



HMDC Model United Nations Position Papers

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems

Countries: Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Belize, Brazil, Brazil, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Cuba, Germany, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Myanmar, Namibia, New Zealand, Peru, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Uruguay, Vietnam.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Republic of Angola

According to the United Nations, at least 800 species worldwide are affected by marine debris, and 80 percent of that litter is plastic. It is estimated that up to 13 million metric tons of plastic are in the ocean each year. If we do not immediately address this pressing issue, we allow plastic pollution to continue threatening our ecosystems and biodiversity.

As a member state deeply affected by this environmental crisis, the Republic of Angola firmly believes that the international community must collaborate to develop comprehensive strategies and implement effective measures to combat plastic pollution.

The issue of plastic pollution is of paramount importance to the Republic of Angola, as it directly impacts the health of our marine ecosystems, the livelihoods of coastal communities, our people, and the overall sustainability of our development efforts. We must begin gradually reducing our reliance on plastic products for the health of our environment and people.

In 2017, UNEP launched the Clean Seas campaign, aiming to engage governments, businesses, and individuals to reduce marine litter, particularly from plastics. The campaign has secured commitments from over 60 countries, including significant pledges to reduce plastic waste. The UNEP also facilitates the Global Partnership on Marine Litter, which brings together governments, businesses, academia, and civil society to address marine litter, including plastics. The International Coastal Cleanup, supported by GPML, is one of the world's largest volunteer efforts to clean up waterways and collect data on marine debris. In 2020, despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, volunteers from around the world removed nearly 5 million pounds of trash from beaches and waterways.

The Republic of Angola is firmly committed to resolving plastic pollution and has taken significant steps to address this issue. In 2019, the Ministry of Environment promoted the first national campaign of environmental awareness and education, called "Plástico Zero". From January 5 to September 31, 2021, the Republic of Angola implemented a pilot project called "Angola without plastic" financed by the European Union and carried out in collaboration with EcoAngola. The project "Angola without plastic" was part of an awareness-raising campaign on the responsible consumption of single-use plastic, particularly aimed at creating a dialogue between the main parties involved in the trade. Furthermore, In 2023, Angola formed a working group to draft a national plan to ban plastics to address environmental degradation and regulate the production and use of non-biodegradable products.

However, national efforts alone will not be sufficient. The Republic of Angola calls for the establishment of a global fund to support developing countries in their efforts to reduce plastic pollution by focusing on improving waste management infrastructure, promoting innovation for sustainable alternatives, and raising public awareness. Improving infrastructure involves financing projects to build and upgrade waste management systems, including recycling facilities, waste collection services, and waste-to-energy plants. By enhancing these infrastructures, countries can better manage plastic waste and prevent it from entering our ecosystems.

As nations move away from plastic products, the Republic of Angola proposes that nations should endorse funds for the innovation of sustainable and affordable alternatives. These funds should support research and development of alternative materials that are biodegradable or more environmentally friendly than conventional plastics. This includes natural fiber composites, biodegradable polymers, and other innovative materials that can replace common plastic products. Additionally, it is crucial that we develop and enforce international standards for what constitutes a biodegradable and sustainable material. This is to ensure that products labeled as biodegradable or environmentally friendly truly break down in natural environments, do not leave harmful residues, and don't threaten the environment during their production. Angola calls for regulations on the production and use of non biodegradable products such as plastics to mitigate the effects of plastic on the health of our people, our economy, and to address the root cause of the issue. Furthermore, the Republic of Angola also proposes the creation of a legally

binding international agreement on plastic pollution, setting clear targets and timelines for the reduction and eventual elimination of single-use plastics. The Republic of Angola believes that it would be beneficial to create systems to monitor progress and evaluate the effectiveness of implemented solutions. Countries should regularly report their achievements and challenges during this process, allowing for transparency and better collaboration. This would also confirm that no nation is left behind in their efforts to combat plastic pollution. Finally, the Republic of Angola emphasizes the importance of collaborative efforts involving governments, industries, civil society organizations, and local communities to effectively address this global challenge.

Every day, plastic continues to enter our ecosystem and threaten the health of both our people, and our biodiversity. By implementing these solutions, nations can make significant strides in combating this issue and safeguarding the health of our planet for future generations. It is vital that nations must increase efforts in battling plastic pollution.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Argentine Republic

Plastic Pollution is an important global issue because it can choke marine wildlife, damage soil, poison groundwater, and can cause serious health impacts. I, delegate Baileywick from Argentina and our people have done a lot for plastic pollution, like banning disposable plastic bags in supermarkets and hypermarkets. We have also progressively banned disposable plastic straws as starting from May 23, 2019 in restaurants, dance halls, 4- and 5- star hotels, shopping centers and related businesses. Also, plastic pollution is found on shorelines across Argentina and animals like whales and sea turtles wash up on land because they become entangled in macroplastics, which can lead to suffocation, strangulation, and even mortality. What Argentina is doing now has led to a reduced generation of 77 tons of waste per year of material that does not have a recycling market, which means that other countries should start doing the same. Then we will reduce a lot of plastic.

Another reason why we should all help address the problem of plastic pollution is because people in Buenos Aires, Argentina that live close to the Matanza Landfill say that there are illegal mountains of garbage more than twenty meters and that it is affecting their water and making their air smoggy. Containing one of the most polluted rivers in the world, Buenos Aires is severely polluted by industrial waste that flows into the waterways, delivering toxic waste and harmful bacteria to the rivers. As one of the most polluted places, the Matanza Landfill also smells really bad and brings harmful gasses into the air and people who breathe that air get sick and there's an estimated 400 deaths because of the air.

Because the case of plastic pollution has gotten so out of control, we have come up with some solution that might help plastic pollution. I think the best solution to plastic pollution is to let people pay a fine of \$20 if they throw garbage on the floor. My solution will help because it is less likely for people to throw garbage on the ground. Another solution I think that would definitely help is banning plastics gradually because by how much garbage there is in the ocean, I can see that we probably use millions of pieces of garbage each day, so we won't have time to make that many jute bags or produce them all overnight.

In conclusion, these are the reasons why we think plastic pollution is harmful for the world. We believe, with all the efforts together, we are going to solve plastic pollution.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: People's Republic of Bangladesh

Plastics are polluting our planet and choking our ocean, harming human health, and damaging ecosystems vital to our livelihoods. Plastic pollution is a global problem. Every year 19-23 million tonnes of plastic waste leaks into aquatic ecosystems, polluting lakes, rivers and seas. Plastic pollution can alter habitats and natural processes, reducing ecosystems' ability to adapt to climate change, directly affecting millions of people's livelihoods, food production capabilities and social well-being.

In 2002, Bangladesh became the first country to ban single-use plastic bags, which has significantly reduced plastic waste. However, plastic pollution has actually gotten worse since then. In 2020, a High Court order was issued to ban single-use plastic in coastal areas and in all hotels and motels across the country. In March 2022, the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) unanimously approved a resolution to develop an international, legally binding agreement to end plastic pollution by the end of 2024.

Banning plastic pollution can reduce the amount of plastic that enters the environment and decrease environmental health risks. Plastic bags, straws, utensils, foam cups, and containers can pollute the environment for hundreds of years, even after being thrown away. Littered plastic bags and films can be ingested by marine animals, causing more deaths than any other type of plastic. The production, use, and disposal of single-use plastic bags also releases water and air pollution. So, it is important to combating it.

We can help keep plastic out of the ocean and other waterways by participating in local trash cleanups. Reduce plastic use. The more we can prevent plastic from becoming waste in the first place, the less we'll have to clean up later, so tackling this issue at the source has big benefits.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Belize

Hook: According to surfers against sewage 12 million tonnes of plastic finds its way into the ocean every single year.

