

Name of organization (for observers to the committee)	Plastics Industry Association
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The Plastics Industry Association (PLASTICS) appreciates the opportunity to participate as an observer in the international negotiations on plastic pollution. PLASTICS represents the full plastics supply chain in the United States, representing over a million jobs in the US in an industry that provides important products that protect and improve the modern way of life.

During the discussions of possible obligation 9 “eliminating release and emission of plastics to water, soil and air” in contact group I, the representative from Malaysia mentioned Operation Clean Sweep as an example of a specific industry stewardship program. As the association who created and owns Operation Clean Sweep (OCS), we felt it was important to provide additional information on this program.

Operation Clean Sweep® (OCS) is an industry-led program that supports companies in their goal towards achieving zero plastic resin loss in operations. OCS was founded by Plastics Industry Association (PLASTICS) in 1991 and is managed in partnership with the American Chemistry Council (ACC)’s Plastics Division, as well as 22 other associations around the world.

Globally, more than 3,300 companies participate in OCS and have committed to the OCS Pledge to work towards ending resin loss in operations. These companies represent the full plastics value chain, ranging from companies that make and distribute plastic, transportation companies that move plastic, and processors who manufacture final products.

OCS members demonstrate significant leadership in industry-led voluntary stewardship to protect the environment, preserve water quality and wildlife, and strengthen worker safety. Together, OCS can accelerate efforts in almost any jurisdiction to keep plastic out of the environment and within the economy for a more sustainable, circular plastics future.

OCS supports industry in ending resin loss by:

- Creating a singular, clear, and shared goal towards ending resin losses.
- Sharing resources and core frameworks for identifying areas of potential risk and methods for continual improvement.
- Providing a venue for pre-competitive collaboration and peer-learning opportunities.
- Incubating and amplifying solutions to prevent resin spills and strategies to recover and recycle resin.
- Accelerating technology transfer for effective tools to prevent loss and recover resin.
- Elevating success stories of companies dramatically reducing and eliminating plastic resin loss.

We encourage the UN and the representatives to integrate participation in industry stewardship programs such as Operation Clean Sweep into the zero draft and National Action Plans to reduce plastic resin loss throughout the supply chain as part of a possible obligation 9.