



With the support of the



GENEVA
BEAT PLASTIC POLLUTION
DIALOGUES

CHEMICALS IN THE PLASTICS TREATY: Perspectives on Protecting Human Health

28 MARCH 2024 | 12:00 - 13:30 CET | ONLINE (WEBEX)

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SPEAKERS

By order of intervention.



H.E. Amb. Luis VAYAS VALDIVIESO



Chair, INC Plastic Pollution, Ecuador



Andrea GORE



Professor of Pharmacology & Toxicology,
University of Texas at Austin



Kei OHNO WOODALL



Senior Coordination Officer,
Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm
Conventions Secretariat



Vito BUONSANTE



Policy & Technical Advisor, IPEN



Valentina SIERRA



Permanent Mission of Uruguay to the
United Nations in Geneva



Therese KARLSSON



Science and Technical Advisor, IPEN



Michel TSCHIRREN



Head, Global Affairs Section, Federal Office
for the Environment, Switzerland



Griffins OCHIENG



Executive Director, Centre for Environmental
Justice and Development | Co-chair, IPEN
Toxic Plastic Working Group | Moderator



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GENEVA BEAT PLASTIC POLLUTION DIALOGUES



VIRTUAL

Launch and Panel Discussion | Global Criteria to Address Problematic, Unnecessary and Avoidable Plastic Products

01 FEB 2024 14:00 – 15:30

Online | Webex

Nordic Council of Ministers, GEN

- ⦿ Chemicals and Pollution | Plastics | Science
- ⦿ SDG12



VIRTUAL

Implementing a Treaty to End Plastic Pollution: A Holistic Approach to Resource Mobilization & Financing for Systems Change & Just Transitions

07 FEB 2024 15:30 – 17:00

Online | Webex

TESS, GEN

- ⦿ Chemicals and Pollution | Plastics | Green Economy
- ⦿ SDG12



State of the Science on Plastic Chemicals

Identifying and addressing chemicals and polymers of concern

VIRTUAL

Launch and Panel Discussion | State of the Science on Plastic Chemicals: Identifying and Addressing Chemicals and Polymers of Concern

14 MAR 2024 14:00 – 15:30

Online | Webex

PlastChem, GEN

- ⦿ Chemicals and Pollution | Plastics
- ⦿ SDG12



VIRTUAL

Launch and Panel Discussion | Climate Impacts of Plastics: Global Actions to Stem Climate Change and End Plastic Pollution

20 MAR 2024 14:00 – 15:30

Online | Webex

GRID-Arendal, GEN

- ⦿ Chemicals and Pollution | Climate | Plastics
- ⦿ SDG12 | SDG13



CONFERENCE

Biodiversity and the Global Plastics Treaty: IUCN's Proposal for a Specific Article on "Biodiversity Aspects" in the Future Treaty

26 MAR 2024 13:00 – 14:30

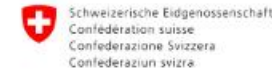
International Environment House I, Room 3

& Online | Webex

IUCN, GEN

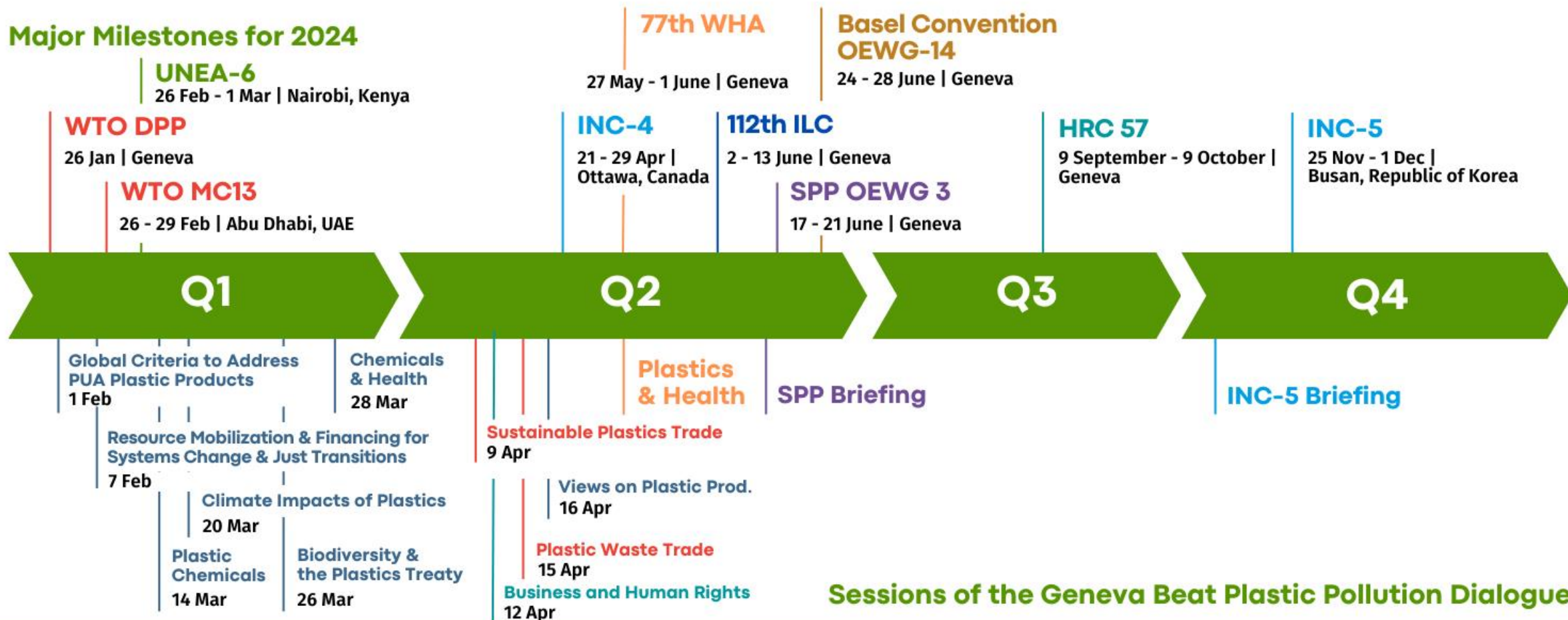
- ⦿ Chemicals and Pollution | Nature | Plastics
- ⦿ SDG12 | SDG14 | SDG15

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GENEVA BEAT PLASTIC POLLUTION DIALOGUES

Major Milestones for 2024



Sessions of the Geneva Beat Plastic Pollution Dialogues

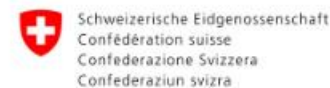
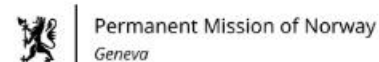


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Welcome

- H.E. Amb. Luis VAYAS VALDIVIESO | Chair, INC Plastic Pollution, Ecuador

Member State Perspective on Needs for Chemicals Regulation in the Treaty

- Valentina SIERRA | Permanent Mission of Uruguay to the United Nations in Geneva

Health Impacts of Plastics – Focus on Bisphenols and Phthalates

- Andrea GORE | Professor of Pharmacology & Toxicology, University of Texas at Austin

Frequently Asked Questions on Plastics and Chemicals

- Therese KARLSSON | Science and Technical Advisor, IPEN

BRS Conventions and Chemicals in Plastics, State of Play and Future Perspectives

- Kei OHNO WOODALL | Senior Coordination Officer, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions Secretariat

Outcomes of the Informal Intersessional Meeting on Problematic and Avoidable Plastic Products and Chemicals of Concern

- Michel TSCHIRREN | Head, Global Affairs Section, FOEN, Switzerland

State of Play on Chemicals and Polymers of Concern in the Treaty

- Vito BUONSANTE | Policy & Technical Advisor, IPEN

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CHEMICALS IN THE PLASTICS TREATY: Perspectives on Protecting Human Health



**H.E. Amb. Luis
VAYAS VALDIVIESO**

Chair, INC Plastic Pollution, Ecuador



Photo by IISD/ENB | Kiara Worth.

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Valentina SIERRA

Permanent Mission of Uruguay to the
United Nations in Geneva



URUGUAY

BRAZIL

MEXICO

Photo by IISD/ENB | Anastasia Rodopoulou.

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CHEMICALS IN THE PLASTICS TREATY: Perspectives on Protecting Human Health

Health Impacts of Plastics FOCUS ON BISPHENOLS AND PHTHALATES

CHEMICALS IN THE PLASTICS TREATY: Perspectives on Protecting Human Health



Andrea GORE

Professor of Pharmacology & Toxicology,
University of Texas at Austin



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HEALTH IMPACTS OF PLASTICS: FOCUS ON BISPHENOLS AND PHTHALATES

ANDREA C. GORE, PHD
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN, U.S.



ENDOCRINE DISRUPTING CHEMICALS: THREATS TO HUMAN HEALTH

PESTICIDES, PLASTICS, FOREVER CHEMICALS,
AND BEYOND

February 2024



Authors:

Andrea C. Gore, Ph.D.

Michele A. La Merrill, Ph.D.

