnerships between educational resources and member states with more technological solutions
134 that increase youth marine education to emphasize younger generations protecting marine
135 environment in the future:
- 136
- 137 a. Linking intergovernmental organizations and stakeholders from civil society and non-state
138 actors to create a lasting education plan;
- 139
- 140 b. Including education as part of the regional action plan;
- 141
- 142 6. *Intends* to expand upon the Environmental Data Explorer of UN Environment to:
- 143
- 144 a. Create a standardized measurement system to accurately quantify and compare externalities
145 related to the production and usage of plastic in order to adequately track the materials;
- 146
- 147 b. Allow the tracking of plastics production, transport and disposal methods to be able to hold
148 individual Member States accountable for the plastic and microplastic litter produced;
- 149
- 150 c. Encourage voluntary labeling on plastic products by their producers;
- 151
- 152 d. Support national policies for accountability of producers;
- 153
- 154 7. *Encourages* Member States to develop river-cleanup initiatives to prevent plastic waste from reaching
155 the marine environment;
- 156

- 157 8. *Welcomes the utilization* of innovative measures among all Member States to collect and recycle
158 plastic litter such as:
159
- 160 a. Establishing an open-air dump program, as a cleaner alternative to municipal disposal
161 systems;
 - 162
 - 163 b. Focusing on recycling plastics into daily use items such as mattresses, clothing, and sleeping
164 bags;
 - 165
 - 166 c. Converting plastics into an inexpensive form of asphalt to engineer plastic roads;
 - 167
 - 168 d. Using the resources from programs similar to the Seabin project, which distributes
169 technologies that clean coastal areas of macro and microplastics to take immediate action on
170 collecting plastic waste from the oceans;
 - 171
- 172 9. *Advises* Member States to phase out production and consumption of single use plastic products into
173 materials which are less likely to deteriorate into microplastics, such as biodegradable and reusable
174 materials;
- 175
- 176 10. *Renews its appeal* for regional development of corporations, specifically small to midsize companies
177 that can take regional action in solving the global epidemic of marine microplastics by:
178
- 179 a. Highlighting efforts from corporations such as the Alliance to End Plastic Waste, a group of
180 30 of the world's leading corporations which has pledged \$1.5 billion over the next five years
181 to end plastic waste in our oceans;
 - 182
 - 183 b. Incentivizing corporations through incentives rather than taxes to aid in the removal of
184 microplastics on a regional level;
 - 185
 - 186 c. Encouraging small to midsize companies to request funding from the United Nations
187 Technology Innovations Lab, a UN entity that provides funding to technological innovations
188 that assist in transforming societies and humanity as a whole;
 - 189
- 190 11. *Emphasizes* the need for public-private cooperation by developing a set of standardized guidelines
191 between public-private sectors to regulate and oversee plastic waste management; in order to create
192 consensus to act on marine plastics by:
193
- 194 a. Allowing for multilateral acknowledgement on the total number of plastic units produced
195 within a Member State;
 - 196
 - 197 b. Encouraging Member States to implement a circular economy so that plastic waste can be
198 reused in several fields such as the construction of buildings and houses;
 - 199
 - 200 c. Providing a straightforward set of guidelines that allow for consistent use of laws regarding
201 marine microplastics;
 - 202
- 203 12. *Encourages* Member States to create waste management systems that integrate their citizens within
204 the effort to mitigate marine plastic litter and microplastics by:
205
- 206 a. Implementing detection systems, incinerators, biological and mechanical waste systems,
207 processing factories and composting farms for the purpose of clean disposal;
 - 208
 - 209 b. Processing waste through gasifying granulated waste plastics, which burns pellets of
210 unrecyclable plastics and produces no harmful emissions in addition to costing 30% less than
211 oil or natural gas;
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- c. Deploying a fleet of autonomous cleanup vessels deployed to the Great Pacific Garbage Patch and other ocean danger zones for deconstruction measures;
 - d. Creating the Tactful Removal of Aquatic and Safety Hazards Foundation focusing on hotspot landfills and waste dumps in order to prevent the transfer of plastic litter from landfills and waste dumps to our planet's oceans through the better management of plastic waste disposal;
 - e. Employing AI capable of learning to predict the severity of marine plastic pollutants in different parts of oceans in advance by combining large quantities of data from theoretical models and automatically generate corresponding strategies on reduction actions;
13. *Supports* Member States that develop programs based off the organization plastic bank, for the purpose of offering citizens incentives to collect plastic waste by either:
- a. Utilizing developing Member States' existing economies of individuals who collect trash to create a nation-wide system, thus sustaining the livelihoods of said individuals;
 - b. Improving developed Member States' existing waste management systems by offering monetary rewards for recycled goods, as well as adopting tax deductions for citizens who recycle 50% more than they throw away;
14. *Recommends* the use of online platforms to share information and technological solutions within the private sector to aid in recycling products.