Topic: The topic “addressing plastic pollution for sustainable development” is about how we can help the environment, and it is very important because it will affect the whole world and should be noticed by the economic and social council.

Reaction: I’m a member in this nation that’s suffering from this problem, we urgently want the Union to help us about this issue. It has been a huge problem for the whole world too. The micro plastic is entering the food chain and in the ocean, harming the natural environment, the drainage, and water ways in Belize.

Call to Action: This is a huge problem to the Earth, Belize is greatly affected, and it will be nice if we can import less single used plastics. We can establish a goal with countries that have similar problems with my country.

Context (Issue): Plastic pollution is a huge problem for Belize, like what I’ve said, they’re effecting the environment and our society. A assessment the Department of Environment founded in 2017, in the time of 3 years, Belize imported 200 million pieces of plastic, and 52 million of Styrofoam & plastic food containers.

International: The Belize government approved the Implementation Strategy and Action Plan to Phase-out Plastics and Styrofoam, transitioning to green products that doesn’t hurt the environment, and promoting recycle on 10 July 2018.

Country’s Policy: The group of Implementation Strategy and Action Plan to Phase-out Plastics and Styrofoam, transition to green products, are carried by the Plastics and Styrofoam Task force.

Proposed Solutions: Some ideas my country thought about is we can reduce the amount of single use plastics, being specific, plastic bags. We can replace them with cotton or paper bags that are more environment friendly. People can try reuse plastic while they can and also try recycle and use less plastic. Without the great needs of people in this country, we can easily reduce the number of plastic used.

Clarification Statement for Brazil's Position Papers

Committee: United Nations Environmental Programme
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Federative Republic of Brazil

The Federative Republic of Brazil (Brazil) is represented by three delegates for this committee. The priority environmental policy of our country calls for saving the Amazon River Basin (ARB). The crisis of ARB destruction represents the most significant environmental threat of global climate change. While Brazil recognizes that plastic pollution is a significant environmental issue; our country chooses a policy of recycling by a population of 1 million Brazilian waste pickers to gather plastic before it enters waterways.

Since saving rain forests around the world requires substantial financing (\$250 billion), developing countries rely on grants from developed countries. Since Brazil cannot fully trust other nations to protect our country, our national policy requires continued development of oil resources and increased production of plastic products, thus providing the needed capital for environmental and societal issues.

IMPORTANT: The position papers of Brazil's delegates will support this policy.

Committee: United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Federative Republic of Brazil

Background:

Oil production is a very important part of the economy in Brazil because of Brazil want to make more money by selling oil and coffee, so we can make more money to save the Amazon. Second, if we can make a lot of money, then we can make more people to stop their jobs, we will give you the money, and you will stop your job, and do something that is good for the environment, for example trash picker.

Introduction:

Did you know that 40% of the remaining rain forest is in Brazil? 18% of the forest has been destroyed by human beings. If it reaches 25% it is the highest crisis point! And the Amazon will be smaller than, so we will get less and less trees than before.

Past International Action:

Brazil has also been the world's largest exporter of coffee for already 150 years! Today, Brazil has a third of the world's coffee, though a 100 years ago it makes about 80 per cent of the world's coffee traders who came from the countries that speak Portuguese in the 16th century to trade with the Indians. Because when they sell their coffee, they will earn a lot of money to protect the Amazon.

Possible Solution:

Brazil is the world's fifth biggest plastic producer, it will produce 1 million plastic products in one minute, but how can we protect plastic production in Brazil? Maybe we should tell the loggers and gold miners to stop their business. We will give you money, you can do something about helping the environment. And also, if we do that, then we will help the Amazon to become bigger and bigger.

Committee: United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Federative Republic of Brazil

Background:

Brazil wants to change it, because if poor people doesn't have a job, this means they don't have a chance to study, then they don't have a chance to get a job, or to earn money. The definition of the topic is to give poor people a job so they can make some money. The topic takes place in Brazil. All the people of the world involved. It affects 1,000,000 people. Brazil, and in a way to give them a job named "waste picker", so they can earn money and also save ARB. This topic is important because poor people will make money, the world would recycle more, all countries are with rain forests, environment will be better.

Past International Action:

Sonia Dias is a waste specialist for Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO) and she said... "Our research found that 30% of waste pickers reported they had not received any type of support from the government, civil society or the private sector to help cope with climate events. Of those who recalled receiving support, this primarily came from the private sector (34%), followed by city government (31%) and NGOs (23%)." They help them in a different way: give them a job called "waste picker", so they can earn money. There aren't any major Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) working on this topic.

Country Policy:

The types of policies my country should want the UN to adopt on this topic is to create more "waste picker" jobs so people can make more money, also help world to recycle more, protect the Amazon River Basin, so all countries with rain forests, help the world stopping climate change, reduce climate change 40% of rain forest 25% disappearing.

Possible Solutions:

Brazil wants to have more export and import go out of Brazil. Working with other countries to give Brazil \$25,000,000,000 so Brazil has money to protect Amazon River Basin. My ideas would work because: Brazil doesn't have money, but they have many local products, not just oil, so once they sell what they have to make money, once they have money, they can protect ARB, climate change will not happen. Brazil want the other countries to give to give all the country which have rain forest 250,000,000,000\$ for protect the rain forest.

Committee: United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)

Topic: My country policy is plastic pollution

Country: Federative Republic of Brazil

Background:

My topic is plastic pollution; it means in Brazil there are many plastics wastes in there, and they are putting this trash into the ocean and the forest, so, Brazil's president Lula de Silva said we need to recycle more. And one man called Jackson in Mumbai, India, said we are nearly at the halfway process now, but he is still walking on a full of waste materials railway. there are some indigenous people also came into the Brazil on April 22 in 2024, and they are gathered around at the Brazil's capital city, and they are saying was they want a decision on land in Brazil.

Past International Action:

Every day two thousand trash truck plastic are throwing into the ocean and the forest; some people even eat tiny bit of plastic in their foods, because some fish eat it and the cooker didn't clean the fish carefully. So, Lula has some resolutions like they are having waste pickers to pick up the trash and then recycle it or use to ink some recycle sign on each plastic.

Country Policy:

My topic impacts the country that it causes the ARB, if there are more plastic coming and it still be wasted then the ARB will be less and less, then if the ARB have no more, then the oxygen we breathe also will be no more, so it is very important to tell Brazil's people that.

Possible Solution:

We can have more waste picker and they can help people to get the trash and put it in to the recycle bin, also we can use other thing instead of plastic, like the cotton, wooden, glass and so on things to make a spoon. Let the Brazil president to get money to save us. If not Brazil's people also will be less and less.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Republic of Cameroon

Plastic pollution is a critical environmental issue that poses significant threats to global ecosystems. According to the United Nations, “every day, the equivalent of over 2,000 garbage trucks full of plastic are dumped into our oceans, rivers and lakes. As a result, plastic pollution is set to triple by 2060 if no action is taken.” Furthermore, according to the UNEP, “Around the world, one million plastic bottles are purchased every minute, while up to five trillion plastic bags are used worldwide every year.” Plastic pollution affects terrestrial and marine environments, endangers wildlife, and disrupts human health and economies. The Republic of Cameroon, with its diverse ecosystems and rich natural resources, is particularly vulnerable to the detrimental impacts of plastic waste. Addressing plastic pollution is essential to safeguard these ecosystems and ensure sustainable development.

There has been numerous past as well as ongoing efforts to stop and reduce plastic pollution. For example, The Clean Seas Campaign launched by the UNEP in 2017 aims to engage governments, the general public, and the private sector in the fight against marine plastic pollution. It promotes policies to reduce the use of single-use plastics, encourages recycling, and raises awareness about the impacts of plastic pollution. Furthermore, The United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) has also passed several resolutions that address plastic pollution. Resolution 4/6 passed in 2019, for example, focuses on addressing single-use plastic products pollution, encouraging member states to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, and enhancing waste management systems.