Heather Patisaul, Ph.D.

Robert M. Sargis, M.D., Ph.D.

ENDOCRINE
SOCIETY 

Hormone Science to Health

IPEN

for a toxics-free future

SOME CHEMICALS IN PLASTICS ARE ENDOCRINE DISRUPTING CHEMICALS

- EDCs Interfere with hormones and their actions
- Hormones are required for the regulation of growth and development, metabolism, stress, and reproduction, among other functions
- When these functions are perturbed by EDCs, they can lead to diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular problems, reproductive disorders, behavioral problems, and certain cancers

ENDOCRINE DISRUPTING CHEMICALS

- The science on EDCs has grown, along with our understanding of how important environmental factors are in disease prevalence.
- The convergence of research on cell lines, animal models, and human epidemiology, leads to strong evidence linking exposures to EDCs to detrimental health outcomes.
- Plastics and plasticizers such as bisphenols and phthalates, have among the strongest evidence for acting as EDCs.
- Numerous international scientific and medical organizations have called for stronger regulations.

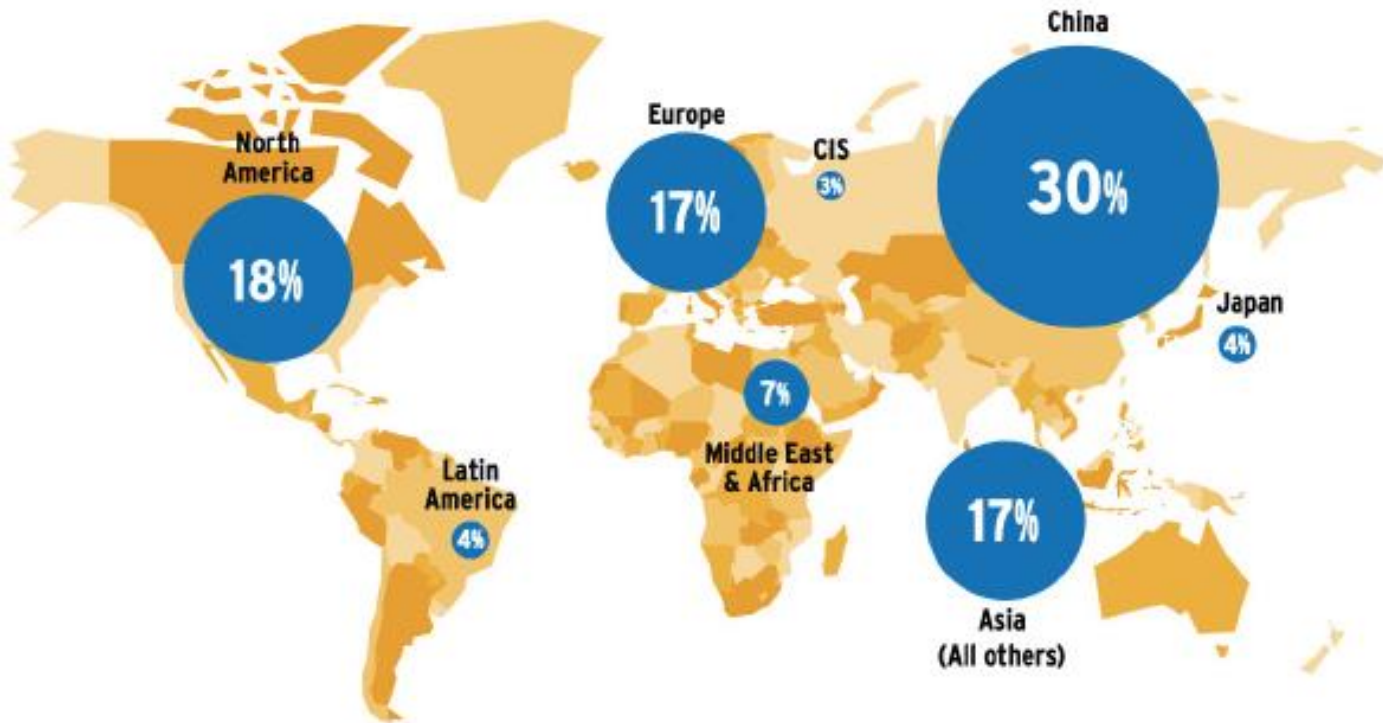
EDCS IN PLASTICS THREATEN VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

- EDCs pose biggest risk at key points in lifecycle
 - Mom and baby during pregnancy
 - Young children
 - Puberty
- Bisphenols & phthalates are detectable in amniotic fluid, umbilical cord blood.
- “The timing makes the poison”
- EDC effects can impact multiple generations



PLASTICS AND PLASTICIZERS

Global Plastic Production Regional Production 2018



While there are numerous chemicals in plastics, Bisphenols and Phthalates are of particular concern for their health effects.

BISPHENOLS (BPA AND SUBSTITUTES)

We are universally exposed through:

- Leaching from reusable food and beverage containers
- Food can linings
- Medical and sports equipment
- Eyeglass lenses
- Thermal paper receipts
- Plastic water pipes
- Adhesives, paints, and lacquers



PHTHALATES

We are exposed through contact with:

- PVC products
- Personal care products
- Fillers in medications and dietary supplements
- Food and beverage packaging and processing materials
- Children's toys
- Medical tubing



BISPHENOLS AND PHTHALATES

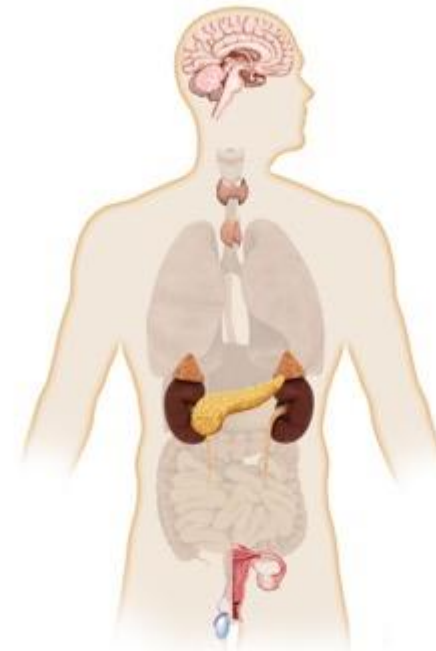
Although not as persistent as POPs, exposure is so ubiquitous that we can constantly re-exposed.

“BPA-free” products usually include replacements such as BPS, BPF, and BPAF, which are also EDCs. Similarly, phthalate replacements can be part of the “regrettable substitution” cycle.

BPA is best studied for effects on the estrogen receptor, and phthalates on the androgen receptor, but these are the tip of the iceberg of how these chemicals act as EDCs.

NEGATIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES LINKED TO PHTHALATES & BISPHENOLS

- Brain development and behavior: Anxiety, depression, ADHD
- Metabolic problems: diabetes, obesity
- Reproductive health: Reduced fertility, PCOS, sexual dysfunction in men; testosterone and estrogen levels
- Cancers: Associated with breast, prostate, ovarian, and endometrial cancers
- Interfere with thyroid hormone action
- Cardiovascular disease and hypertension





ENDOCRINE DISRUPTING CHEMICALS: THREATS TO HUMAN HEALTH

PESTICIDES, PLASTICS, FOREVER CHEMICALS,
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THANK YOU! QUESTIONS?



PLASTICS, EDCs & HEALTH

A GUIDE FOR PUBLIC INTEREST
ORGANIZATIONS AND POLICY-MAKERS ON
ENDOCRINE DISRUPTING CHEMICALS & PLASTICS



Jodi Flaws, PhD
Paulina Damdimopoulou, PhD
Heather B. Patisaul, PhD
Andrea Gore, PhD
Lori Ruetzmann, PhD
Laura N. Vandenberg, PhD

EDC-2: The Endocrine Society's Second Scientific Statement on Endocrine-Disrupting Chemicals

A. C. Gore, V. A. Chappell, S. E. Fenton, J. A. Flaws, A. Nadal, G. S. Prins, J. Toppari,
and R. T. Zoeller

Endocrine-Disrupting Chemicals and Public Health Protection: A Statement of Principles from The Endocrine Society

R. Thomas Zoeller, T. R. Brown, L. L. Doan, A. C. Gore, N. E. Skakkebaek,
A. M. Soto, T. J. Woodruff, and F. S. Vom Saal

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Frequently asked questions on chemicals and plastics

