

On Article 11 Finance

The PH appreciates the distillation of ideas presented by the non-paper, which we find to be a good basis for negotiation. To add to these, we make 4 points.

Our first point is founded on considerations of CBDRC, equity, and national circumstances and capabilities. We urge the recognition of special circumstances of the most environmentally vulnerable countries, including archipelagic states. The Philippines is a large ocean nation. 82% of the area over which the Philippines has sovereignty, sovereign rights, or jurisdiction, including our exclusive economic zone, is covered by water. Up to 78% of our provinces and 56% of cities/municipalities lie on our coasts. Further, the Philippines sits at the apex of the Coral Triangle Region, is host to the center of the center of marine shorefish biodiversity, and ranks third in marine biodiversity. This poses a disproportionate burden on us in keeping global plastics from polluting our waters and ecosystems, which we safeguard not just for our citizens but also for the international community. According to a 2021 World Bank study, because of its archipelagic geology, the Philippines faces plastic recycling logistical costs that are higher by Southeast Asian standards. Multinational companies take advantage of our people's socio-economic circumstances, and our "tingi" culture, that is, buying small portions of daily needs, by offering convenience at the expense of human and environmental health.

Our second point is based on practicality and experience with financial mechanisms in other MEAs. We urge a hybrid approach by establishing: 1) a dedicated fund in an existing financial mechanism to support early and enabling actions, and to take advantage of synergies, and, 2) a newly established dedicated financial arrangement to address long-term action, and actions addressing plastic pollution specifically, taking lessons from the success of the Montreal Protocol. We align with the AFRICA group, GRULAC, and other delegations that urge the establishment of a dedicated multilateral fund outside of the GEF. We also echo Samoa's proposal of several funds, including a remediation fund. This approach of having several funds finds precedence in the BBNJ Agreement and the UNFCCC.

Third, developed country parties should take the lead in providing financing to address plastic pollution in recognition of responsibilities for legacy plastics. This leadership should be mainly in the area of public finance, and supplemented by providing an enabling environment for private finance to ensure a just transition.

Fourth, we support encouraging all Parties to promote an enabling environment for private finance mobilization. Parties should take measures to increase the mobilization of private finance and to catalyze private investment, including through, inter alia, extended producer responsibility schemes. We support innovative financing but would prefer reference to this in broad terms only under the ILBI, and do not find it wise to specify financial instruments to ensure that the ILBI is adaptable to future developments in financing schemes. Our current EPR system is in its nascent stages, primarily focusing on waste recovery.