Code: UNEA/1/11

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastic

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*
2
3 *Reaffirming the Washington Declaration on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based*
4 *Activities* (1995) which calls for sustainable and remedial action to combat existing litter in marine
5 ecosystems and prevent further accumulation and pollution,
6
7 *Acknowledging* the importance of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDGs 3
8 involving good health and well-being, 9 which mentions industry, innovation and infrastructure, 13 which
9 mentions climate action, 14 involving life underwater, and 17 on partnership for the goals, as well as
10 advancing the environmental objectives of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2015),
11
12 *Noticing* the Ocean Cleanup Projects buoy system, implemented in 2013, which consists of a 600-meter-
13 long floater that sits at the surface of the water and a tapered 3-meter-deep skirt attached below and aims
14 to reduce the great pacific garbage patch through collection and removal by 90% by 2040,
15
16 *Commending* the work of the Clean Seas Campaign launched by UN Environment in February 2017,
17 which stands as the first global campaign of its kind to eliminate major sources of marine litter,
18
19 *Realizing* the severity of micro-plastic and marine plastic pollution in the ocean and its concerning
20 aftermaths, as highlighted by General Assembly resolution 71/312 “Our Ocean, Our Future: Call for
21 Action”, adopted in the United Nation’s Oceans Conference held in 2017,
22
23 *Recognizing* the success of regulatory regimes in various Member States and international bodies such
24 as the European Union (EU) in reducing the consumption and production of single-use plastics by
25 implementing clear, informed policy based on concrete research,
26
27 *Acknowledging* the efforts of local communities within Member States to involve citizens and their informal
28 economies into municipal plastic waste management, creating sustainable and effective solutions that
29 place the personal needs of the community at the center of their design,
30
31 *Appreciating* the Green Tax created by the European Union (EU) which strengthened Member States’
32 economy by generating an investment of €368.8 billion,
33
34 *Recognizing* that taxation fund in the EU can be potentially used by governments to increase expenditure
35 on environmental protection,
36
37 *Understanding* that the private sector has a direct impact and is therefore a key partner to achieving
38 objectives such as SDG 17,
39
40 *Affirming* the need to develop a more incentive and more coercive tax system on companies and making
41 sure that the tax price reflects the environmental price of products,
42
43 *Realizing* that coastal countries, large oceanic states, and islands are mostly affected by marine plastic
44 litter and will also be able to benefit from taxation revenue collected from a multitude of institutions,
45

46 *Understanding* that all Member States should be involved the operative framework will maximize
47 multilateral cooperation while providing incentives for an active commitment via tax benefits,
48

49 *Recalling* the *United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea* adopted by United Nations in 1982
50 declaring that all oceans off the nations' coastlines are considered international waters thus the world's
51 shared responsibility,
52

53 *Noting* plastic litters in the river contribute to marine pollution according to the United Nations 2017
54 reports entitled *Marine Plastic Debris and Microplastics: Global Lessons and Research to Inspire Action*
55 *and Guide Policy Change*,
56

57 *Emphasizing its hope* that Member States will contribute funding to non-governmental organizations
58 (NGOs), environmental experts, and scientists to provide relevant expertise and recommendations in
59 regards to the sourcing and disposal; such as through GreenPeace, which is an international NGO with a
60 robust campaign on the protection of oceans,
61

62 *Affirming* that certain Member States lack adequate resources and enforcement mechanisms to adapt
63 efficient and sustainable waste management systems as stated in the 2010 Plastic Disclosure Project
64 launched by the United Nations Environment, which surveys the amount of plastic waste businesses and
65 organizations generate and the amount recycled,
66

- 67 1. *Calls upon* all Member States to recognize the negative impacts of microplastics on the health and
68 well-being of its citizens by:
 - 69 a. Encouraging Member States to acknowledge the World Health Organization's review
70 regarding potential risks of ingesting microplastics with drinking water by implementing
71 solutions such as:
 - 72 i. Encouraging the phasing out of plastic products in household and commercial
73 settings;
 - 74 ii. Gradually eliminating microplastics in cosmetic and lifestyle products based on
75 national initiatives;
 - 76 b. Encouraging Member States' Mission to the United Nations to implement national inquiries in
77 partnership with the joint panel on Marine Plastic Litter Prevention to measure the impact of
78 microplastics on the health and wellbeing of its citizens;
- 79 2. *Recommends* UNEP to create a Joint Panel on Marine Plastic Litter Prevention (MPLP), a working
80 group comprised of environmental protection experts and economic policy experts whose mandate
81 would be to establish an operational guidance document recommending how to regulate plastic
82 production and consumption on a Member State-by-Member State basis in order to alleviate the
83 impact of marine plastics globally;
- 84 3. *Encourages* Member States to create their own public-private partnerships with research companies,
85 universities and non-governmental organizations to open a database that is adapted to the country's
86 specific realities, which would supply substantive knowledge to educational frameworks, thus
87 contributing to the prevention of microplastic release in the environment upon guidance from the
88 working group:
 - 89 a. Work with non-profit organizations such as the 5 Gyre Institute and Algalita to:
 - 90 b. Combine science, education, and art in order to fight plastic litter;
 - 91 c. Research, educate, and collaborate with other Member States;