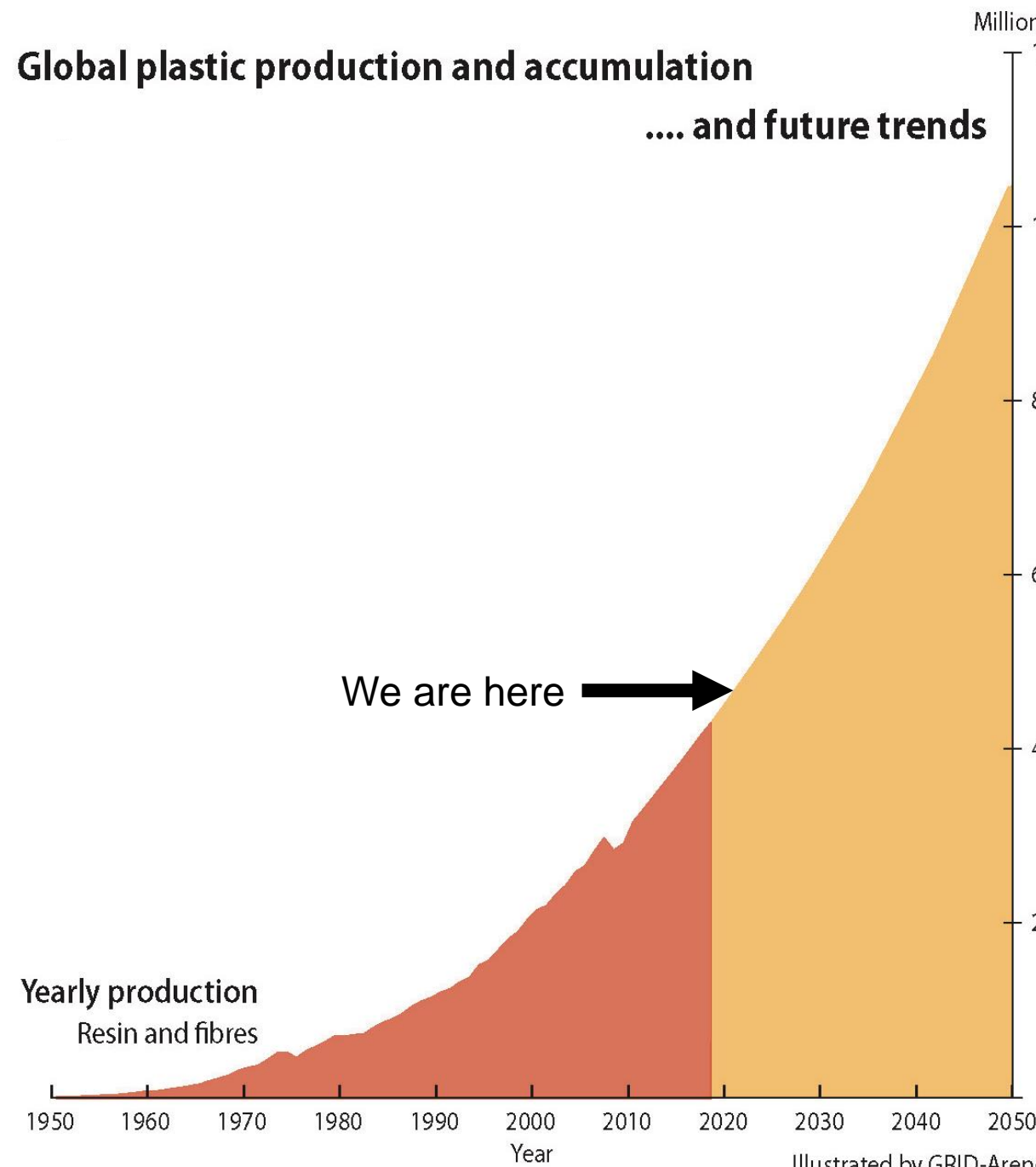
Therese Karlsson
Science and Technical advisor IPEN

**Do we need to manage
production to protect
human health and the
environment?**

Do we need to manage production to protect human health and the environment?

Yes.

Global plastic production and accumulation and future trends



Do we need to manage production to protect human health and the environment?



Yes.

The Plastics Treaty provides a chance to protect human health and the environment.

This will require eliminating toxic chemicals and controlling plastic production volumes.

Wouldn't plastics recycling be a
good solution?

Wouldn't plastics recycling be a good solution?

Big oil uncovered
Recycling

'They lied': plastics producers deceived public about recycling, report reveals

Companies knew for decades recycling was not viable but promoted it regardless, Center for Climate Integrity study finds



INTERESTING
ENGINEERING

NEWSLETTERS



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At least 491 dangerous chemicals found in recycled plastics

"Plastic recycling has been touted as a solution to the plastics pollution crisis, but toxic chemicals in plastics complicate their reuse and disposal and hinder recycling."

New Study Exposes Hidden Toxic Plastic Waste Trade

How are
plastics made?

How are plastics made?



How are
chemicals in
plastics
classified?

Monomers



(Ex ethylene, styrene,
vinyl chloride)

Polymers

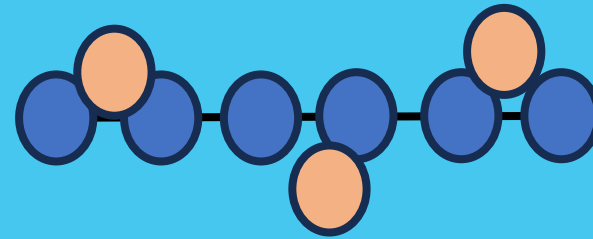


(Ex polyethylene,
polystyrene,
polyvinylchloride)

How are
chemicals in
plastics
classified?



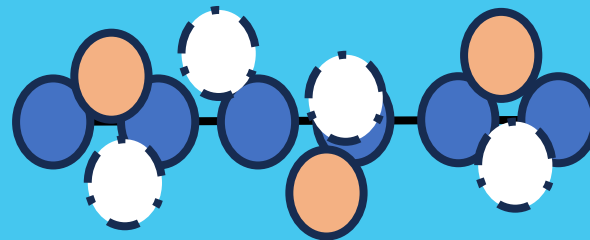
Additives



(Ex flame retardants,
colourants,
UV stabilizers)

How are
chemicals in
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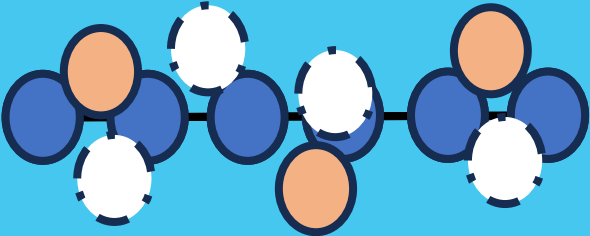
Non- Intentionally Added Substances



(Ex degradation
products, chemicals
from recycled plastics)

How are chemicals in plastics classified?

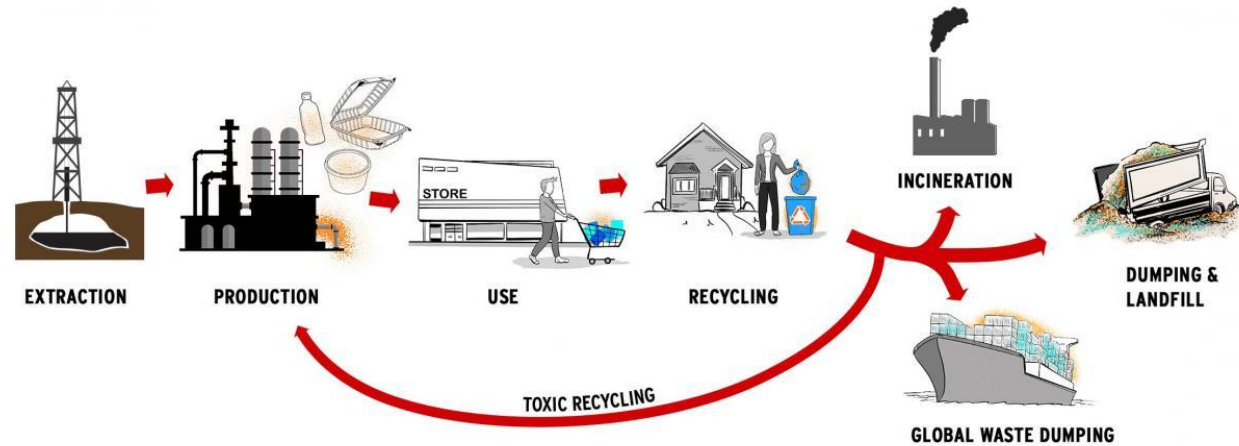
- Monomers
- Polymers
- Additives
- Non-Intentionally Added Substances



Plastics

Why should a
Global Plastics
Treaty address
toxic chemicals?

Why should a
Global Plastics
Treaty address
toxic chemicals?



Because plastics are chemicals. Many of which are toxic, and which are not internationally regulated but spread internationally in plastic materials.

What are some of the chemicals that should be included in a first list of chemicals to be regulated under the treaty?

What are some of the chemicals that should be included in a first list of chemicals to be regulated under the treaty?



Examples:

Bisphenols, Phthalates and Polystyrene

- ✓ Present in plastics
- ✓ Increases barriers to circularity
- ✓ Toxic

Polymers are chemicals and some polymers:

- **are toxic;**
- **can leach monomers** that are toxic; for example, styrene, a known carcinogen, can leach from polystyrene
- can lead to the formation of **toxic by-products** - for example, when PVC is burned, it leads to the formation of dioxins.

Plastics are chemicals,
many of which are toxic.

Protecting human health and the environment will require measures to control production volumes, eliminate toxic chemicals, and ensuring transparency and traceability.

