

Republic of Korea's submission on Article 7

[Context]

The Republic of Korea presents its views regarding Paragraph 1 of Article 7, on emissions and releases, as follows:

1. Considering the unique challenges posed by fishing gear, such as the high rates of marine loss and significant difficulties in the development of alternatives and retrieval and recycling of fishing gear compared to land-based waste, Korea proposes the inclusion of a separate provision that specifically addresses fishing gear under this article.
2. Regarding the list of measures to reduce and eliminate plastics in Paragraph 1, Korea recommends revising the term “plastic pellets, flakes, and powder from the supply chain” to a more general expression, such as “plastic from the supply chain,” to align with ongoing discussions of the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC).

[Proposed Edit]

1. Addition of a Separate Provision for Fishing Gear

- **(Option 1)** Introduce a separate subsection to specify lifecycle management measures for fishing gear, considering its characteristics as equipment directly used in the marine environment. This subsection would address design improvements, marking, tracking, retrieval, and environmentally sound disposal and recycling.

Proposed Text:

1. The Parties shall take necessary measures for the following (a–d)...:
2. (New) Each Party shall take measures to reduce abandoned, lost, or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG) in the marine environment by implementing design improvements, appropriate marking, tracking, retrieval, and environmentally sound disposal and recycling.

- **(Option 2)** Add “abandoned, lost, or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG)” as an item (e) in the list of lifecycle emission and release reduction measures.

Proposed Text:

1. The Parties shall take necessary measures for the following (a–d)...

(a)...

(e) Abandoned, lost, or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG)

1. Revision of the List of Measures to Reduce and Eliminate Plastics

Current text:

- (b) Plastic pellets, flakes, and powder from the supply chain;

Revised Text:

- (b) Plastic from the supply chain;

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