Cameroon has been dealing with plastic pollution for years, producing around 600,000 tonnes of plastic waste annually. Efforts to combat plastic pollution in Cameroon have been ongoing. In 2014, Cameroon implemented a ban on non-biodegradable plastic bags, a significant step towards reducing plastic waste. However, enforcement challenges and the continued use of plastic bags prompts the need for more comprehensive and effective strategies. Cameroon recognizes the importance of international cooperation and learning from global best practices to enhance its efforts in combating plastic pollution. The Republic of Cameroon supports the creation of strong international frameworks and partnerships to address plastic pollution. Key international agreements, such as the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, and regional initiatives, like the African Union's African Waste Management Outlook, provide crucial platforms for collaboration.

Cameroon advocates for the development and implementation of policies that promote sustainable production and consumption patterns, support waste reduction, and encourage recycling and reuse. To address the problem of plastic pollution around the world as well as in Cameroon, The Republic of Cameroon proposes a plan that strengthens legislation and enforcement. As proven by Cameroon's failed plastic ban in 2014, strong enforcement and legislation is key to actually reduce plastic pollution around the world. The United Nations can play a vital role in supporting member states, including Cameroon, by providing guidance, resources, and a framework for developing and implementing effective policies. The UN can assist in several ways. The UN, through UNEP and other relevant bodies, can provide technical assistance to help Cameroon draft and implement robust environmental legislation. This includes sharing best practices from other countries and providing legal expertise. Furthermore, through various UN programs and partnerships, financial support can be provided to help Cameroon develop the necessary infrastructure and resources for waste management and law enforcement.

Committee Name: Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
Topic Title: Addressing Plastic Pollution for Sustainable Development
Country: Canada

According to Next Generation Science, "Plastics do not biodegrade quickly, some types of plastic can take at least 400 years persisting in the environment." Plastic pollution has become one of the most pressing environmental issues. Animals are suffering and dying, and their habitats are being destroyed. The topic of 'Addressing Plastic Pollution for Sustainable Development' is of utmost importance and must be urgently addressed by the Economic and Social Council. The impact of plastic pollution on wildlife demands immediate attention. Canada believes the international community must collaborate to develop comprehensive strategies to combat plastic pollution. Canada looks forward to actively engaging in these crucial discussions at the upcoming Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) meeting, sharing its experiences, and working collaboratively with other member states for a more sustainable future.

The issue of plastic pollution is important to Canada. In October 2020, the Government of Canada released a science assessment of plastic pollution. The assessment found that over three million tonnes of plastics were discarded as waste in Canada, and only 9% were recycled. Plastic waste burdens the economy, representing a \$7.8 billion lost opportunity. When plastic leaks into the environment, it pollutes our rivers, lakes, and oceans, harming wildlife, and generating microplastics in the water we use and drink. According to National Geographic, "Every year, about 8 million tons of plastic waste escapes into the oceans from coastal nations. Nearly 700 species, including endangered animals, are known to have been affected by plastics." According to European Union (EU) policy, the EU published the EU Plastic Strategy in 2018. It aims to transform plastic product design, production, use, and recycling. The goals also include reducing marine litter and dependence on imported fossil fuels. In addition to the United States, U.S. is acting domestically and internationally to address the plastic challenge. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published the National Recycling Strategy in 2021. The strategy identifies the objectives and the actions to create a stronger and more effective solid waste recycling system. The U.S. EPA also released the Sustainable Materials Management Program to analyze the trends of waste generation, recycling, material reuse and waste reduction. Nationally, the United Nations Environment Assembly focuses on ending plastic pollution through various policy interventions. It includes addressing plastic waste with regulations, collective responsibilities in plastic reduction, concerns in waste management and collection, enhancing collection efforts through education, and the importance of technology to end plastic pollution. The Government of Canada pursues actions to reduce the amounts of macroplastics and microplastics that end up in the environment. On October 7, 2020, Environment and Climate Change Canada announced the goal of zero plastic waste by 2030. In June 2022, the Government of Canada published the Single-use Plastics Prohibition Regulations. The regulations prohibit the manufacturing, importing and selling of the six categories of single-use plastic items: checkout bags, cutlery, foodservice ware made from or containing problematic plastics, ring carriers, stir sticks, and straws.

Today, Canada hopes to persuade you that the best solution to global plastic pollution is to ban single-use plastic products. Stopping the use of single-use plastic is most likely to solve plastic pollution because it will reduce the total production of plastics. According to the Government of Canada, " Only 9 percent of Canada's plastic waste is recycled while the rest ends up in landfills, waste-to-energy facilities, or the environment." Stopping the use of single-use plastic products will keep plastics in the economy and out of the environment. Canada has a comprehensive plan to address plastic waste. The plan includes the government providing a dedicated fund to learn more about the impacts of plastic pollution on our natural environment and health, creating the Federal Plastics Registry to compel plastic producers. The Regulations will be implemented on a staggered timeline to enable the industry to adapt to the changes. The government's commitment will support local businesses and organizations in developing innovative solutions to plastic pollution. Canada continues this leadership role by encouraging other countries to adopt the resolutions and reduce plastic waste together.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Republic of Cuba

Plastic pollution is the largest global threat to the ecosystem, according to the report of Havana times, each year there are 10-20 million tons of plastic ends up in the ocean, killing more about 100,000 marine mammals and over a million seabirds. Now the world is full of polluted plastic and a large part of the ocean life is also close to extinction which make many coastal countries arising the serious ecosystem crisis. According to the Ellen MacArthur Foundation and the World Economic Forum, if the situation continues to worsen by 2050, the number of plastic in the ocean will be more than the fishes. The Cuba recognizes that addressing plastic pollution for developing country is urgent and significantly important.

There are 5 trillion plastic particles that floating around the world oceans and this number is now continuing to increase fast. Additionally, 70% to 85% of marine litter in the Caribbean Sea comes for land, and most of it consists plastics. The WWF has emphasized that more than 700 marine species are now threatened by plastic pollution. Most of these species died because they choke in the shards of plastic, the chemicals in plastic such as petroleum and bisphenol are resulted to the death of many marine species. As the plastic is choked, these toxic chemicals are released and absorbed into the body tissue. Overtime it will affect their fertility rate and damage the immune system. As such, those species feeding on plastic are breeding less and raising strongly vulnerable to diseases and infections, then resulting in population decline.

In February 2017, the united nation launched a new campaign called "clean seas", it advocated for the raise public awareness and promoted action to protect the marine life. 175 nations agree to develop a legally binding agreement on plastic pollution by 2024, promoting a major step to stopping plastic pollution. Since 2014, IUCN has been combating the affect of the plastics global problem, and a focus on the marine environment. Developing countries are now arguing about the common and difference responsibility and request the financing and technical help for the future global plastics treaty. According to undp.org, "there is a general consensus that producers should pay for the cost of ending plastic pollution and ensure circularity of products they produce." UNEP and most of the member states hope that plastic pollution will materialize before the end of 2024.

Cuba is now participating the second session negotiations on an international treaty about combating plastic pollution and paying close attention to the issues and works on the response to the1 pressing challenge, shared in the next discussions organized at UNESCO headquarters by the Environmental program of the United Nations. According to delegate Alvarez, general director of the office for regulation and environmental security of Cuba's Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment, Cuba is dedicated to recognize the problem and the need to act. The proposals would require to create a national plan to reduce the use of disposable of plastics and optimize the efficiency of waste management and recycling processes. The Cuban specialist added that the vision of Cuba is insisted on the scientific endorsement of the measures and the important of supporting developing countries with means of implementation, including the technology transfer to developing countries. To address plastic pollution effectively, Cuba encourage cooperation between international community.