CHEMICALS IN THE PLASTICS TREATY:

Perspectives on Protecting Human Health



28 MARCH 2024 | 12:00 - 13:30 CET
ONLINE (WEBEX)

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AGENDA

Opening

- Griffins OCHIENG | Executive Director of the Centre for Environmental Justice and Development & Co-chair of the IPEN Toxic Plastic Working Group | Moderator

Welcome

- H.E. Amb. Luis VAYAS VALDIVIESO | Chair, INC Plastic Pollution, Ecuador

Member State Perspective on Needs for Chemicals Regulation in the Treaty

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BRS Conventions and Chemicals in Plastics, State of Play and Future Perspectives

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State of Play on Chemicals and Polymers of Concern in the Treaty

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Open Discussion

Closing



With the support of the



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Chemicals in the Plastics Treaty:
Perspectives on Protecting Human Health

28 March 2024, Webinar



BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM
C O N V E N T I O N S

BRS conventions and chemicals in plastics, state of play and future perspectives

Kei Ohno Woodall

Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions



GLOBAL GOVERNANCE OF PLASTICS AND ASSOCIATED CHEMICALS

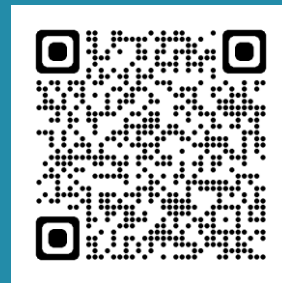
2023

SECRETARIAT OF THE BASEL, ROTTERDAM AND STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS



CHEMICALS IN PLASTICS

A TECHNICAL REPORT



Binding multilateral instruments addressing chemicals in plastics / polymers



- Plastic Waste Amendments (Annex II, VIII, IX) clarify plastic waste subject to the Basel Convention provisions, including **types of polymers, resins, hazardous constituents, mixtures of plastics**.
- Process for amending Annexes VIII and IX: **A proposal by a Party**, consideration by the OEWG, followed by the COP.



- PIC procedure for international trade in hazardous chemicals and pesticides. **15 chemicals or groups of chemicals listed are associated with plastics**.
- Process for amending Annex III to list a new chemical: **Notifications of FRAs from 2 PIC regions**, review by the **Chemical Review Committee** pursuant to Article 5 and Annex II, consideration by the COP.



- Global control of persistent organic pollutants (POPs). **17 chemicals or groups of chemicals listed are associated with plastics**.
- Process for amending Annex A, B or C to list a new chemical: **A proposal by a Party**, review by the **POPs Review Committee** pursuant to Article 8, Annex D, E, F, consideration by the COP.



- Global control of mercury. **Mercury and mercury-added products and processes** are regulated to minimize their use and emissions.
- Process for amending Annex A (mercury added products) and Annex B (processes): **A proposal by a Party**, consideration by the COP. Ad hoc experts' group may be established by the COP as necessary.

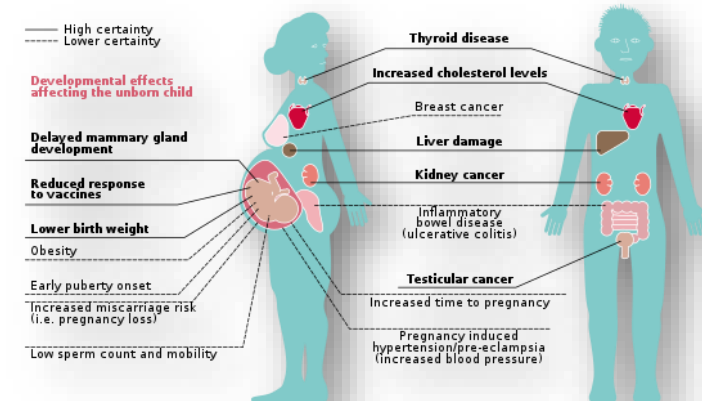
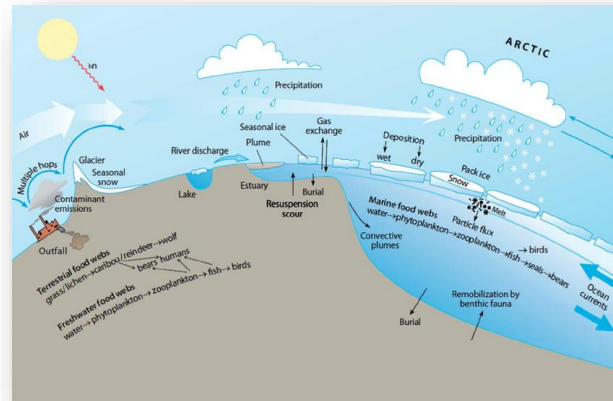
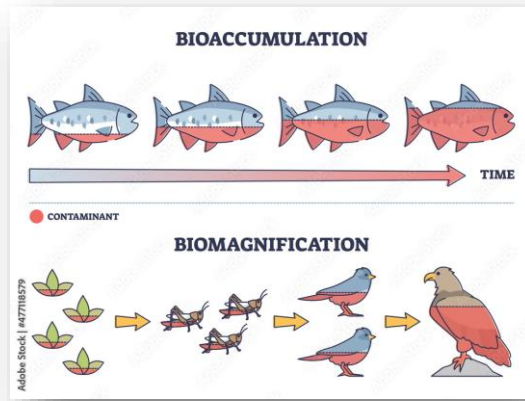


- Global control of substances listed in the annexes to the **Montreal Protocol**.
- Assessment and review of control measures pursuant to Article 6 by the Protocol's **assessment panels**.
- Process for amending Annexes A, B, C and E or an additional annex: **A proposal by a Party**, consideration by the MOP.



- The ILO Chemicals Convention (C170) prescribes the **classification of chemicals by hazards** for the protection of workers.

Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants



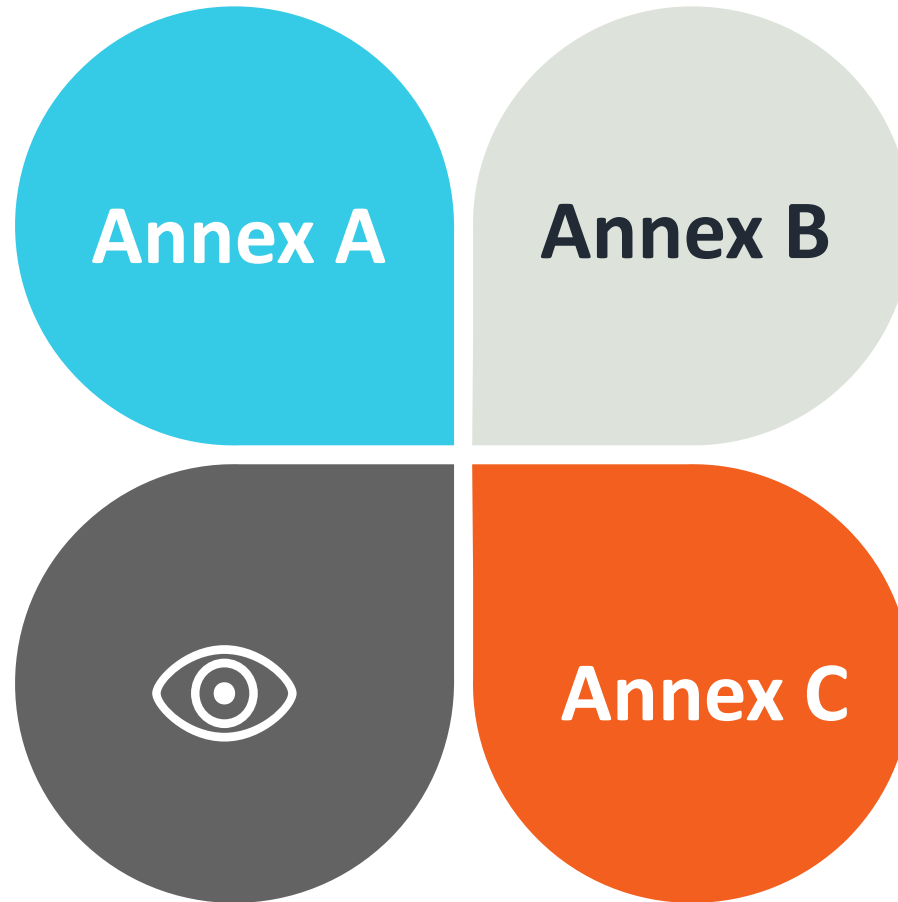
A group of organic compounds that possess characteristics of:

- Persistence
- Bio-accumulation
- Adverse effects
- Potential for long-range environmental transport

Implications of listing chemicals in Annexes A, B, and C

Annex A: Elimination (with time limited “Specific exemptions”)

- Prohibit and/or take the legal and administrative measures necessary to eliminate:
 - Production and use of the chemicals listed in Annex A
 - Import and export of the chemicals listed in Annex A
- Ensure that the chemical is imported/exported **only** for the purpose of **environmentally sound disposal**
- Identify **stockpiles and waste** containing POPs and **manage them in an environmentally sound manner in line with the Basel Convention**



Mechanism to review and add new chemicals

- Article 8, Annex D, E, F,
- POPs Review Committee (POPRC)

Annex B: Restriction
(with “Acceptable purposes” for which Parties can continue production/use if registered.)