- 101 b. Work with organizations such as Plastic Pollution Coalition, which works with more than 750
102 organizations, businesses, and policy makers:
103
- 104 i. This organization provides resources such as a global plastic reduction legislative
105 toolkit;
 - 106 ii. Provides research to inform the public on the effects of plastic pollution and solutions
107 to reduce and prevent further plastic pollution;
- 108
- 109 c. Gather reliable data about micro plastic and marine litter, in order to:
110
- 111 i. Develop a database that would enable Member States to have useful and intelligible
112 data to rely on when assessing the extent of the damages of marine litter on coastal
113 areas;
 - 114 ii. Allow Member States to have a universal measurement standard that will be
115 essential for the future decision-making of NGOs, researchers and governmental
116 bodies; and as it will provide precise and useful insights of how decisions must be
117 taken;
- 118
- 119 4. *Recommends* providing conglomerate businesses with subsidies, given that the companies adhere to
120 an agreement, which is based on respecting environmental policies provided by the UN Environment,
121 invoking:
122
- 123 a. Agreements with reports reviewed by the panel provided through the UN Environment, on a
124 four-year cycle in accordance to the SDG timeline for removing marine plastic from the
125 world's oceans;
 - 126
 - 127 b. Incentives that include special subsidies for those that use alternative or plastic free methods
128 of production:
129
 - 130 i. Which is taken by the tax on plastic producers;
 - 131 ii. While proposing a fossil fuel subsidy reduction, a main element in plastic production,
132 and using those funds to encourage nations to recycle more through measures and
133 bodies such as UN Environment;
- 134
- 135 5. *Prompts* Member States to recall the 1995 Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the
136 Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities (GPA), to focus on the implementation of funding,
137 economical, and technological mechanisms, and invites Member States to help fund NGOs and
138 startups to achieve the SDGs, financed by the Green Fund which serves to:
139
- 140 a. Recognize that the UNEA's Green Fund will act as a fiscal body which can subsidize
141 corporations during the two years prior to the tax incentive;
 - 142
 - 143 b. Take into account the of money distribution power of the Green Fund to delegate the 50%
144 towards cooperative corporations as well as the 50% towards research, awareness, and
145 technology;
 - 146
 - 147 c. Allow for oversight by Member States to adjust the plan on a state-by-state basis;
 - 148
- 149 6. *Expresses* its hope towards positive action in method of cleaning-up existing marine plastic litters
150 including microplastic by sharing technology:
151
- 152 a. Supports the involvement of NGOs and non-profit organizations to begin implementing a
153 system of nets and vessels that will be established globally and maintain regularly in order to
154 begin reducing large and small floating marine plastics and encourages personal and
155 international volunteer committees looking to collect and dispose of marine plastic litter along
156 coastlines and beaches;

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- b. Invites Member States to setup legislation that promotes and incentivizes citizen to collect the plastic litter that exist near the river, coast area and beaches;
7. *Encourages* the establishment of a new fund through existing regional environmental taxation and donations:
- a. Enabling the incubation of innovative ideas from NGOs and startups for removing and recycling existing marine waste;
 - b. Developing collaborative efforts in partnership with the UNEA facilitating the connections between NGOs and small-midsized startups to contribute with creative and innovative solutions based in cities:
 - i. Such as Silicon Valley from collected resources and existing North American environmental taxation funds;
 - ii. Such as Berlin from collected resources and existing EU environmental taxation funds;
 - iii. Such as Hong Kong from collected resources and existing Asia Pacific environmental taxation funds;
 - c. Sharing and transferring of future generated knowledge, statistical data, and resources collected and produced by NGO and/ or ttartup partnerships starting with critical countries which have the most detrimental plastic impacts by allowing visibility and monetary capability to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to bring technological capacity building to the microplastic and marine litter innovation discussion;
8. *Invites* Member States to encourage private and public entities to eliminate the production and use of single-use plastics by 2025 and replace it with alternative recyclable, compostable or organic materials as per by:
- a. Setting up national government-endorsed awareness campaigns to educate the public on the dangerous impacts of single-use plastics via:
 - i. Government-run television advertisements;
 - ii. Education campaigns in primary and secondary schools;
 - iii. A microplastics social media campaign;
 - iv. Integration of pre-existing UN-partner programs such as "Bye Bye Plastic Bags," "#BreakFreeFromPlastic";
 - b. Proposing the implementation of universal labeling on all products that contribute to marine litter;
 - c. Suggests the implementation of bans or levies on single-use plastics;
9. *Invites* Member States to adopt an autonomous, national body involving all stakeholders of private sector such as retailers, companies, and industries to consider:
- a. Building a framework based on a collection of statistical data by Member States focusing on industrial production and consumption rates as well as on the evaluation of disposal measures will be set and will contribute to the UN data;
 - b. Using the gathered data in a way that cooperative producers would be rewarded for reducing plastic use, while top plastic contributors would be taxed proportionally depending on their implemented measures on a state-to-state basis;

