

## **Article 9: Existing Plastic Pollution-Submission by Bangladesh**

1. Each Party shall, taking into account its national circumstances and capabilities:

(a) Identify, assess, and monitor locations or accumulation zones significantly affected by existing plastic pollution within areas under its national jurisdiction, and cooperate, as appropriate, with other Parties, relevant international or regional organizations, and other stakeholders in addressing such pollution in areas beyond national jurisdiction; and

(b) Undertake appropriate measures, with necessary support from other Parties as appropriate, for the environmentally sound removal of existing plastic pollution and restoration of the affected sites, including clean-up activities in the identified affected locations or accumulation zones within its national jurisdiction, and cooperate, as appropriate, to implement such measures in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

2. A **Remediation Mechanism** is hereby established under the authority and guidance of the Conference of the Parties to support the safe, effective, and environmentally sound removal of existing plastic pollution, particularly transboundary pollution in areas beyond national jurisdiction and restoration of the affected sites. The Mechanism shall operate in cooperation and coordination with relevant intergovernmental organizations, regional entities, frameworks, and processes, and shall take into account the relevant provisions of applicable international agreements.

3. In the implementation of activities under paragraph 1, Parties and the Remediation Mechanism shall:

(a) Give due consideration to the special circumstances of small island developing States, archipelagic States, and lower riparian countries, acknowledging the disproportionate impacts of transboundary plastic pollution on these countries;

(b) Be guided by any relevant programmes of work and guidance adopted by the Conference of the Parties, as well as, where appropriate, relevant provisions of other international agreements;

(c) Take into account the best available scientific knowledge, relevant technologies, and the knowledge, innovations, and practices of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, as appropriate; and

(d) Promote the participation of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, civil society, scientific institutions, and the private sector, as appropriate, and foster the exchange of relevant technologies, experiences, and lessons learned.

4. The Conference of the Parties shall adopt guidance and establish any relevant programme of work to facilitate the implementation of this Article, including the establishment of a **Global Assessment Subsidiary Body** tasked with:

- (a) Reviewing national priorities and justifications submitted by Parties;
- (b) Making recommendations for inclusion in the global programme of work; and
- (c) Supporting the allocation of remediation funding based on objective and science-based assessments.

**Explanation of programme of work:**

Addressing existing plastic pollution requires cooperation among all parties involved. Plastic pollution has a transboundary nature, disproportionately affecting coastal communities, particularly in Small Island Developing States, lower riparian countries, and archipelagic nations. Much of the pollution does not originate from the states that have to deal with it. Consequently, an individual approach by each party will be far less effective than a collaborative effort where all parties take responsibility.

The measures implemented to tackle existing plastic pollution, including in areas beyond national jurisdiction, should be a joint effort among the Parties. Furthermore, these measures should focus on mitigation and remediation, rather than just removal. Therefore, establishing a dedicated global program of work is crucial.

**Explanation global assessment body:**

National priorities and justifications will be cross-verified by the global assessment body, which leads to recommendations for the global program of work and the allocation of remediation funds.

**Explanation of dedicated remediation mechanisms:**

Remediation mechanisms are highly required, as a clean-up program alone is insufficient; it needs to include a habitat restoration program.