- **Restrict** its production and use of the chemicals listed in Annex B.

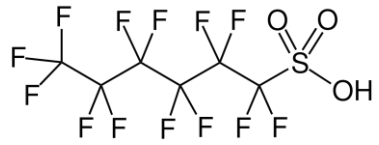
Annex C: U-POPs

- Develop an **action plan** to address the unintentional releases (**e.g. dioxins and furans from open burning**)
- Promote the development and use of **substitute or modified** materials, products
- Promote the application of **BAT/BEP**
- Use **release limit values** or **performance standards**

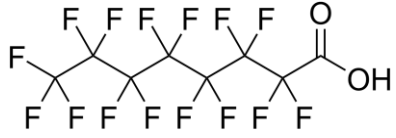


STOCKHOLM

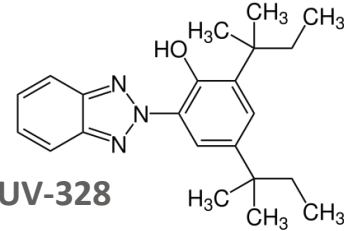
Chemicals used in plastics listed in the Stockholm Convention



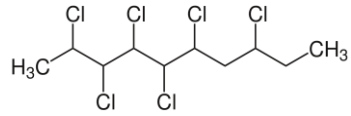
PFHxS, its salts and PFHxS-related compounds



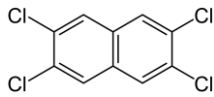
PFOA, its salts and PFOA-related compounds



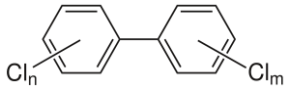
UV-328



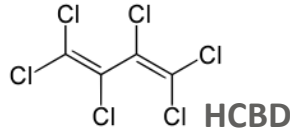
SCCPs



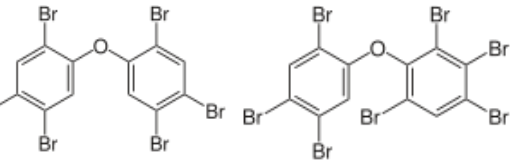
PCNs



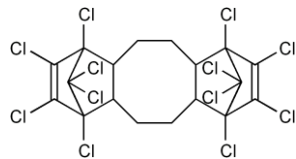
PCBs



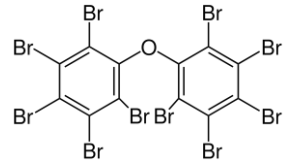
HCBD



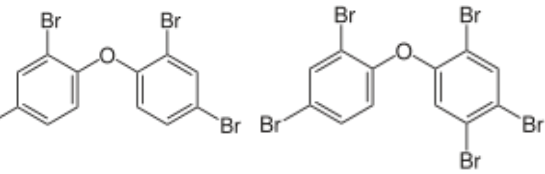
HexaBDE and HeptaBDE (C-OctaBDE)



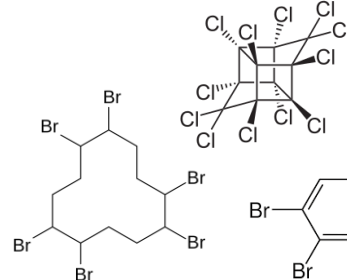
Dechlorane Plus



DecaBDE

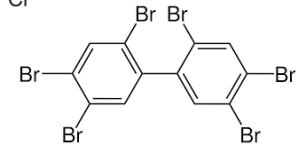


TetraBDE and PentaBDE (C-PentaBDE)



HBCDD

Mirex



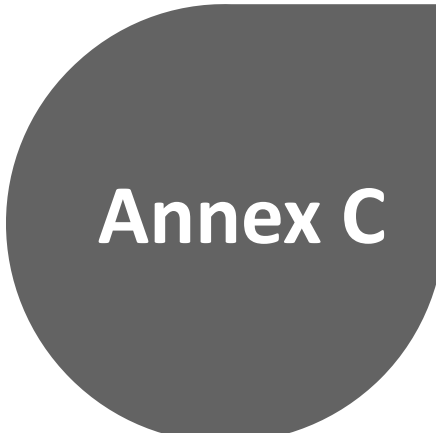
Hexabromobiphenyl



Annex A



Annex B



Annex C



34 POPs

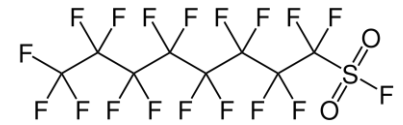
17 plastics-related chemicals

Restriction

Acceptable purposes

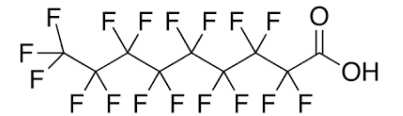


PFOS, its salts and PFOSF

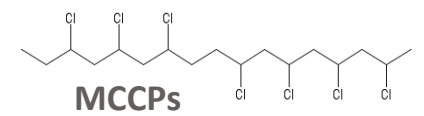


Under review

POPs Review Committee



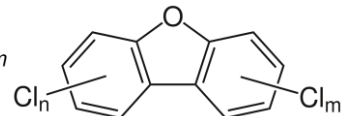
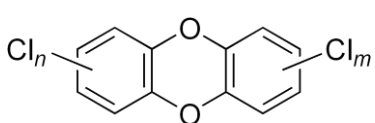
Long-chain PFCAs



MCCPs

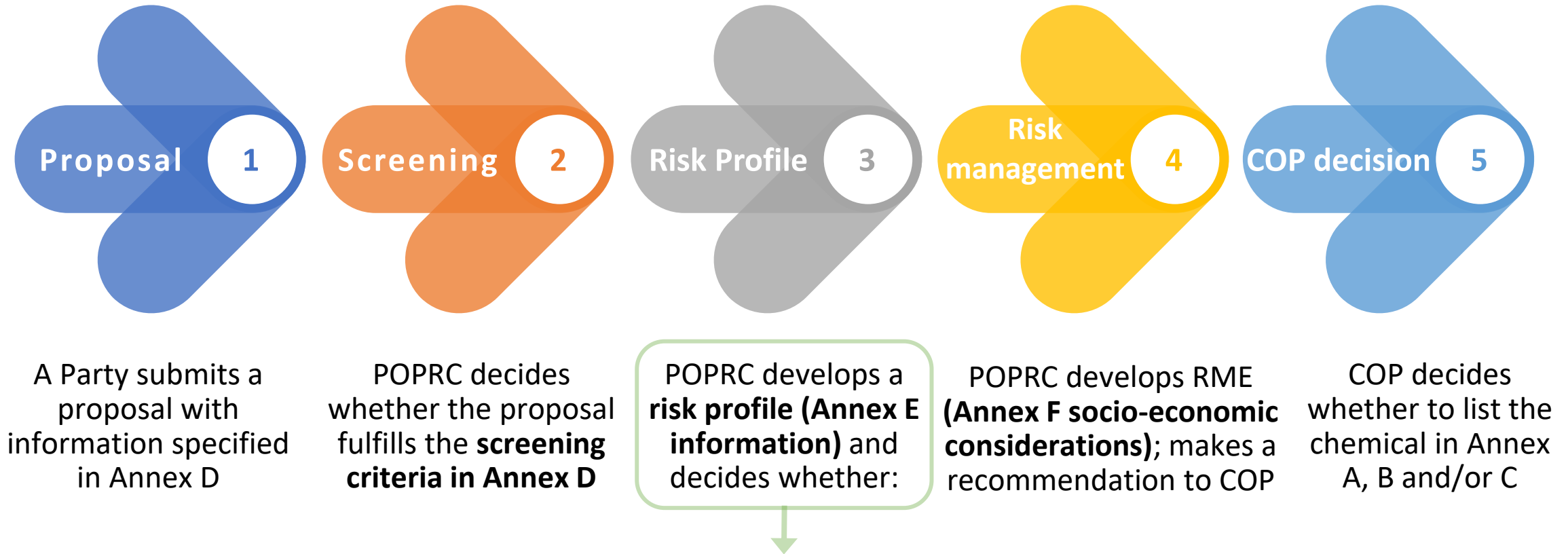
Unintentional releases

BAT/BEP



Dioxins and furans

Process for listing a new chemical in Annex A, B and/or C to the Stockholm Convention – Article 8



The chemical is likely as a result of its long-range environmental transport to lead to significant adverse human health and/or environmental effects such that global action is warranted.

Annex D screening criteria

The Committee shall examine the proposal and apply the screening criteria specified in Annex D in a flexible and transparent way, taking all information provided into account in an integrative and balanced manner.

