

# Towards a global agreement on plastics

EU's views on the negotiations

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**A climate-neutral,  
resource-efficient and  
competitive economy**



Maintaining the value of products,  
materials and resources in the economy  
for as long as possible, & minimising the  
generation of waste



*Improving the economics  
and quality of recycling &  
curbing plastic waste &  
littering*

# Process leading to the launch of negotiations



- Marine litter and plastic pollution has been on the UNEA agenda for many years
- Multiple international and national efforts to combat plastic pollution
- In the EU: Plastic strategy as well as efforts on single-use plastics, packaging, waste, ecodesign, textiles, microplastics and more
- Enhanced international cooperation through partnerships, bilateral projects, regional instruments

# The UN was ready for global action at UNEA5



- Business as usual is not an option. Even with existing policies and initiatives, the annual flow of plastics entering our oceans will triple within 2040
- Growing momentum on global action towards UNEA5 – more than 140 countries called for global agreement on plastics
- EU MS united on the issue - broad participation in internal EU discussions

# EU's role prior to and under the negotiations



- Leading role on bringing like-minded countries together to prepare for UNEA
- The Commission was coordinating and facilitating drafting of the “flagship resolution” by Peru and Rwanda
- Outreach aiming to commit co-sponsors, recruiting more than 60 signatories
- Strong support particularly from the “core” like-minded group including from Switzerland, Norway, UK, Rwanda, Senegal, Kenya, Ghana, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, Chile, Costa Rica, the Small Islands Developing States (SIDS), Philippines, Thailand and others.

# Views on INC1 and beyond



- Focus on plastic pollution in all environments, not limited to the marine environment
- The life-cycle perspective – tackle the issue by its sources and not only downstream
- How to integrate the circular economy
- How to address plastic production
- Clear objective and scope
- Role of intersessional work

# Expectations for outcomes of negotiations



- Mandate to conclude by end of 2024 is ambitious, but realistic
- Five meetings of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC)
- Other initiatives/projects/measures to continue in parallel
- The need for progress at each INC and in between sessions

# Thank you



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