- 213 c. Distributing 50% of the collected data to fund projects that aim towards sea marine plastics
214 litter reduction, research and development of new infrastructures;
215
216 d. Encouraging to forward tax funds towards Environment Fund program of work and budget for
217 the biennium 2020-2021;
218
219 e. Setting a multiple-criteria ranking regarding companies that would return the corresponding
220 tax/reward based on:
221
222 i. Type(s) of plastics;
223 ii. Rate of recycling of the product;
224 iii. Quantity of plastic;
225

226 10. *Recommends* a partnership between UNEA and WasteAid, an NGO that:
227

- 228 a. Increased international aid to 3% of total spend in order for plastic waste management to
229 fulfill its potential as an engine for sustainable development;
230
231 b. Provides essential information to help set up community-led waste management systems and
232 small recycling businesses;
233
234 c. Help keep neighborhoods clean and healthy and even generates a small income;
235
236 d. Build local recycling enterprises that create jobs and improve the local economy;
237
238 e. Can use the recycled plastic to build homes for developing countries that lack shelter for their
239 citizens;
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241 11. *Supports* the elimination of the linear, wasteful plastics economy in favor of a circular plastics
242 economy by encouraging private sectors with Pigouvian subsidies meant to encourage producers to
243 minimize their external cost to reuse plastic waste to create items such as the production of resistant
244 building materials through a process which will transform plastic waste after some technological
245 processes and mixing with sand on a production;
246

247 12. *Suggests* an inclusive, community-based approach when combating the issue of marine plastic litter
248 and microplastics by:
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- 250 a. Implementing waste management systems that work successfully alongside existing, informal
251 local economies based around waste collection;
252
253 b. Stimulating job growth by formalizing the informal sector, creating permanent paid positions
254 for waste collection and processing to more effectively and efficiently address waste
255 management, in ways that benefit certain population subsets; specifically, those living in
256 poverty, elderly citizens, young people, disabled individuals, and other disadvantaged groups;
257
258 c. Focusing efforts in coastal and waterfront communities that aim to specifically clean beaches
259 and rivers through a designated day for community beach cleanups that both directly tackle
260 the issue and promote awareness;
261
262 d. Establishing waste disposal centers in urban areas from the national funds saved in the
263 creation of the bottom up waste management program, that credit citizens with plastic points
264 with each piece of plastic properly recycled in a pay-per plastic initiative;
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266 13. *Encourages* bringing awareness to the youth regarding environmental sustainability by:
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- 268 a. Promoting interdisciplinary research and teaching in eco-settlement issues through:

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- i. Identifying and developing new teaching modules, supporting materials and learning activities in preschools and middle schools;
 - ii. Engaging high school students in hands-on action projects that enable them to develop skills, knowledge, inspiration and self-motivation to create positive changes;
 - iii. Integrating environmental education into the curriculum of universities in order to increase student consciousness, behavioral change, employment opportunities and the leadership of students;
 - iv. Encouraging the development of youth media projects and organizations that provide a voice for eco-friendly advocacy;
 - b. Ensuring that policies enable learning how to integrate traditional and contemporary systems and technologies in eco-settlement planning, design, development and operations via:
 - i. Eco-settlement education policies that include traditional knowledge systems and governance practices, especially in village contexts;
 - ii. Venues and events for interfaith and intercultural creative re-imagining of sustainable futures and eco-settlement design;
 - iii. Direct or indirect NGOs such as "Bye Bye Plastic Bags" and "Plastic Pollution Coalition" that envision a world free of plastic bags and empowers young generations to take action;
 - 14. *Emphasizes* the history of indigenous and native practices of sustainability living in balance with nature and one's community to connect the values of sustainability today with a shared value and common history, specific for each nation to:
 - a. Invite indigenous communities to actively participate in policy-making within their Member States;
 - b. Kindly requests Member States to work alongside indigenous communities and pass legislation that would ban the sale and distribution of single-use plastics within their mandate;
 - c. Conduct an arts and science program through their respective UN Missions, inviting citizens to send in art projects representing history, culture, shared values and its relationship with conservation and sustainability to be used for building a nation-wide plastic free campaign;
 - 15. *Recommends* promoting the UN Environment's Cleanseas program in academic institutions to further its awareness at the international level and to educate youth on sustainable practices that reduce their consumption of non-reusable plastics and promote a plastic free lifestyle by:
 - a. Imploring United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the UN Environment to oversee the implementation of the Cleanseas program;
 - b. Strongly advising that the UN Environment showcases the Cleanseas program through the #beatplasticpollution campaign to ensure that:
 - i. Member States that have not yet joined the campaign do join;
 - ii. Member States share the Cleanseas program information with various schools which contains information for students, parents and teachers;
 - 16. *Recommends* a partnership between UNEA and WasteAid, an NGO to:
 - a. Increase international aid to 3% of total spend in order for plastic waste management to fulfill its potential as an engine for sustainable development;