Persistence

- **Half-life** of the chemical in water is >2 months, in soil is >6 months, in sediment is >6 months
- Chemical is **otherwise sufficiently persistent to justify its consideration** within the scope of the Convention

Bioaccumulation

- **BCF or BAF** in aquatic species for the chemical is >5,000, or **logKow** is >5
- A chemical presents **other reasons for concern**, such as **high bio-accumulation** in other species, **high toxicity or ecotoxicity**
- **Monitoring data** in biota indicating that the **bio-accumulation potential** of the chemical is sufficient to **justify its consideration** within the scope of the Convention



Potential for long-range environmental transport

- **Measured** levels of the chemical in locations distant from the sources of its release that are potential concern
- Monitoring data showing that LRTP of the chemical, with the **potential for transfer to a receiving environment**, may have occurred via air, water or migratory species
- Environmental fate properties and/or **model results** that demonstrate that the chemical has a LRTP through air, water or migratory species, with the **potential for transfer to a receiving environment** in locations distant from the sources of its release. For a chemical that migrates significantly through the air, its half-life in air should be >2 days.

Adverse effects

- **Evidence of adverse effects** to human health or to the environment **that justifies consideration** of the chemical within the scope of this Convention.
- **Toxicity or ecotoxicity data** that indicate the **potential** for damage to human health or to the environment.

Annex E risk profile

Lack of full scientific certainty shall not prevent the proposal from proceeding.



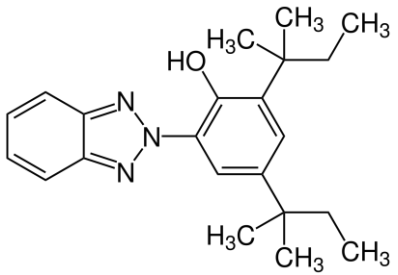
- a. **Sources** (Production, use, releases)
- b. **Hazard assessment for the endpoint**
- c. **Environmental fate** (including properties linked to environmental transport)
- d. **Monitoring data**
- e. **Exposure in local areas**, in particular as a result of long-range environmental transport, including information regarding bio-availability
- f. **National and international risk evaluations**, assessments or profiles and labelling information and hazard classifications
- g. **Status of the chemical under international conventions**

Listing stage: The Conference of the Parties, taking due account of the recommendations of the Committee, including any scientific uncertainty, shall decide, in a precautionary manner, whether to list the chemical, and specify its related control measures, in Annexes A, B and/or C.



Potential for long-range transport – Transport with plastics in water

- Proposed by Switzerland in 2020
- UV stabilizer in plastics



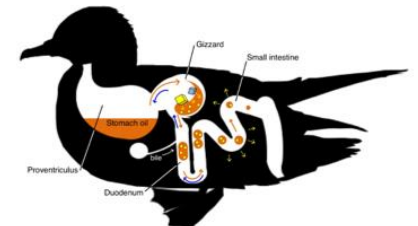
1) UV-328 in plastic waste



2) Transport of plastic debris to remote regions



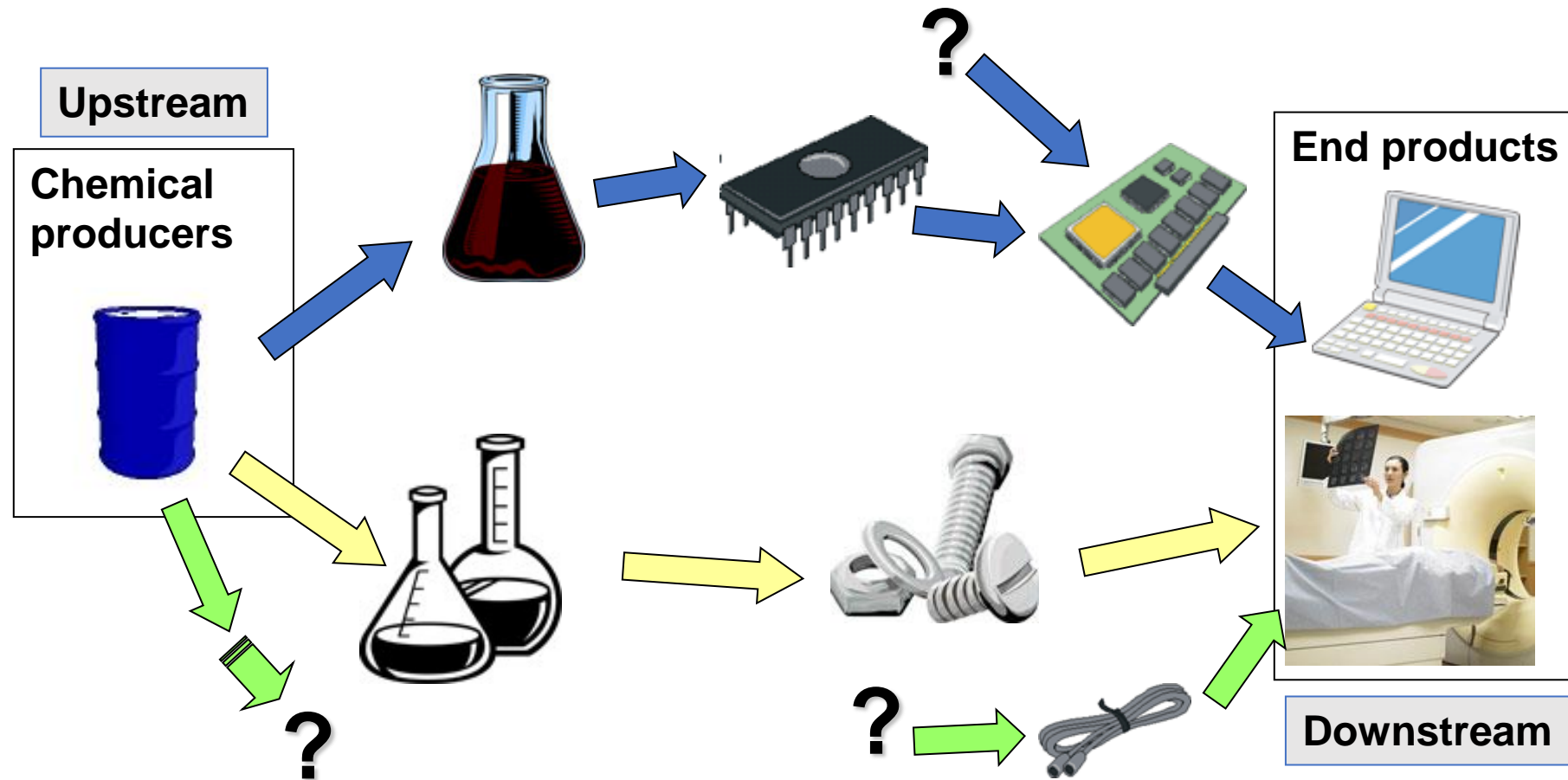
3) Consumption of plastic debris by seabirds



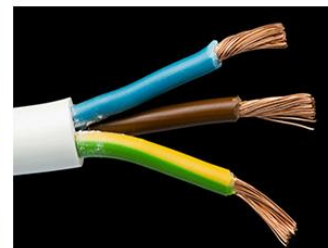
4) Uptake of UV-328 from ingested plastic debris



Special care is needed for industrial chemicals because they are used in numerous processes and parts, complex supply-chain and involves many producers and users:




Ensuring transparency and traceability of chemicals in products throughout the lifecycle is a challenge.





Group approach to listing chemicals – experience from the Stockholm Convention

- **Alpha-HCH; Beta-HCH; Lindane (Gamma-HCH)** >> isomers are listed separately
- **Hexabromobiphenyl** >> Only one chemical is covered among polybromobiphenyls (PBBs)
- **UV-328** >> Only one chemical is covered among benzotriazole UV-stabilizers
- **“PFOS, its salts and PFOSF”** >> all 96 PFOS precursors are covered
- **“PFOA, its salts and PFOA-related compounds”** >> all substances that degrade to PFOA are covered >350 substances (Similarly, all substances that degrade to PFHxS are covered = nearly 200 substances)
- **“TetraBDE and pentaBDE”** >> by listing representative congeners, all BDEs present in commercial mixture of pentaBDE are covered. (Similarly, “HexaBDE and heptaBDE” covers all BDEs in octaBDE commercial mixture, “DecaBDE” covers all BDEs in decaBDE commercial mixture → technically all PBDEs used as flame retardants)
- **“SCCPs”** >> defined by chain length and chlorine content, with examples provided
- **“PCBs”** >> all 209 congeners are covered (Similarly, all 75 dioxin congeners and 135 furan congeners are covered)
- **“Hexabromocyclododecane”** >> all isomers are covered (Similarly, all Dechlorane Plus isomers are covered)
- **“Polychlorinated naphthalenes”** >> of the 75 CNs, all but mono-chlorinated naphthalene is covered.



Effective also to avoid regrettable substitution.