Now is starting to point out that one of the objectives is to reduce the release of such waste in the environment, for which a technological change is essential. Cuba believed that stop using single use plastic which could have the greatest impact on global pollution. Due to the difficulties in their recycling, the toxic of some substance and the high emissions of greenhouses gases that they cause throughout their production process.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Federal Republic of Germany

Do you know that the weight of plastic in the ocean will be as much as the weight of fish by 2050? The topic of 'Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems' is of utmost importance and must be urgently addressed by the United Nations Environment Programme. As a member nation affected by this environmental crisis, the Federal Republic of Germany firmly believes that the international community must collaborate to develop comprehensive strategies and implement effective measures to combat plastic pollution. German looks forward to actively engaging in these crucial discussions at the upcoming ECOSOC meeting, sharing its experiences, and working alongside other member states to forge a path towards a more sustainable future.

The issue of plastic pollution is of paramount importance to the Federal Republic of Germany, as it affects our land and marine ecosystems, damages animal and plant life, and poses risks to human health. For example, in the Baltic Sea, plastic litter covers 40% of the sea bed and 70% of its beaches. The North Sea also faces plastic pollution challenges. There have been a lot of international actions to combat the plastic pollution challenges. In 2017, the United Nations launched the Clean Seas campaign to raise awareness and promote action against marine plastic pollution. In 2022, the UN Environment Assembly agreed to develop a legally binding treaty by 2024 that regulates the entire lifecycle of plastics, from production to use, recycling, and proper disposal as waste. Germany has taken significant steps to combat plastic pollution. In 2018, Germany announced a five-point plan to reduce plastic waste, including reducing excess plastic products, promoting environmentally friendly packaging, encouraging recycling, and minimizing plastics in bio-waste. In 2022, Germany also announced the new Single Use Plastic Fund Act, requiring plastic manufacturers to contribute to the costs of plastic waste clean-up. Companies will pay a levy into the Single-Use Plastics Fund, which is managed by the German Environment Agency and administered via the digital platform DIVID. The platform will enable UBA to digitally process all registrations and payments made by manufacturers subject to the levy and to distribute the funds to cities and communities.

The Federal Republic of Germany calls for international collaboration to end plastic pollution on a global scale. Germany proposes to contribute to United Nations Environment Programme, who will carry out environmental cleaning programs, such as Clean Seas and Beaches campaign. The Federal Republic of Germany also advocates for a comprehensive approach that considers the entire lifecycle of plastics, from reducing demand to extending producers' responsibility and encouraging recycling.

Committee: Social and Economic Council

Topic: Addressing Plastic Pollution

Country: Republic of Indonesia

According to the UN Social and Economy Council, plastic pollution is one of the most harmful problems now. A recent study shows the 10 top-ranked rivers transport 88–95% of the global load into the sea. Eight of them in Asia. A 2018 study by the Indonesian Institute of Science (LIPI) found that plastic waste leakage from Indonesia into the ocean reached between 0.27 to 0.59 million tones per year. Currently 81% of waste in Indonesia is unsorted; making it difficult to recycle, causing plastic waste to end up in landfills or leak into the ocean instead. According to the World Bank's Indonesia Marine Debris Hotspots Rapid Assessment, 20% of plastic waste in Indonesia is believed to end up in rivers and coastal waters. UN Social and Economic Council states that plastic pollution is a forever problem. Access to sanitation is also a problem in Indonesia. People lack safe water to drink. Indonesia ranked second globally as a major contributor to plastic waste in 2019, behind China. Indonesia has a lot of waste problems, but that is also a problem we can solve.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published the National Recycling Strategy November 2021 and reaffirmed the goal to increase the U.S. recycling rate to 50 percent by 2030. The Strategy identifies strategic objectives and actions needed to create a stronger, more resilient, and cost-effective U.S. municipal solid waste recycling system. Recycling has been an important component of the EPA's decades-long efforts to implement the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and more recent efforts to pursue a Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) approach, which aims to reduce the environmental impacts of materials across their lifecycle.

Indonesia is suffering from problems caused by plastic pollution. We must recycle since we need to consistently use the plastics and also not making waste go into the water. This will be a huge benefit for us. Letting everybody have safe and secure water is a part of recycling. Last but not least, we can increase the safety and create better, more sustainable, and renewable plastics out of them.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)

Plastic pollution is a serious global environmental issue, affecting ecosystems, wildlife, and human health. My country, Ivory Coast, is just similar to many other countries, faces great challenges in managing plastic pollution. I will talk about the current situation of plastic pollution in Ivory Coast, previous international actions taken, our efforts in reducing plastic pollution, and potential improvements for more effective solutions.

Plastic pollution is a significant environmental problem. Millions of tons of plastic waste is poured into oceans, rivers, and other places in nature annually. In Ivory Coast, the rapid increase of plastic usage has come over the ability of waste management. This can lead to a widespread pollution. This will not only harm marine and inland life but also brings serious health risks to the population through the polluted food and water sources.

The international community has realized the seriousness of plastic pollution and has taken various steps to solve it. These steps include the following actions. First, according to "The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)", 'through initiatives such as the Clean Seas campaign, UNEP aims to reduce marine trash and encourage the reduction of plastic consumption globally.' Second, "The Basel Convention" says, 'this international treaty controls the movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal, including plastic waste, ensuring that such waste is managed in an environmentally sound manner.' And third, according to "the Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML)", 'this partnership promotes international cooperation to prevent marine litter and encourages the sharing of best practices among nations.'

Ivory Coast has taken significant steps to combat plastic pollution. In 2014, Ivory Coast banned the production and the importation of plastic bags. This measure aimed to reduce the plastic waste in the environment. The government has supported various recycling programs, like corporation with private companies to promote the collection and recycling of plastic waste. What's more, efforts have been taken to educate the public on the danger of plastic pollution and the importance of recycling the plastic. This education reached schools, communities, and businesses. Currently, these actions have make significant improvement.

As a matter of Fact, there is some potential improvement for us. First of all, strengthening enforcement. Enhanced monitoring and strict enforcement of regulations are essential. This includes better management of plastic bag usage and punishments for illegal behaviors. Second, investing in waste management. Expanding recycling facilities and improving waste collection systems will help to manage plastic waste more effectively. Investment in plastic waste management technology is essential. Moreover, promoting alternatives. Encouraging the use of biodegradable and reusable materials can reduce human's reliance on plastic. Things like awards for businesses to adopt sustainable packaging solutions should be introduced.

In conclusion, plastic pollution is a critical issue that requires immediate action. Ivory Coast has made effective efforts to try to solve this problem, but there is still a need for better measures and international cooperation. By improving enforcement, investing in infrastructure, promoting alternatives, and collaborating globally, Ivory Coast can succeed in reducing plastic pollution and create a cleaner, healthier environment. Thank you.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Jamaica

According to Surfers Against Sewage, “12 million tons of plastic finds its way into the ocean every single year”. The topic of ‘Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems’ is very important and must be urgently addressed by the United Nations Environment Programme. As a country that is deeply affected by plastic pollution, Jamaica believes that the international community should collaborate to develop efficient measures against it. We look forward to working together at upcoming meetings, sharing our experiences, and engaging with other countries to create a more green and sustainable future.