- 324 b. Provide essential information to help set up community-led waste management systems and
325 small recycling businesses;
- 326
- 327 c. Help keep neighborhoods clean and healthy and even generates a small income;
- 328
- 329 d. Build local recycling enterprises that create jobs and improve the local economy;
- 330
- 331 e. Use the recycled plastic to build homes for developing countries that lack shelter for their
332 citizens;
- 333

334 17. *Supports* the elimination of the linear, wasteful plastics economy in favor of a circular plastics
335 economy by encouraging private sectors with Pigouvian subsidies meant to encourage producers to
336 minimize their external cost to reuse plastic waste to create items such as:

- 337
- 338 a. The production of resistant building materials through a process which will transform plastic
339 waste after some technological processes and mixing with sand on a production;
- 340
- 341 b. Plastic-based clothes and bags;
- 342
- 343 c. Cars that are comprised of plastic;
- 344

345 18. *Suggests* an inclusive, community-based approach when combating the issue of marine plastic litter
346 and microplastics by:

- 347
- 348 a. Implementing waste management systems that work successfully alongside existing, informal
349 local economies based around waste collection;
- 350
- 351 b. Stimulating job growth by formalizing the informal sector, creating permanent paid positions
352 for waste collection and processing to more effectively and efficiently address waste
353 management, in ways that benefit certain population subsets; specifically, those living in
354 poverty, elderly citizens, young people, disabled individuals, and other disadvantaged groups;
- 355
- 356 c. Focusing efforts in coastal and waterfront communities specifically to clean beaches and
357 rivers through a designated day for community beach cleanups that both directly tackle the
358 issue and promote awareness;
- 359
- 360 d. Establishing waste disposal centers in urban areas from the national funds saved in the
361 creation of the bottom up waste management program, that credit citizens with plastic points
362 with each piece of plastic properly recycled in a pay-per plastic initiative;
- 363

364 19. *Stressing* the necessity for landfill regulations and setting targets for national uniform standards
365 through:

- 366
- 367 a. Recognition alternatives to plastics and considering their viable use for substitution;
- 368
- 369 b. Implementing methods to prevent plastic products from entering the oceans such as the
370 installing of bio fences;
- 371
- 372 c. Designating efforts towards removing current ocean plastics, as in the instance of Soda
373 Stream's "Holy Turtle" project with the Israeli-based Soda Stream;
- 374

375 20. *Encourages* bringing awareness to the youth regarding environmental sustainability by:

- 376
- 377 a. Encourage interdisciplinary research and teaching in eco-settlement issues:
- 378

- 379 i. Identifying and developing new teaching modules, supporting materials and learning
380 activities in preschools and middle schools;
381 ii. Engaging high school students in hands-on action projects that enable them to
382 develop skills, knowledge, inspiration and self-motivation to create positive changes;
383 iii. Integrate environmental education into the curriculum of universities in order to
384 increase student consciousness, behavioral change, employment opportunities and
385 the leadership of students;
386 iv. Encourage the development of youth media projects and organizations that provide a
387 voice for eco-friendly advocacy;
388

389 21. *Ensure* that policies enable learning how to integrate traditional and contemporary systems and
390 technologies in eco-settlement planning, design, development and operations:
391

- 392 a. Eco-settlement education policies must be inclusive of traditional knowledge systems and
393 governance practices, especially in village contexts;
394
395 b. Provide venues and events for interfaith and intercultural creative re-imagining of sustainable
396 futures and eco-settlement design;
397
398 c. Support directly or indirectly NGOs such as "Bye Bye Plastic Bags" and "Plastic Pollution
399 Coalition" that envision a world free of plastic bags and empowers young generations to take
400 action;
401

402 22. *Emphasizes* the history of indigenous and native practices of sustainability living in balance with
403 nature and one's community to connect the values of sustainability today with a shared value and
404 common history, specific to each nation, noting:
405

- 406 a. Indigenous peoples are at the face of climate change and many are affected by plastic
407 pollution and:
408
409 i. About 27 million indigenous people live in coastal communities;
410 ii. This leads to climate change refugees, due to the rise in sea levels and the pollution
411 in the ocean barring these communities from their sustainable traditions;
412 iii. Seafood is a crucial resource for these communities and with the rise of plastic
413 pollution, there is an immediate threat to these resources;
414
415 b. Each UN Mission will conduct an arts and science program, inviting citizens to send in art
416 projects representing history, culture, shared values and its relationship with conservation
417 and sustainability:
418
419 i. These art projects will become the face of each UN Mission's sustainability program
420 such as social media, billboards, bus ads, print media, and UN gala;
421 ii. The science programs will accept innovative solutions to marine litter that can be
422 implemented within the country;
423

