

PHILIPPINE PROPOSAL

Article 19: Health

1. Parties recognize that plastic pollution contributes to climate change; releases harmful chemical additives to the environment that pollute the air, soil and water causing diseases and deaths; destroys natural habitats and accelerates biodiversity loss; and alters the natural ecosystem balance, which poses significant risks to the environment, including human health, and biodiversity.
2. Parties are ~~encouraged~~ **shall** to develop and implement strategies, policies and programmes to assess, monitor and, where necessary, mitigate the risks associated with plastic pollution on human health and the environment across the full life cycle of plastics, in the context of the One Health approach, where relevant, and based on the best available science, and where available, relevant traditional knowledge, knowledges, sciences and practices of Indigenous Peoples, and local knowledge systems, while giving particular consideration to persons in vulnerable situations and to workers in both formal and informal sectors, including waste pickers, in accordance with national circumstances and capabilities.
3. Parties shall cooperate to strengthen institutional, scientific and technical capacities, including through regional health networks, as appropriate, particularly in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to collect, analyse, and disseminate scientific data related to plastic pollution and its potential health implications in alignment with international standards and the best available science. Parties shall address these challenges by mobilizing finance, technologies and innovations, as well as capacity building.
4. Parties shall promote protection of health through advocacy, public health education and awareness and supporting behavioural change interventions.
5. To assist the Conference of the Parties in considering health-related issues or activities, the Secretariat shall facilitate international collaboration, cooperation, and the exchange of information, data, scientific research and expertise with relevant international organizations, research institutions, and other stakeholders, as appropriate.