

WPC Support a Global Agreement to Address Plastic Pollution

The World Plastics Council (WPC) and the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) recognize the need for global action to prevent leakage of plastic into the environment and achieve universal access to waste collection. Plastic products should be valued for their contribution to achieving the UN [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs) and sustainably produced, used, and recovered in a circular economy.

Plastics are Essential to Achieving Sustainability and Climate Goals

Plastics are vital to addressing society's largest challenges, including improving medical outcomes, access to fresh and healthy foods, hygiene and sanitation, modern communication, transportation systems, infrastructure, and employment. For example, through lightweighting cars and insulating buildings, plastics reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. These benefits are jeopardized if plastic waste pollutes our environment.

Plastic Industry Support for Global Agreement

ICCA and the WPC support a new global agreement with a targeted goal to ensure access to proper waste management, eliminate leakage of plastic into the ocean, and promote circularity.

5 Key Elements for a Global Framework

1. Governments Commit to Eliminate Leakage and Establish National Action Plans: Adopt the G20's 2050 Osaka Blue Ocean Vision and allow countries flexibility to develop regionally appropriate plans to eliminate plastic waste leakage based on local circumstances and supported by enabling policies.
2. Harmonized Definitions & Reporting: Develop, with industry input, globally harmonized definitions and reporting metrics on plastics and plastic waste, using validated and harmonized methodologies
3. Guidance to Improve Product Design: Develop global guidance, with industry input, on product design, recycled content, and resources efficiency optimization
4. Waste Management Capacity Building and Technology Deployment: Ensure access and improve waste management capacity. Support chemical recycling technology, complementing mechanical recycling, to increase circularity of plastics
5. Achieve Climate Goals: Support life cycle analysis to evaluate impacts of plastics and alternatives

Countries Need Domestic Flexibility to Achieve Global Goals:

- Global Plastics Regulations: Flexibility is important for countries to adapt their regulatory framework and prevent adverse environmental, health, and socioeconomic impacts.
- Production Limits: Globally mandated controls should not be imposed on production and consumption of plastics or plastic products. Impacts of proposed measures must be assessed to reduce regrettable substitutions.