424 23. *Recommends* promoting the UN Environment's Cleanseas Campaign in academic institutions to
425 further its awareness at the international level and to educate youth on sustainable practices that
426 reduce their consumption of non-reusable plastics and promote a plastic free lifestyle by:
427

- 428 a. Requesting UNESCO and UN Environment to oversee the implementation of the Cleanseas
429 program;
430
431 b. Adapting and making the Clean Seas program accessible for all Member States by:
432

- 433 i. Strongly advises that the UN Environment showcases the Cleanseas program
434 through the #beatplasticpollution campaign to insure to widely promote the program
435 for the youth;
436 ii. Recommending Member States that have not yet joined the campaign to join;
437
- 438 24. *Encouraging* Member States to share the Cleanseas program information with various schools which
439 contains information for students, parents and teachers;
440
- 441 25. *Encouraging* initiatives designed to promote the active engagement of the population in
442 environmental cleanliness on the model of already existing social games and challenges.



Code: UNEA/1/12

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Addressing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*
2
3 *Alarmed* by the devastating impacts that marine plastic litter and microplastics, including persistent organic
4 pollutants, heavy metals and nitrogen-based compounds, at each stage of their life cycle, have on marine
5 biodiversity and ecosystems,
6
7 *Reiterating its appreciation* for the result of the Stockholm Conference (1972) bringing attention to the
8 global effects of environmental pollution, exploitation of natural resources and starting to spread
9 awareness among the population around the world,
10
11 *Deeply concerned* by the critical amount of plastic entering the seas which then need enormous technical
12 efforts to retrieve them,
13
14 *Taking into account* the success of effective deposit return schemes, such as the official deposit scheme
15 in place in Sweden with the recycling rate of 85% of all cans and Polyethylenterephthalat (PET) bottles
16 sold,
17
18 *Emphasizing* the developments in scientific innovation, such as those which provide opportunity for
19 sustainable production,
20
21 *Fully aware* of the connection between human health and marine life's well-being since microplastics are
22 infiltrating food chains and the interacting with the chemical and physiological makeup of organism
23 through direct or indirect consumption,
24
25 *Recognizing* the need for stronger cooperation to address this problem which transcends national borders
26 due to the fact that currents routinely carry plastic litter from one Member States' jurisdiction to another,
27 and marine areas beyond any sole national jurisdiction account for over 60 percent of Earth's ocean
28 surface and over 90% of its volume,
29
30 *Appreciates* in the 1995 Global Program of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from
31 Land-Based Activities for providing the original awareness about the great problem marine plastic and
32 microplastic is doing to our world and innovated by several non-governmental organizations (NGOs),
33
34 *Guided by* Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14 stating the need to conserve and sustainably use the
35 oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development and its target 14.1, which outlines our
36 commitment to prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds by 2025 as emphasized in
37 the Trash Free Water Program (2017),
38
39 *Further guided* by SDG 12 target 12.7 promoting public procurement practices that are sustainable, in
40 accordance with national policies and priorities,
41
42 *Noting with approval* the great success of the 2016 African Marine Waste Network in improving Africa's
43 waste management with a focus on marine plastic pollution and acknowledging the great potential of such
44 a measure for the international fight against marine plastic,
45
46 *Affirming* UNEA resolution 2/5 "Report of the Executive Director on marine plastic debris and
47 microplastics" (2016) which calls for the collection of data to identify key sources for microplastic littering,
48

49 Recalling the General Assembly resolution 60/30 (2005) “Oceans and the Law of the Sea” bringing the
50 issue of marine plastic litter and stressing the importance of prevention in order to protect the fish in the
51 worlds’ oceans,

52
53 *Taking into consideration* the 2016 report *Plastics and Sustainability: A valuation of Environmental*
54 *Benefits, Costs and Opportunities for Continuous Development* outlining the high environmental costs of
55 alternatives to traditional plastics, and the benefits of efficient packaging,

56
57 *Further recognizing* the work of the Global Partnership on Waste Management,

58
59 *Acknowledging* the work and the source of potential financial support of the World Bank Multi Donor
60 Fund, SDG Fund, Green Climate Fund and the Waste Minimization Fund,

61
62 *Recalling* UNEA resolution 3/7 entitled “Marine litter and microplastics” (2017) which convened and ad
63 hoc open-ended expert group to examine the barriers and options for combatting marine plastic litter and
64 microplastic,

65
66 *Noting* with appreciation the work of the aforementioned ad hoc open-ended expert group, highlighting
67 the ‘Option 2’ recommendation to revise and strengthen existing frameworks to combat marine litter,

68
69 *Supporting fully* the *Washington Declaration* (1994) in stressing the need for specialized solutions
70 adapted to the needs for developing Member States and elaborate strategies according to national
71 priorities using existing knowledge, resources, plans and processes,

72
73 *Drawing attention* to the important role played by the World Plastic Council in fostering cooperation
74 between the major private stakeholders to address the environmental impacts of marine litter
75 internationally in line with resolution of the General Assembly resolution 71/312 (2017) titled “Our Ocean,
76 our future: call for action”,