The issue of plastic pollution is very important to Jamaica, as it impacts the health of our marine ecosystem, and the sustainability of our development efforts. According to the UN Environment Programme, “Every minute of every day a truckload of plastic is dumped into the ocean.” As you can see, the topic of ‘Addressing Plastic Pollution for Sustainable Development’ must be urgently addressed, as it threatens marine life, human health, and the environment. The international community has taken many measures in addressing plastic pollution, including the adoption of many resolutions, like the adoption of the resolution on “Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics” in 2019, which calls for the development of a global framework to address the issue of plastic litter. Also, in 2017, the UN launched a campaign to raise awareness and promote action against marine plastic pollution. Lastly, the United Nations has also passed the United Nations Convention on Law of the Seas, which protects our marine environment. Jamaica recognizes the need to address plastic pollution and has taken many steps to fix this issue. In 2019, we implemented a ban on the importation, manufacturing and distribution of single-use plastic bags, straws and polystyrene. Also, the government will be taking steps in 2024 to widen its ban on single-use plastics. Jamaica also has a wide variety recycling stations, like The Jamaica Environment Trust (JET). Jamaica calls for the establishment of a global fund to support developing countries, and help them reduce plastic pollution, by improving waste management infrastructure, promote sustainable alternatives, and raise public awareness. We also propose an agreement on plastic pollution that sets targets and timelines for the reduction of plastics. This should take place in the UN, and this should be put on our agenda list as soon as possible. This helps us determine what actions to take in order to meet these goals. We would also like to highlight the importance of collaborative efforts involving governments, communities, and industries, to effectively tackle this global challenge. Jamaica plans to work with other countries in understanding and sharing possible solutions, and working together to solve the damage that has been caused from plastic pollution. Everybody needs to be in on this, not just the global leaders, not just certain countries, but all of us.

Plastic pollution is a problem that has spread worldwide, and we need to find solutions, like the ones that Jamaica has already proposed. There are many ways to implement the solutions that we have suggested. By publicly supporting these solutions, we can implement them effectively and efficiently. As representatives of your country, Jamaica calls for you to start implementing and supporting solutions right now. It is our job, as a community, to start changing. We are the hope for our future generations. We have been silent for too long and we must take action.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: State of Japan

According to a 2015 report from the Ocean Conservancy, "every minute, about a garbage truck's worth of plastic enters our oceans, amounting to a staggering 8 million tons annually."The topic of 'Addressing Plastic Pollution for Sustainable Development' is of utmost importance and must be urgently addressed by the Economic and Social Council.As a member nation deeply affected by this environmental crisis, Japan firmly believes that the international community must collaborate to develop comprehensive strategies and implement effective measures to combat plastic pollution.

Plastic pollution is of paramount importance to Japan as it directly impacts the health of our marine ecosystems, the livelihoods of coastal communities, and the overall sustainability of our development efforts. According to the United Nations Environment Programme's report 'Single-Use Plastics: A Roadmap for Sustainability' (2018), single-use plastic products account for approximately 50% of the plastic in our oceans.In 2017, the United Nations launched the Clean Seas campaign to raise awareness and promote action against marine plastic pollution. Although the United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) does not specifically address the issue of plastic pollution, its mandate clearly informs states of their duty to protect the marine environment.Recognizing the urgent need to address this issue, The state of Japan has implemented the Plastic Resource Circulation Strategy based on the 3Rs (reduce, reuse, and recycle) plus Renewables, aiming to transition to a circular economy through effective plastic waste management.

This strategy outlines ambitious goals:

- **Reduce** single-use plastic emissions by 25% by 2030.
- **Ensure** all plastic packaging and goods are reusable or recyclable by 2025.
- **Achieve** a 60% recycling rate for all plastic containers and packaging by 2030.
- **Promote** the reuse or recycling (and where not feasible, thermal recycling) of all plastic waste by 2035.
- **Double** the use of renewable materials by 2030.
- **Maximize** the introduction of bioplastic, aiming for up to 2 million tons by 2030.

The state of Japan is dedicated to tackling the global issue of plastic pollution and proposes several specific actions in the upcoming ECOSOC meeting to enhance international collaboration. Firstly, Japan advocates for the establishment of a global fund aimed at supporting developing countries. This fund would focus on three key areas: 1) improving waste management infrastructure, such as building new recycling facilities and enhancing existing ones to manage plastic waste more efficiently; 2) promoting the adoption of sustainable alternatives to traditional plastics, such as encouraging the use of bioplastics and other environmentally friendly materials through subsidies and support programs; and 3) funding extensive public awareness campaigns that educate communities on the importance of reducing plastic usage and proper waste management practices.Secondly, Japan calls for the

drafting and adoption of a legally binding international agreement on plastic pollution. This agreement would include several critical elements: 1) setting specific, measurable targets for the reduction of plastic production and waste, along with strict deadlines for achieving these goals; 2) establishing comprehensive regulatory frameworks that mandate recycling, reduce the manufacturing of single-use plastics, and impose penalties for non-compliance; 3) implementing robust monitoring systems that use advanced technologies to ensure adherence to the agreement; 4) providing technical and financial assistance to help developing nations comply with the agreement, including technology transfer and capacity building initiatives; and 5) incorporating effective dispute resolution mechanisms to handle conflicts that may arise between countries in implementing or interpreting the agreement terms. By proposing these detailed measures, The state of Japan aims to lead a concerted global effort to significantly reduce plastic pollution, ensuring a sustainable future for all nations involved.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Republic of Kenya

According to The urban political ecology of plastic bag waste in Nairobi, Kenya “over 24 million plastic bags are used in Kenya monthly.” Us United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) will be discussing the most urgent and important issues right now, Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems. As a member of this committee that is strongly affected by this environmental crisis, The Republic of Kenya firmly believes that the international community must work together to develop a solution or strategies that will prevent plastic pollution to worsen. Kenya looks forward to collaborate with foreign countries, share experience, and build a path to a more sustainable future.

The issue of plastic pollution is important to Kenya because we have the largest landfills of single used plastic bag in the world, plastic bags, plastic straws, and plastic bottles. This directly impact the health of our citizens and environment. Wastes are clogging rivers and lakes, this badly affects the people around it. The quality of soil, air, and water was the biggest impact. People often gets lung disease from breathing air that has microplastics in them. Not just that but the soil and water, that were once our food source were damaged. Nearly 400,000 to 1 million people died of that annually. This is only one small part of the effect. Plastic pollution also leads to flooding and the destruction of habitats and environment. Not only habitats were destroyed, but 92.2 million innocent animals die each year caused by eating plastic debris. Just imagine how much you would suffocate from starvation with only a stomach filled with plastics. Death of animals contribute to the ecosystem too. First, plastics were entered into the food chain through fish and seabirds. According to Plastic Soup Foundation “When one animal eats another, microplastics can move through the food chain like that, this process is called trophic transfer of microplastics.” This would just destroy the whole biodiversity. In 2015, scientists have also found that the number of marine species that got caught in plastic or swallow them have doubled since 1997. This terribly affected Kenya because we have the Great Migration each year, which is how a lot of families live off of. But now with all those animals being injured and died, it will be harder than before to get tourist to like the migration this each. This would be a big loss in the economy.

