

Sri Lanka comments for Article 3: Plastic products

Sri Lanka supports a science-based approach under Article 3 to identify problematic and avoidable plastic products and to prioritize their phase-out, while also incentivizing the development and adoption of sustainable alternatives.

However, Sri Lanka notes with concern the lack of adequate national mechanisms to assess the hazardous chemical content particularly in food contact materials such as plastic containers within the domestic market. While export-oriented products are subject to stringent testing (e.g., for BPA and other hazardous chemicals), products intended for the local market often bypass such quality checks. This discrepancy poses significant health and environmental risks.

Sri Lanka recommends that the agreement encourage or require all Parties, particularly in the Asian region, to establish mandatory quality control and chemical safety testing for plastic products used in food and cosmetic applications. Harmonized regional standards and cooperation in laboratory capacity building would further support the effective implementation of this provision.

It is suggested to list out of hazardous chemicals that include in plastic and categorize it based on hazard level. Chemical transparency of a product needs to be mandated globally.