77
78 *Considering* that the steps the private sector has made for sustainability when environmentally friendly
79 alternatives are available at a similar cost and considering that tax credit and subsidies significantly
80 lowers the cost of such alternatives,

81
82 *Emphasizing* the importance of governments implementing comprehensive national policies that facilitate
83 the access to funding for emerging businesses,

84
85 *Underlining* the role of the Honolulu Strategy (2011) as a framework for global efforts to reduce the
86 negative impacts of marine debris, and as a monitoring tool at local, national, regional and global levels
87 for solutions and initiatives directed towards this reduction,

88
89 *Highlighting* the economic opportunities and benefits such as decreasing need for raw goods, creation of
90 new jobs, for existing businesses and industries as well as emerging ones arising from investments in
91 recycling methods;

92
93 1. *Suggests* that UN Environment establish the Marine Plastic Prevention Expert Team (MP-PET) in
94 order to assist Member States in implementing technologies to stop microplastics from entering the
95 seas while also building a financing scheme for all measures by:

96
97 a. Letting UN Environment decide over the final selection of members composing MP-PET;

98
99 b. Taking into consideration experts coming from the private sector, NGOs and academia
100 proposed by Member States interested in contributing to the MP-PET and experts coming
101 from the GPWM while forming the expert team;

102
103 c. Approaching the World Plastic Council and inviting the Member States to engage in a
104 discussion with the aim of fostering private-public-partnerships in the form of incentives

- 105 regarding the environmentally sound production and distribution of single-used plastics such
106 as:
- 107
- 108 i. For producers, potentially including, but not limited to tax credits and subsidies for
109 producing, researching and developing environmentally friendly alternatives;
- 110 ii. For distributors, potentially including, but not limited to tax credits and subsidies for
111 reducing the distribution of single-use plastics and to provide environmentally friendly
112 alternatives;
- 113 iii. For consumers with the aim to expand possibilities to get deposits for returning
114 plastics;
- 115
- 116 d. Having MP-PET take into consideration the reports produced by the ad hoc open-ended
117 expert group on marine plastics and microplastics;
- 118
- 119 e. Starting its work in October 2019, with the basis of operations located in Tel Aviv, Israel, with
120 Israel providing the location and the financing for administrative costs;
- 121
- 122 f. Using technology provided by Members States with Israel making the first contribution in the
123 form of its effluents treatment systems;
- 124
- 125 g. With a special focus on developing Members States for receiving the support of MP-PET;
- 126
- 127 2. *Recommends* the MP-PET, once it is established, organizes a Forum for Lowering Ocean Waste
128 (FLOW), to reduce the production of marine plastic litter and thus reduce the amount of plastic that
129 reaches the ocean; tackling the problem at its source to ensure long-term solutions, FLOW will work
130 by:
- 131
- 132 a. Reducing plastic packaging through a variety of discussions, facilitating knowledge transfer
133 regarding production, with reference to:
- 134
- 135 i. Efficient packaging, which reduces the quantity of plastic used to meet the
136 consumer's needs;
- 137 ii. Alternatives to traditional plastic, such as biodegradable solutions- paying special
138 attention as to whether they are both sustainable and affordable, so as not to bring
139 greater social or environmental damages;
- 140
- 141 b. Working with a variety of stakeholders and major actors whose work and cooperation is
142 essential to bring a sustainable reduction in plastic production, including an invitation to:
- 143
- 144 i. National, regional and local governments, to enact policy changes that specifically
145 address the issue of marine litter, and enhance the global shift to a circular economy
146 through the involvement of both developed and developing Member States;
- 147 ii. Private businesses, such as packaging companies, businesses heavily reliant on
148 plastic packaging, and including industrial organizations through the World Plastics
149 Council, whose input will clarify under which circumstances may occur;
- 150 iii. Scientific advisors, with relevant knowledge regarding how sustainable and
151 innovative packaging solutions can be used to reduce the necessity for traditional
152 plastic packaging;
- 153 iv. NGOs, with interests in achieving sustainability with a special regard to plastic
154 production;
- 155 v. Relevant civil societies organizations and universities to align community interests
156 among those of other stakeholders;
- 157
- 158 c. Kindly asking for funding from the United Nations Environment Fund for the organization of
159 the FLOW forum;

