Issue: To phase out single use plastics by 2030 and reduce the use of all plastics by 75% by 2035 so that any remaining plastics are 100% recyclable.

A Resolution to end plastic pollution and establish an international legally binding instrument

Submitted by India

Noting with concern that the high and rapidly increasing levels of plastic pollution represent a serious environmental problem at a global scale, negatively impacting the environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainable development,

Recognizing that plastic pollution includes microplastics,

Noting with concern the specific impact of plastic pollution on the marine environment,

Noting that plastic pollution, in marine and other environments, can be of a transboundary nature and needs to be tackled, together with its impacts, through a full-life-cycle approach, taking into account national circumstances and capabilities,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, by which the General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recalling United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions on marine plastic litter, microplastics and single use plastics and affirming the urgent need to strengthen global coordination, cooperation and governance to take immediate action towards the long-term elimination of plastic pollution in marine and other environments, and to avoid detriment from plastic pollution to ecosystems and the human activities dependent on them,

Recognizing the wide range of approaches, sustainable alternatives and technologies available to address the full life cycle of plastics, further highlighting the need for enhanced international collaboration to facilitate access to technology, capacity-building, and scientific and technical cooperation, and stressing that there is no single approach,

Underlining the importance of promoting sustainable design of products and materials so that they can be reused, remanufactured or recycled and therefore retained in the economy for as long as possible, along with the resources they are made of, and of minimizing the generation of waste particularly from single use plastics,

Welcoming efforts made by Governments and international organizations, in particular through national, regional and international action plans such as the Osaka Blue Ocean Vision; the Ocean Plastics Charter; the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Framework of Action on Marine Debris and the outcome of the 2021 Ministerial Conference on Marine Litter and Plastic Pollution, and recognizing the need for complementary actions and a coherent and coordinated long-term global vision,

Underlining that further international action is needed by developing an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment,

1. Calls upon Member States to eliminate single use plastics by 2030 and substantially reduce the use of all non recyclable plastic products to fulfil the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by:

    (a) Promoting sustainable production and consumption of plastics through, among other things, product design and environmentally sound waste management, including through resource efficiency and circular economy approaches;

(b) Promoting national and international cooperative measures to reduce plastic pollution in the marine environment, including existing plastic pollution;

(c) Developing, implementing and updating national action plans reflecting country-driven approaches to work towards the prevention, reduction and elimination of plastic pollution, and to support regional and international cooperation;

(d) Increasing knowledge through awareness-raising, education and the exchange of information;

(e) Encouraging action by all stakeholders, including the private sector, and to promote cooperation at the local, national, regional and global levels;

(f) Specifying arrangements for capacity-building and technical assistance, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, and financial assistance, recognizing that the effective implementation of some legal obligations under the instrument will depend on the availability of capacity-building and adequate financial and technical assistance;

(g) Promoting research into and development of sustainable, affordable, innovative and cost-efficient approaches;

2. Acknowledges that some legal obligations arising out of a SWWAPP will require capacity-building and technical and financial assistance in order to be effectively implemented by developing countries and countries with economies in transition, as such we therefore further request that all Member States institute a Plastic Tax of 10% on all single use plastic products and containers and that all revenues from these national taxes are given to the UN for the purpose of increasing the needed investments in the implementation of binding policies and practices that aim to eliminate plastic pollution and specifically the phasing out of single use plastic products by forming a sub-committee called Strategies for a World Without Any Plastic Pollution (SWWAPP) to which all member states will be party to with the ambition of completing its work by the end of 2035;

3. Requests that SWWAPP, as a priority, is to provide the necessary financial and technical support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition from the revenues raised internationally by the Plastics Tax to allow for their effective participation in the aims of this resolution;

4. Also decides that SWWAPP is to consider the following:

   (a) Obligations, measures and approaches in supporting the achievement of the objectives of this resolution;
   (b) The best available science, traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems;
   (c) The possibility of a mechanism to provide policy-relevant scientific and socioeconomic information and assessment related to plastic pollution;

5. Demands the imposition of tariffs for member states that do not meet the targets defined in this resolution;

6. Further demands fines, penalties and barring from tendering for local and national government contracts for public and private companies who continue to produce or utilise single use plastic products beyond 2030 and non recyclable plastics beyond 2035;

7. Requests that SWWAPP supports and advances the work of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter, while strengthening scientific, technical and technological knowledge with regard to plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, on methodologies for monitoring, and sharing available scientific and other relevant data and information;

8. Calls upon all Member States to continue and step up activities, and adopt measures, to combat plastic pollution, including measures related to sustainable consumption and production, which may include circular economy approaches, and to develop and implement national action plans, while fostering international action and initiatives under national regulatory frameworks, and, on a voluntary basis, to provide statistical information on the environmentally sound management of plastic waste, as appropriate, taking into account national circumstances;