Chemicals of concern not covered by the Stockholm Convention

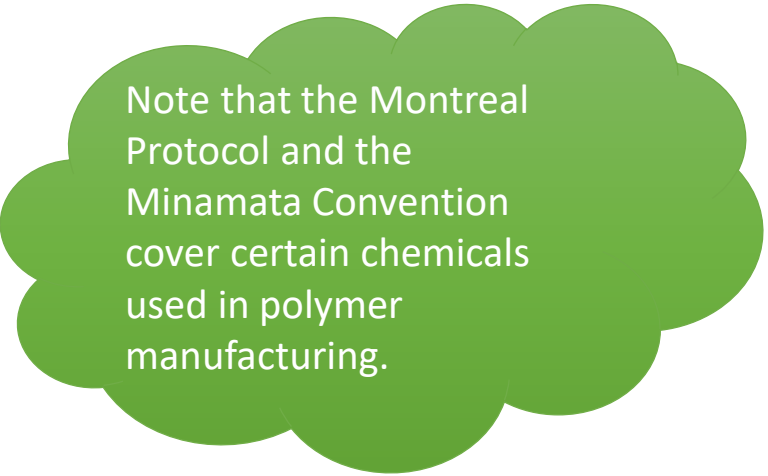
There are **many** other chemicals with adverse effects to human health and/or environment that are not regulated by the Stockholm Convention.

These may be:

- Currently **under review** but have not been listed yet (Currently three are under review)
- Do not have enough **information** to determine (Parties might be collecting information)
- **No Parties** have submitted a proposal for listing (Parties might be preparing proposals)
- Do not **meet the criteria** for listing under the Stockholm Convention (Out of scope)

Examples of chemicals used in plastics not covered:

- Phthalates, including DEHP
- Bisphenols, including Bisphenol A (BPA)
- Alkylphenols, including nonylphenol (NP), octylphenol (OP)
- Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), including benzo[a]pyrene
- PFAS, except for PFOS, PFOA, PFHxS and their salts and precursors
- Metals and metal compounds, including lead and cadmium



Note that the Montreal Protocol and the Minamata Convention cover certain chemicals used in polymer manufacturing.

Thank you!



Kei Ohno Woodall
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Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam
and Stockholm conventions
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CH 1219 Châtelaine, Geneva
Email: kei.ohno@un.org

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CHEMICALS IN THE PLASTICS TREATY: Perspectives on Protecting Human Health



Michel TSCHIRREN

Head, Global Affairs Section, Federal Office
for the Environment, Switzerland



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of the Environment, Transport,
Energy and Communications DETEC
Federal Office for the Environment FOEN
International Affairs Division

Concept and Approach to Address Problematic and Avoidable Plastic Products and Chemicals of Concern in the LBI

Geneva Environment Network, 28 March 2024



Context of the Informal Intersessional Work by Switzerland

- At INC-3, many members identified **needs for substantial discussions on plastic products and chemicals of concern**;
- In the INC process, many member state and observer **submissions** asked for specific phase-outs of products and chemicals of concern;
- **Existing MEAs** need to be considered and **duplication avoided**;
- Dynamic field: need to take into account the necessity for member states to make **updates**;
- **Follows mandate of UNEA resolution 5/14**: addressing plastic pollution and the full lifecycle as well as promoting circularity.



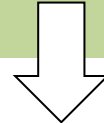
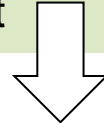
Overview of the Informal Intersessional Work

- **Objective:** Discussion on concrete ways to address problematic and avoidable plastic products and chemicals of concern.
- Technical Expert Group Meeting in Geneva, organized by Switzerland;
- Basis for discussion was an input paper (including a draft article; initial products list, placeholder for an initial chemicals list)
- Input Paper does not reflect the official Swiss position, it does not prejudice the ongoing negotiations.



Concept

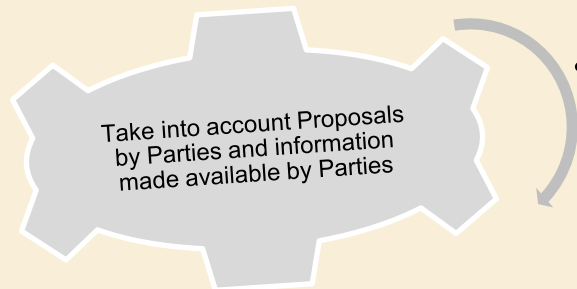
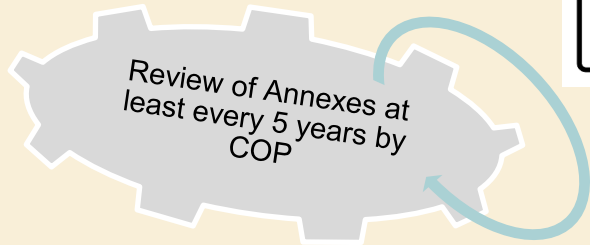
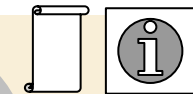
Control Measure:	Phase-out of certain plastic products	Phase-out of certain chemicals of concern in products	Globally harmonized information exchange on designated chemicals of concern within specified products
Scope:	Manufacture, import, export	Manufacture, import, export	Manufacture, import, export
Criteria:	Criteria need to be developed (6 proposed criteria as basis for discussion)	Criteria need to be developed	Criteria need to be developed
Timeline:	Initial Products List by INC-5	Potential Initial List by DipCon or develop list between DipCon and COP1; COP1 adopts Initial Chemicals List	COP1 adopts Initial List of chemicals and products on which information is sought



Annex A

Annex B

Initial List



Review and Expand



Rationale for the Proposed Concept (I)

- Builds on **ongoing activities** in the public and private sectors;
- **Simplifies** as much as possible, recognizing **limited negotiation time**;
- Takes maximum advantage of the **preparation time** between DipCon and the first meeting of the COP (approx. 3 years).



Rationale for the Proposed Concept (II)

- Recognizes a **global list** of problematic products is **essential for LBI's effectiveness**, and may influence investors;
- Builds in **mechanisms** to add a «chemicals of concern» annex, and to add new products and chemicals into the annexes over time;
- Anticipates **time-limited exemption process** for Parties to implement control measures within a reasonable timeframe.

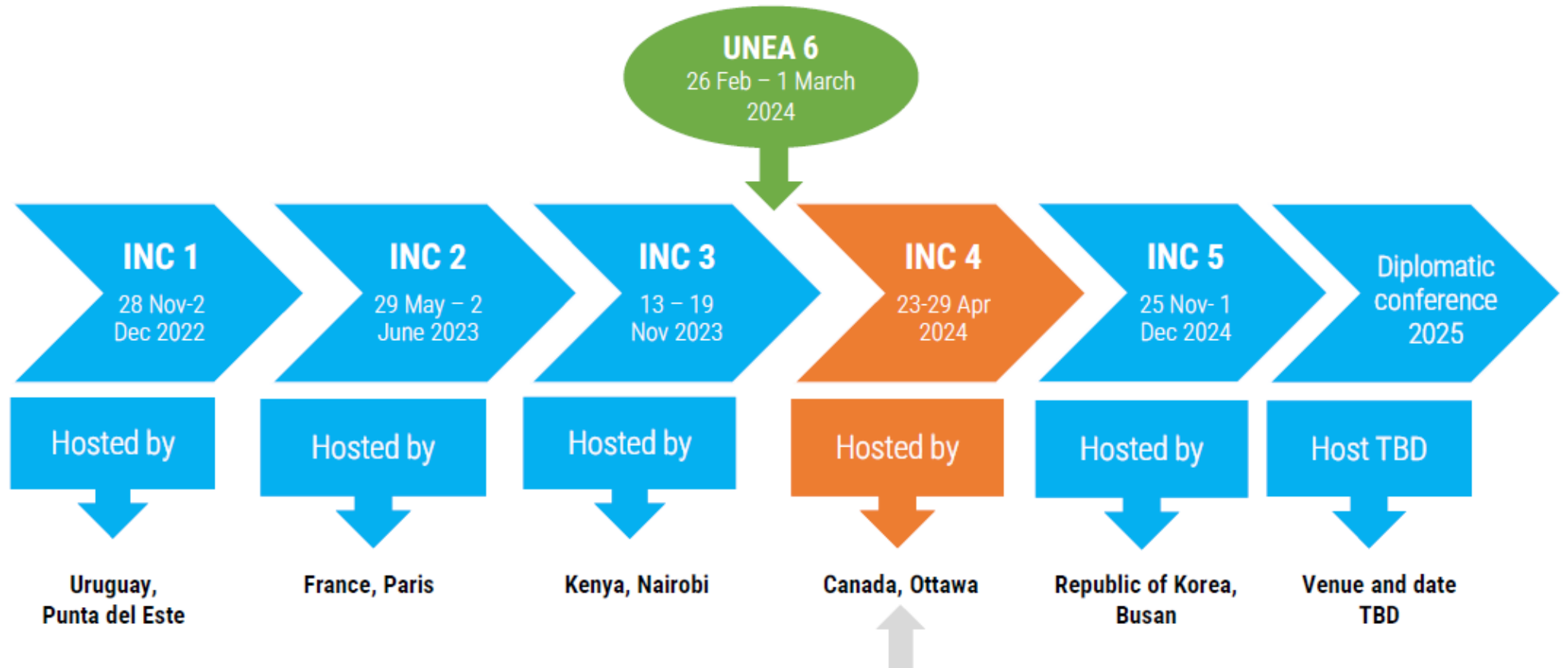


Input Paper: Rationale for Listing of products

- The criteria/rationale for listing builds on **existing efforts**.
- Largely drawn from the criteria developed by the Global Plastic Pact Network, a **public–private initiative** focused on plastic packaging that has engaged 55 governments representing over 1 billion people across five continents, and 250+ businesses representing 20% of all plastic packaging globally.
- The list also reflects many other **existing regulations and initiatives**.
- Intentionally added **microplastics** were added to the list of problematic/unecessary products given growing evidence of adverse impacts, government actions, and INC discussions.



