



## HAC Member States Joint Statement INC-1

On the first meeting of Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, we the Ministers of the High Ambition Coalition to End Plastic Pollution, are combining efforts to send a united message to step up global ambition to end plastic pollution by 2040.

*We, the Ministers of the High Ambition Coalition,*

*Deeply concerned* that 22 million tonnes of plastic pollution leaks into the environment every year, and this estimate is projected to double by 2060, while over 140 million tonnes of plastic waste has already accumulated in rivers, lakes and the oceans over the last 70 years<sup>1</sup>.

*Alarmed* by the accelerated growth of plastic production and use globally, with plastic consumption having quadrupled over the past 30 years and is set to triple by 2060 if we continue along the same path<sup>2</sup>.

*Underline* that plastic pollution, including microplastics, contributes to the triple planetary crisis and already has impacts on ecosystems and biodiversity as well as the climate and human health<sup>3</sup>.

*Recognize* that national and regional approaches together with several voluntary international initiatives, while important, have been insufficient to address the global problem of plastic pollution<sup>4</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup> OECD (2022): Global Plastic Outlook – Policy Scenarios to 2060.

<sup>2</sup> OECD (2022): Global Plastic Outlook – Policy Scenarios to 2060.

<sup>3</sup> UNEP (2022): Plastics science. UNEP/PP/INC.1/7

<sup>4</sup> SystemIQ & Pew Charitable Trust (2020): Breaking the plastic wave; Ellen MacArthur Foundation Global Commitment Progress Report 2022.

*We therefore,*

*Call for* the establishment of an ambitious and effective international legally binding instrument to protect human health and the environment from plastic pollution with a view to end plastic pollution by 2040.

*Recognize* the imperative to develop common international and binding obligations and control measures, across the full lifecycle of plastics while reflecting the precautionary approach, waste hierarchy and the polluter-pays principle, to restrain plastic consumption and production to sustainable levels, and enable a circular economy for plastics that protects the environment and human health while achieving environmentally sound management and recycling of plastic waste.

*Agree to* work towards an international treaty that will eliminate problematic plastics, substances and additives, including by bans and restrictions; develop global sustainability criteria and standards for plastics; set global baselines and targets for sustainability throughout the life-cycle of plastics; ensure transparency in the value chain of plastics, including for material and chemical composition throughout the life-cycle of plastics; establish mechanisms for strengthening commitments, targets and controls over time; implement monitoring and reporting at each stage through the lifecycle of plastics; and facilitate effective technical and financial assistance as well as scientific and socio-economic assessments.

*Acknowledge* the call from the business sector to develop a comprehensive and coordinated policy framework to enable more conducive conditions for investments in infrastructure, innovation and skills worldwide that will facilitate a transition to a more circular economy globally.

*Welcome* the establishment of the Business Coalition for a Global Plastics Treaty and its vision statement.

*Highlight* the particular cross-cutting challenges of addressing microplastics and hazardous chemicals in the plastics value chain.

*Recognize* that a key to success for multilateral environmental agreements is early and effective involvement of the business and scientific communities, civil society and all relevant stakeholders.

*Underlining* the need to facilitate effective technical and financial assistance, scientific and socio-economic assessments.

*Stress* the importance of establishing a clear and effective process for the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee at its first Meeting in Punta Del Este in Uruguay 28. November to 2 December 2022, in order to conclude its work by the end of 2024, including by:

- a. Establishing a Bureau, including Chair and Rapporteur.
- b. Adopting the Rules of Procedures for the intergovernmental negotiating committee on plastic pollution
- c. Initiating a structured discussion on the scope, potential objectives, general obligations and control measures for the international instrument.

- d. Providing clear guidance to the Bureau and Secretariat on clustering and sequencing the committee's work.
- e. Requesting the Secretariat to prepare options for general obligations and control measures across the full life cycle based on initial discussions at INC-1 and written submissions from Member States and Stakeholders to inform discussions at INC-2.
- f. Providing clear guidance to the Bureau and Secretariat on the modalities for multistakeholder engagement in the INC process.

*Encourage* all Members States to demonstrate a high level of ambition in the upcoming meetings of the Intergovernmental Negotiation Committee.

*Call upon* all Member States and Stakeholders to take immediate actions to reduce plastic pollution and take preparatory steps to strengthen domestic policy approaches, including for national action plans, in anticipation of the international treaty on plastic pollution.

### **Members of the High Ambition Coalition to End Plastic Pollution**

Australia	France	Peru
Austria	Georgia	Portugal
Azerbaijan	Germany	Republic of Korea
Belgium	Ghana	Rwanda
Burkina Faso	Greenland	Senegal
Cabo Verde	Iceland	Seychelles
Canada	Ireland	Slovenia
Chile	Jordan	Sweden
Colombia	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Costa Rica	Mali	United Arab Emirates
Denmark	Monaco	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Dominican Republic	Netherlands	Ireland
Ecuador	New Zealand	Uruguay
European Union	Norway	
Finland	Panama	