- 160 d. Taking place for the first time in 2020 in the Office of UN Environment in Nairobi, before
161 occurring rotationally, based on a voluntary submission from Member States wishing to host
162 the forum, randomly selected by the Director of UN Environment, guaranteeing that each
163 Member State has an equal opportunity to host FLOW;
164
- 165 3. *Encourages* the MP-PET to identify compromised sectors within Member States to channel the
166 existing funding within the UN Environment by:
167
- 168 a. Suggesting the World Bank Multi Donor Fund, Green Climate Fund, SDG Fund, Waste
169 Minimization Fund, national private actors and governmental and non-governmental entities
170 dealing with the matter as potential investors;
171
- 172 b. Providing information and scientific data on a yearly basis collected by MP-PET regarding the
173 benefits of alternative solutions and practices especially to the existing bodies such as the
174 World Plastic Council and the SDG Fund's Private Sector Advisory Group;
175
- 176 c. Guaranteeing transparency by issuing a triennial report provided by the UN Secretariat as an
177 information source concerning the sustainable use of the funding to the UN Environment and
178 to existing and future investors;
179
- 180 4. *Requests* that the MP-PET, in accordance with the 'Option 2' recommendation of the ad hoc open-
181 ended expert group, to develop a proposal to revise and strengthen the Honolulu Strategy to better
182 address marine plastic litter and microplastics, including but not limited to a new strategic objective
183 focused solely on addressing and monitoring plastic litter across its lifecycle;
184
- 185 5. *Encourages* UN Environment to call on MP-PET to create a survey, focusing on waste networks as a
186 way to greatly improve regional waste management capabilities and to share best practice solutions
187 and further improvements, publishing the results in the next operating report, which then shall be
188 included in the UN Environment *Annual Report* published in 2021.



Code: UNEA/2/1

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Preventing and Reducing Air Pollution to Improve Air Quality Globally

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*

2
3 *Acknowledging* the report by the World Health Organization (WHO) that approximately 7 million people
4 died prematurely every year due to the negative effects of air pollution,

5
6 *Recognizing* that 3.8 million people, specifically women and children, living in developing Member State
7 are dying from illnesses caused by indoor air pollution, according to Household Air Pollution and Health,

8
9 *Recognizing* the joint effort of the WHO, Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), and the United Nations
10 Environment on the creation and implementation of the BreatheLife Campaign,

11
12 *Recalling* the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 13.2 on integrating climate change measures
13 in national policies,

14
15 *Bearing in mind* the inverse relationship between insulation and the widespread burning of wood and coal
16 in Member States residential areas,

17
18 *Taking into account* the immense amount of greenhouse gases polluting the atmosphere,

19
20 *Recalling* the SDG target 13.2 on integrating climate change measures in national policies,

21
22 *Considering* the immense amount of greenhouse gases polluting the atmosphere;

- 23
24 1. *Encourages* UN Environment to promote strategies and initiatives to improve indoor air quality such
25 as:
26
27 a. The Healthy Hoods toolkit, a free online resource which provides design templates for smoke
28 shields made of affordable materials for households that cannot afford to upgrade to a clean
29 cookstove;
30
31 b. Residential air quality monitoring systems;
- 32
33 2. *Encourages* the UN Environment to promote the BreatheLife Campaign which will permit Member
34 States to have a network that they can use to discuss the importance of reducing air pollution on
35 behalf of the wellbeing of their people;
- 36
37 3. *Encourages* Member States to adopt a national policy on motor vehicle exhaust emission standards
38 table which would:
39
40 a. Set emission limits on different vehicle types;
41
42 b. Based on the year of production and the motorization type of the vehicle;
- 43
44 4. *Encourages* UN Environment to establish the Inter-governmental Diesel Particulate Filter Commission
45 (IDPFC) under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), aiming at ensuring
46 universal accessibility to Diesel Particulate Filters by:
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48 a. Inviting highly motorized countries, which lack know-how and financial resources, to request
49 the help of the IDPFC;

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- b. Proposing financing schemes and assist the countries in implementing the measures;
 - c. Receiving financing from both the requesting country and international donations, according to the country's' needs and abilities;
 - d. Inviting Israel to host the IDPFC in Tel Aviv, adding its expertise on diesel filters to the commission's profile;
 - e. Evaluating new technologies to be added to the commission' toolkit to further improve air quality after a period of 2 years;
5. *Recommends* Member States to develop low emission zones worldwide in collaboration with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and Member States' universities in order to reduce particulate matter emission by:
- a. Introducing traffic limited zones in cities by Ministry of Transportation;
 - b. Implementing research groups in universities that are committed to finding alternatives to non-renewable energy sources;
 - c. Approaching industries with large greenhouse gas emissions with alternatives to reduce and minimize air pollution;
6. *Encourages* western pacific countries to develop a regional agreement in which countries can choose from a set of effective solutions and activities specifically targeting air pollution taking into account their financial capacities and resources,
7. *Encourages* the global implementation of innovative technology such as gravity air scrubbers that filter gas exhaust from motorized vehicles before it is emitted into the air and turns carbon into usable ink, which will:
- a. Reduce carbon emissions from cars and traffic congestion;
 - b. Be funded by the new artistic media that will be created by the production of ink along with the sales of:
 - i. Pens and markers;
 - ii. Commissioned paintings and murals created by famous artists world-wide;
 - iii. Clothing and apparel with the paintings and murals printed on them;
 - iv. Be converted in labs that will be established in pre-existing national laboratories in every country.