Timeline of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC)





Contact information

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michel.tschirren@bafu.admin.ch

CHEMICALS IN THE PLASTICS TREATY:

Perspectives on Protecting Human Health



28 MARCH 2024 | 12:00 - 13:30 CET
ONLINE (WEBEX)

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AGENDA

Opening

- Griffins OCHIENG | Executive Director of the Centre for Environmental Justice and Development & Co-chair of the IPEN Toxic Plastic Working Group | Moderator

Welcome

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Open Discussion

Closing



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Policy & Technical Advisor, IPEN



CIEL

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State of play on Chemicals and polymers of concern in the Treaty

IPEN views

Vito A. Buonsante

28 Mar 2024



There is a broad agreement that Human health protection one of the objectives of the treaty

2. Objective

Option 1

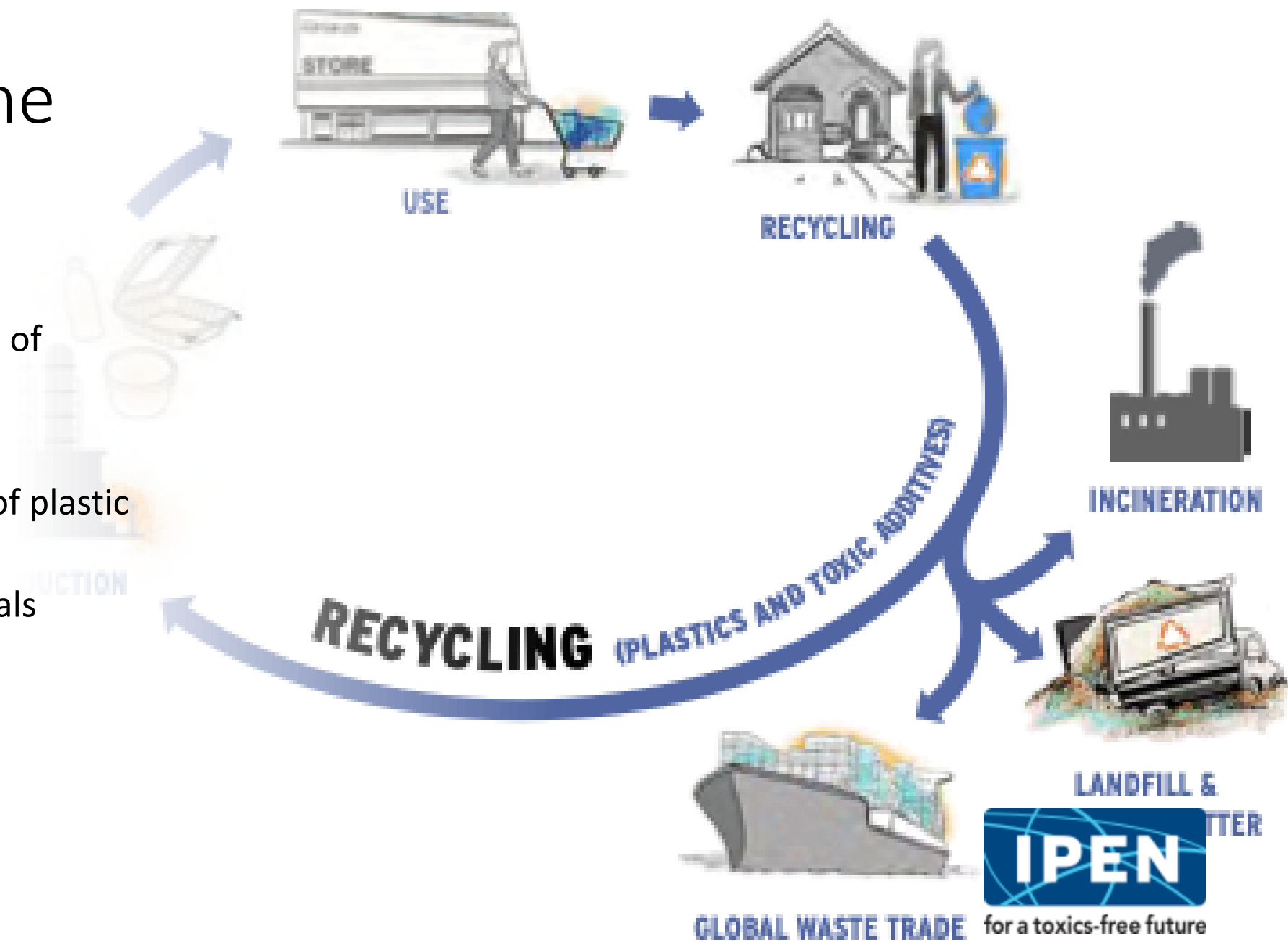
1. The objective of this *instrument** is to end plastic pollution, including in the marine environment [and other aquatic as well as terrestrial ecosystems], [based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastic] [through the prevention, progressive reduction and elimination of [additional]**⁶ plastic pollution] [by 2040] [and enhanced efforts thereafter], [in order] to protect human health and the environment [from its adverse effects] [and to achieve sustainable development].

Option 2

2. The objective of this *instrument** is to protect human health and the environment from [the adverse effects of] plastic pollution, including in the marine environment [and other aquatic as well as terrestrial ecosystems], [by ending plastic pollution based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastic] [through the prevention, progressive reduction and remediation of [additional]** plastic pollution] [management] [and utilization of plastic and plastic waste] [according to national priorities] [by 2040] [and enhanced efforts thereafter], [and to achieve sustainable development][, poverty eradication and just transition,] [considering the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities] [as well as financial and technical support].

Chemicals in the zero draft

- Chemicals and polymers of concern
- Design
- Emissions and releases of plastic throughout its life cycle
- Trade of plastics chemicals
- Recycling
- Transparency



Chemicals and polymers of concern in draft

- IPEN believes that the INC should:
 - Global, legally binding controls: national control measures are not sufficient.
 - Groups of chemicals: allow regulating chemicals in groups.
 - Address both “Use” and “presence” of chemicals in plastics (not limited to products!)
 - Chemical controls should be comprehensive: monomers, polymers, processing agents/aids, additives, and non-intentionally added substances.
 - Provide for an Annex that can be updated
 - Have criteria to establish concern
 - Establish an initial list of chemicals to restrict

Visible:

Plastic Waste/Litter



Invisible:

Toxic Plastic Chemicals



for a toxics-free future

Chemicals and products: different concerns

Product controls

- Narrow approach
- Downstream
- Litter
- Consumer goods companies are accountable

Chemicals controls:

- Entire lifecycle
- Health protection
- Chemicals and plastics industry is accountable

Outcomes for chemicals by INC5

- Scientific criteria for defining chemicals of concern
- An initial list of chemicals already regulated in plastics (phthalates, bisphenols, benzotriazoles, etc)
- Mechanisms for exemptions (time bound and subject to reviews)
- Possible inclusion of polymers that meet the hazard criteria (e.g. styrene)
- Transparency and traceability measures that allow safe handling and safe recycling



Thank you!

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THANK YOU!



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Chair, INC Plastic Pollution, Ecuador



Andrea GORE



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Kei OHNO WOODALL



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Executive Director, Centre for Environmental
Justice and Development | Co-chair, IPEN
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NEXT ON GENEVA **BEAT PLASTIC POLLUTION** DIALOGUES

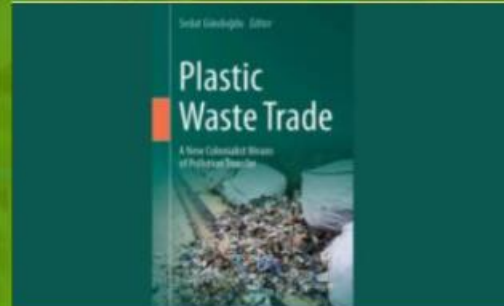


CONFERENCE

Plastics Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade: Call for Action

09 APR 2024 14:00 - 15:30
WTO and Online | Webex
WTO, GEN

- 🕒 Chemicals and Pollution | Plastics
- 🕒 SDG3 | SDG12



VIRTUAL

Launch and Panel Discussion | Plastic Waste Trade: A New Colonialist Means of Pollution Transfer

15 APR 2024 15:00 - 16:30
Online | Webex
Basel Action Network, GEN

- 🕒 Chemicals and Pollution | Plastics
- 🕒 SDG3 | SDG12 | SDG17



VIRTUAL

Launch and Panel Discussion | Plastics Treaty: Aligning States Duties and Business Responsibilities with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

12 APR 2024 14:00 - 15:00
Online | Webex
OHCHR

- 🕒 Chemicals and Pollution | Plastics | Human Rights and Environment
- 🕒 SDG12



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