Additionally, during 2017 we are urging for a strong binding on plastic, and that was the first ever treaty to contain plastic pollution in our country. According to Plastic Pollution Policy Country Profile “Kenya has addressed plastic pollution using three major regulatory tools: single use plastic bans, improvements to solid waste management and administrative and budgetary responses” Let’s talk individually about those three important solutions. First of all, ban single used plastics, this is a solution that involves the law known as Gazette Notice 4858 or the Wildlife Conservation and Management Act, which help to protect fragile areas such as national parks, and beaches. It also bans single-use plastic bags for household and commercial purposes, including grocery stores. Also, The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) has announced a ban on the use of plastic bags for the collection of organic waste like leftover food. Then one and a half month after April 8, when the notice was first issued, plastic bags will not be allowed at any markets in Kenya. This reduce plastic pollution and promote sustainable alternatives. Then comes the improvements to solid waste management and administration. Waste management act is the complete process of collecting, treating and disposing of solid wastes. In the waste management process, the wastes are collected from different sources and are disposed of. This process includes collection, transportation, treatment, analysis and disposal of waste. But, the method we use locally in Kenya for waste management act is open dumping. It’s the most common method of solid waste disposal in Kenya. For the technique to be effective, it will only be for bio-degradable waste. The waste will eventually rot and form part of the natural soil of the area. A big challenge we are facing is that no urban area in Kenya has a proper sanitary landfill, so most solid waste is dumped in open sites, undesigned areas, or burned. In Nairobi,

only about one-third of the city's waste is legally disposed of, 95% of which is controlled by the private sector. This might not be such a good idea after all. Lastly, we have the administrative and budgetary response. The administrative system in Kenya is presidential representative democratic republic, which means that the president is both head of state and head of government, and of a multi-party system in accordance with a new constitution passed in 2010. The budget-making process in Kenya begins from August of the current financial year and ends in December of the coming financial year. A financial year is the period when governments use for accounting and budgeting. The primary goal of administrative law is to protect the interests of the public in government agency interactions. On top of those three we also have the toughest law against plastic bags, producing, selling or even using it will result in paying fines of 40 thousand dollars, and imprisonment of up to 4 years. Recently, we put the responsibility of Waste Management law on producer to correctly expose their plastic products, instead of consumers. Those solutions all helped to change the mindset of locals.

Plastics are giving us unnecessary harms and it's time to think of a sensible solution. Plastic bottles were only used for 1 day, but it can stay in the environment for up to 20 to 500 years, so we have to get rid of them before it damaged the earth more. Today, I hope to persuade you that the best solution to global plastic pollution is to eliminate unnecessary single used plastics. However, some people might think what will we use if we eliminate plastics? Plastic is a huge part of our everyday life. But, if we don't do something soon, bigger problem might occur later like species becoming extinct, decrease of human population, or even earth being destroyed or unlivable. It will be too late then. So, we have to use the fastest and most effective solution, which is to eliminate unnecessary single used plastics.

Kenya is here to inform all the countries, that we have to come up with the best solution to solve the most critical global issue, plastic pollution. My opinion on this is that we should lessen unnecessary use of plastic bags and bottles. This solution benefits both citizens and the environment. Citizens can still use plastic, but there will be a curb amount, so less is thrown into the nature. I believe if we all work together to convince our people it will be a huge success. The Republic of Kenya calls for the establishment of global support developing countries in their own effect ways to reduce plastic pollution.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Malaysia

According to World Wildlife, March 23, 2021, 81% of the public would like to recycle more of their plastic waste, but 77% accept that so many things are made of plastic packaging it's impossible to avoid it. The topic of plastic pollution has become so severe, the topic is crucial to address.

Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems is something we must do if we are to preserve the environment for future generations. Malaysia is one of the 10 countries in the world with the biggest threat from inappropriate plastic waste management and is hopeful for the discussions at the upcoming meetings, aiming to innovate and find ways to solve the plastic pollution crisis. The problem of plastic pollution affects citizens, the environment, and the world we now inhabit. The status quo of plastic pollution is that humans produce more than 350 million metric tons of plastic waste per year. 175 nations have agreed to develop a legally binding agreement on plastic pollution by 2024, prompting a major step towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions from plastic production, use and disposal. In March 2022, 175 countries adopted the End plastic pollution at the UN Environment Assembly. Malaysia's Roadmap Towards Zero Single-Use Plastics (2018–2030) is a national policy that aims to address plastic waste in a sustainable way. The policy aims to phase out the use of single-use plastic products by 2030, Promoting eco-friendly alternatives to single-use plastics, with biodegradable, compostable, or reusable materials.

To fight the plastic that is consuming our Earth, Malaysia proposes three different solutions. Firstly, Extended Producer Responsibility, or EPR for short. It's a policy that is slowly being introduced in the United States as a shift to making the companies pay for the costs to recycle their waste. It encourages companies to use more cost effective and environmentally friendly materials, and it creates jobs in the recycling and waste management industries. Beyond Plastics thinks that shifting costs from taxpayers to the companies lowers packaging, which is commonly made of plastic. PR legislation can be applied internationally through collective systems or individually. Our next solution is to fund efforts to create new alternatives to plastic, money taken from countries that use the most plastic, which inspires countries to lower the amount of waste generated. Examples of alternatives are bioplastic, PHA, jute, and hopefully more to come. Lastly, if these solutions are not effective, it is an option to ban the use of single use plastics entirely. Though a serious course of action, if properly enforced, it will eliminate plastics from use.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Did you know that common plastic bags only have about 15 minutes of working life?

'Addressing Plastic Pollution for Sustainable Development' is of utmost importance and must be urgently addressed by the Economic and Social Council as it affects not only people but also other living organisms.

In 2017, Head of UN environment, Erik solehiem, said, "It is past time that we tackle the plastic problem that blights our oceans. Plastic pollution is surfing onto Indonesian beaches, settling onto the ocean floor at the North Pole, and rising through the food chain onto our dinner tables. We've stood by too long as the problem has gotten worse. It must stop." 2022 marked a historic decision at the fifth session at the UN environment assembly. This was when all 193 UN member States agreed on an end to plastic pollution through a legally binding international agreement. The decision limited distribution and sale of single use plastics and pollution.

As a member of a country deeply affected by plastic pollution, the republic of the Union of Myanmar strongly believes that the world must work together to develop strategies that work to stop plastic pollution. Myanmar looks to actively engage in the important discussions at the upcoming ECOSOC meeting, sharing our experiences and working alongside other countries to move towards a more sustainable future. The issue of plastic pollution is of great importance to the republic of the union of Myanmar, as it strongly impacts our people and our waters as well as people around the world. No matter where they are. Plastic pollution not only affects people but also the environment and animals too. According to SurfersAgainstSewage.org, one in three fish caught for human consumption contain microplastic

Additionally, in 2017, the Un launched the Clean Seas campaign to raise awareness and promote action against plastic pollution. Finally, the Un convention on law of the sea does not specifically address the issue of plastic pollution, yet its mandate clearly informs states of their duty to protect the oceans. The republic of the union of Myanmar calls to collect and recycle over 20% of the plastic bottles produced in Myanmar. This will be important because with this, the plastic pollution in the ocean will be reduced and over 15,000 metric tons of co2 emissions will be avoided per year.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Republic of Namibia

Two million plastic bags are being used every minute worldwide. The topic of 'Addressing Plastic Pollution for Sustainable Development' is of utmost importance and must be urgently addressed by the Economic and Social Council. As a member nation deeply affected by plastic pollution, the Republic of Namibia firmly believes that all nation members must collaborate to develop comprehensive strategies and implement effective measures to combat plastic pollution. Namibia looks forward to actively engaging in these significant discussions at the upcoming ECOSOC meeting, sharing its experiences, and working alongside other members to forge a path towards a more sustainable future.

The issue of plastic pollution is of paramount importance to the Republic of Namibia, as it directly impacts the health of our lives, and citizens, and the overall sustainability of our development efforts. According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature, Over 460 million metric tons of plastic are produced every year for use in a wide variety of applications. Additionally, in 2017, the United Nations launched the Clean Seas campaign to raise awareness and promote action against marine plastic pollution. Finally, the United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) does not specifically address the issue of plastic pollution, yet its mandate informs states of their duty to protect the marine environment. According to the UN Environment Programme, Since 2019 the Convention has sponsored workshops for representatives of member nations to discuss information on the situation of marine litter in their respective countries. Namibia hosted one such workshop at the beginning of 2020. The data obtained from the workshops will be used to develop suggestions for marine litter prevention and management in these locations. For example, some solid waste disposal sites in Namibia are distinguished by the presence of plastic bags and packaging littered throughout the landscape. This is unsightly in a country that prides itself on its clean and healthy landscapes, is a negative factor for the promotion of tourism, poses a danger to domestic stock and wildlife, and is a health hazard, to marine life particularly in malaria areas where mosquitos breed in water caught in plastic bottles The Republic of Namibia recognizes the urgent need to address plastic pollution and has taken concrete steps to tackle this issue.

In 2024, The Namibian Ministry of Environment, Forestry, and Tourism is planning to ban the use of single-use plastics in the country, effective in 2026 or earlier. Single-use plastic straws, as well as plastic cotton earbuds, have been recommended to be banned from import, sale, and commercial supply by January 2024. Namibia recommends a comprehensive compulsory deposit and refund system on all single-use plastic drink bottles by Jan. 1, 2025. When the public has to pay an additional fee for plastics, the use of plastic will be seen as a significant reduction. The compulsory deposit needs the government and the public's support. At the same time, the government will call out to the public to use reusable materials. The gradual ban on plastic is the most harmless and effective way to solve the issue of pollution.

Thus the Republic of Namibia calls for a ban on plastic that protects and promotes responsible environmental management, pollution control, waste management, and the sustainable use of natural resources for economic development.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: New Zealand

Do you know that about 8 million tons of plastic waste enter the world's oceans every year? Numbers like this highlighted urgent need for action to address plastic pollution and protect our environment for future generations. The topic of "Addressing Plastic Pollution for Sustainable Development" is utmost importance and must be urgently addressed by the Economic and Social Council.

New Zealand looks forward to actively engaging in these crucial discussions at the up-coming ECOSOC meeting, sharing its experiences, and working alongside other member states to forge a path towards a more sustainable future.

The issue of plastic pollution is a significant threat to the environment, marine ecosystems and wildlife. By taking action to reduce plastic waste, New Zealand is protecting its natural resources and biodiversity.

New Zealand's government is working on regulations to reduce the use of single-use plastic packaging and promote the use of sustainable alternatives. Public awareness campaigns to educate citizens about the environmental impact of plastic pollution and encourage them to reduce their plastic consumption.

The solution to plastic pollution in New Zealand involves a multi-faceted approach, including policy changes, waste management, infrastructure improvements, public awareness campaigns, and promoting sustainable alternatives to single-use plastic. By implementing these solutions, New Zealand is working towards a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable future for its citizens and a planet as a whole.

Let's work together to make the world a better place for everybody.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Republic of Peru

Two trucks of plastic waste are dumped into the oceans every second. It is time we start treating plastic pollution for what it is—a serious source of waste that is harming millions of lives every second. With this in mind, we have come up with a solution to plastic pollution: banning single-use plastics entirely.

Our state, Peru, is undergoing serious plastic pollution impacts. Efforts in other states of taxing it have worked, but however, it did not stop the amount of plastic pollution from increasing. Our logic behind our proposal of banning plastic is that, this way, we will be getting rid of the root of the problem: plastics. In our perspective, as long as the starting point of a serious problem fades away, the crisis will fix itself. Many people have been questioning our state on what kind of sustainable alternative we should use. In fact, we have just the thing. Green bags 23 explains how jute is an eco-friendly alternative to plastic. The only reason that it hasn't become widespread is because only a minority of the population have ever heard of jute before. GB says: "Unlike plastic bags that linger in landfills and oceans for centuries, jute bags decompose naturally within a few months. This ensures that they do not contribute to the ever-increasing pile of non-biodegradable waste." This proves how our alternative, jute, will become that ultimate alternative to plastic. After the ban on single-use plastics has been approved, the Peru government will provide the state with significant amounts of jute in order to ensure jute becomes widespread. We will do this by switching plastic production sites to mass jute production.

Now that all that being said, we fail to understand that something which is clearly being supported by the majority of the population is unpopular. With a clear solution to the plastic pollution crisis, along with a detailed descriptive plan on what to do in order to ensure that the ban is effective, we, Peru, are proud to propose.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Republic of Korea

Every minute one garbage truck worth of plastic waste is dumped into the ocean and that even may be happening right now. If we continue to take no attention to plastic waste, then by 2050 single use plastics will outweigh the fishes in the oceans. In 2015 99% of sea birds has already eaten single use plastics, do you know what's the worst? That plastics are turning into micro plastics. Almost every single fish has swallowed micro plastics. This is why we should ban plastic pollution, and you should know how South Korea is doing it. South Korea has been focusing on environmental protection, public health, and technology for banning plastic pollution. South Korea have some lots of more things than this, but these are the three most important ones.

First environmental protection. South Korea has been working on to reduce plastic waste to protect its natural landscapes, waterways and marine environments. These places are important for tourism Health for animals and health for marine animals. Plus in South Korea every family has their own place at home to sort out different kinds of that they have sorted out. Once, or twice a week, a garbage trucks come to pick up the trash that The South Korean citizens have sorted out. All countries should do this instead of just putting trash in one same trash bin, and letting other people to sort it out for them. In South Korea when you walk in the street, you can't almost see any trash. That's because there aren't a lot of trash bins in South Korea, so the citizens When they need to throw trash they find a trash bin and then throw the trash. Usually they won't throw trash on the streets. Every country should do this to, so that the environment is more clean and everybody can feel more refreshing. This can also make more tourism.

Second, public health. Like I said, in my introduction, that plastic breaks down into micro plastics, which fishes eat and we eat fishes, so that is the problem. Instead of only in the ocean there are also micro plastics in our water and our food and our fruits EVERYWHERE! We can't go into the sea and catch all the plastic that we throw into the sea, back with the net. There is a garbage patch in the ocean that is twice the size of Texas. What we have to do is to stop using plastics. Almost all of the plastics you throw into the trash are all thrown into Landfill again which got washed up and go into the ocean. The South Korean government has been banning certain types of plastics, for example, plastic bags, cups and straws. This can make awareness for everybody in South Korea with the government is doing and will follow the rules. Because they know it's right and why the government it's doing it. All countries should let their citizens know why they're banning plastics and let them do the action to.

Lastly, technology. South Korea has been working with factories to make biodegradable plastics, which can open new markets and drive economic growth. In South Korea also banned plastic bags so every time when you go to a supermarket in South Korea, you have to bring your own bag. South Korea also made robots which could intensify different kinds of plastics and trash. This could help a lot because humans they may not know everything about

plastics. But robots they can learn a lot from humans and from their own researching. LG and Samsung are using sustainable materials in the manufacturing process of making things. These sustainable materials include single use plastics. A lot of South Korea's universities and research institutions are studying about plastic pollution, and developing new technologies. All the countries should also let their students learn about plastic waste. All the kids, not just one needs to know what's the importance of recycling trash. Recycling plastic is so important that every country should do it.

Therefore, we think that more countries should work like South Korea instead of not banning single use plastics or doing things that does not actually help.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

The topic before the United Nations Environment Programme is Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems. The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka firmly believes that the international community must collaborate to develop comprehensive strategies and implement effective measures to combat plastic pollution. Sri Lanka looks forward to actively engaging in these crucial discussions at the upcoming UNEP meeting, sharing its experiences, and working alongside other member states to forge a path towards a more sustainable future.

According to a 2018 report from CNN.com, more than 800 synthetic particles of plastics and microplastics were found in the guts of every single sea turtle out of 102 sea turtles from 7 species of sea turtles around the world across the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, and the Mediterranean Sea. Researchers found bits of plastic, rubber bands, balloon pieces, car tires, cigarettes, clothing, ropes and fishing nets in the turtles. The issue of plastic pollution is of paramount importance to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, as it directly impacts the health of our marine ecosystems, the livelihoods of coastal communities, and the overall sustainability of our development efforts. International actions to address plastic pollution includes the Clean Seas campaign launched in 2017 by the United Nations to raise awareness and promote action against marine plastic pollution. In 2022, the UN Environment Assembly also agreed to develop a legally binding treaty by 2024 that regulates the entire lifecycle of plastics, from production to use, recycling, and proper disposal as waste. The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka recognizes the urgent need to address plastic pollution and has taken concrete steps to tackle this issue. In 2017, Sri Lanka banned non- biodegradable plastic bags, and it later banned the import of cutlery, cups and food packaging in 2021. Also in 2021, Sri Lanka announced the National Action Plan on Plastic Waste Management 2021-2030, which sets out actions that Sri Lanka needs to follow based on the principle of the 3Rs, and covers the entire lifecycle of plastic waste management from importation, processing, final use, and disposal. Later, in February 2023, Sri Lanka banned non-biodegradable plastic products. Also, in June 2023, Sri Lanka banned the manufacture and sale of single-use plastic products like plastic cutlery, cocktail shakers and artificial flowers. Furthermore, Sri Lanka banned the sale of all plastic items in October 2023, saying to protect the elephants in Sri Lanka. About 400 elephants die each year by raiding villages for food and eating plastics in Sri Lanka's garbage dumps because their habitats were destroyed.

The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka stresses the need for a establishment of the Save the World Fund to support developing countries in their efforts to reduce plastic pollution, by focusing on improving waste management infrastructure, promoting sustainable alternatives, and raising public awareness. Sri Lanka proposes that members of the United Nations Security Council to contribute 90% of the funding, the other developing countries together to pay for the remaining 10%. After the establishment of the Save the World Fund, Sri Lanka proposes to appoint the USAid to lead the implementation of the program, including providing access to the Clean Cities, Blue Ocean campaign. The USAid should report back to the United Nations on a semiannual basis the progress of the Programme. The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka also calls for international collaboration and creating a legally binding treaty on plastic waste to end plastic pollution on a global scale.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Kingdom of Thailand

Of all beach litter worldwide, 73% of beach litter worldwide is plastic. The increase of plastic pollution is greatly reducing the amount of marine life. The Kingdom of Thailand is very concerned about the rapidly increasing amount of plastic scattered across the ocean floor and is trying to minimize it to the least extent as soon as possible.

People should not throw plastic in the ocean because when the fish eat the plastic life they will die. Marine life are the lungs of our planet and a major source of food and medicine and a critical part of the biosphere. If that continues, there could be more plastic than fish in the ocean by 2050. Another reason why people should not throw plastic into the ocean is because by doing that, we are also going to harm ourselves. When the fish eats the plastic, there would be microplastic remaining in the body of the fish, and when you eat the fish, you are eating microplastic. That will eventually result in eating 70,000 microplastics each year.

International actions include: End plastic pollution: towards an international legally binding instrument, International Negotiating Committee (INC), High Ambition Coalition to End Plastic Pollution, Business Coalition for a Global Plastics Treaty, Scientists' Coalition for an Effective Plastics Treaty and legal toolkit on plastics pollution prevention. The Kingdom of Thailand will launch a Plastic Debris Management Plan, comprising several approaches, such as developing fiscal and financial tool for plastic debris management, promoting and encouraging eco-packaging design and eco-friendly substitute for plastic materials, developing a material flow of plastic containers and packaging inventory. Immediate actions include removing the abandoned marine litters from coastal ecosystems through cleanup campaign in the coastal provinces and implementing plastic waste reduction measures in all 549 coastal municipalities, with selected target groups including artisanal fishing community, commercial fishing operators, coastal villages, eco-tourism operators, and communities operating small- medium enterprise. Undertaking research for better understanding on situation and impacts of plastic debris in marine environment and for achieving sufficient evidence to support proper management intervention and establishing national database of marine debris according to the International Coastal Cleanup format for future reference. Unlike other countries, The Kingdom of Thailand does not promote a ban, but uses the 3 Rs, reduce, reuse and recycle. This method is more helpful as a ban of single-use plastic would not be able to solve the problem of where to dispose the massive amount of plastic in the ocean. By reducing the amount of the plastic everyone uses, everybody can help minimize the amount of plastic entering the ocean and make the marine life to live in. According to studies, the average time that a plastic bag is used is just twelve minutes. By reusing plastic bags more often, there is an unlikely chance that we would buy that much plastic bags which in turn reduces the number of plastic bags we dispose. Only 9% of plastic produced is recycled. Recycling is possible by sorting the plastic waste into the correct recycling bin. There are many simple ways to help, but many people do not take the initiative even in their daily lives.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Oriental Republic of Uruguay

Plastic pollution poses a significant global threat, with an estimated 12 billion metric tons of plastic projected to accumulate in landfills by 2050, an amount 35,000 times the weight of the Empire State Building (National Geographic). The Oriental Republic of Uruguay recognizes the severe implications of this crisis, urging international collaboration to develop and implement strategies to combat and prevent plastic pollution. This environmental issue is particularly crucial to Uruguay, as it directly affects public health, local environments, wildlife populations, and the sustainability of development efforts. The increasing prevalence of plastics globally creates environmental eyesores and endangers natural ecosystems. Moreover, the incineration of plastics releases harmful chemicals, carbon dioxide, and methane, exacerbating climate change through the significant emissions from both plastic production and disposal processes.

The Environmental Center at the University of Colorado Boulder highlights the global spread of plastics, emphasizing their contribution to pollution and climate change. The Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA), established in 2000, addresses these issues through international goals like zero plastic incineration, climate justice, and preventing plastics from contaminating ecosystems such as rivers and forests. Uruguay aligns with these initiatives, acknowledging the necessity of comprehensive strategies to mitigate plastic pollution's environmental impact. They already have made major change in many areas, with their help, 50 million people (about twice the population of Texas) live in zero waste commitments and 100+ incinerators have been prevented. Since 1999, the Uruguayan organization Karumbé has engaged in sea turtle research and conservation, with a recent focus on addressing plastic pollution through preservation, research, and education. These efforts reflect Uruguay's broader commitment to combating plastic pollution and preserving marine life. Ever since April 2022, Karumbé has removed 263 Kg of plastic waste (and 13.33 grams of microplastics) from the coastal environment.

Uruguay is dedicated to reducing plastic pollution through a circular economy approach, which emphasizes reducing plastic production and usage. This strategy is built on three design-driven principles: eliminating waste and pollution, circulating products and materials at their highest value, and regenerating nature. By adopting these principles, Uruguay aims to minimize the environmental impact of plastics and promote sustainable development. National measures include stricter regulations on plastic usage and improved waste management systems. Internationally, Uruguay supports global campaigns and alliances focused on combating plastic pollution, collaborating with other nations and organizations to protect global ecosystems and ensure a sustainable future. Through these concerted efforts, Uruguay seeks to contribute to a global movement towards a cleaner and healthier environment.

Committee: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Topic: Combating Plastic Pollution to Safeguard Global Ecosystems
Country: Republic of Vietnam

At this very second, animals are dying because of plastic pollution. Plastic pollution is a huge problem, and we must solve it quickly. The plastic is causing a lot more than you would expect on the coastlines everywhere, and we must work together and stop plastic pollution!

Some countries are already drowning in plastic, and we must try better things and try to do things quicker. If I am not mistaken, countries are limiting the use and production of plastic. But I think this isn't enough. I think, we should stop using normal plastic. Instead, we should use reusable plastic, while organizing beach clean-ups. Also, there is a type of bacteria that eats plastic, even though it takes a dreadfully long amount of time. I am thinking that we could encourage scientists to make these bacteria work faster.

In Vietnam, we started trying to get rid of normal plastic while trying to take plastic out of nature by hiring people to take plastic out of seas and organizing beach cleanups, but we can only succeed if we work together. The power of one little country isn't enough, we need the whole world to work together!

To survive this new threat, we must work together. To solve plastic pollution, we must start now. Together, we can turn the tide on plastic pollution and safeguard our planet for future generations.