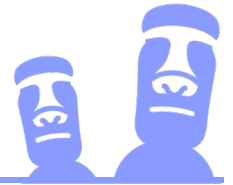


# Addressing the disproportionate effects of plastic pollution in Island Territories



Insights from the Pacific Islands for an ambitious, legally binding [Global Plastics Treaty](#)



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**GALÁPAGOS**  
Ecuador



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This policy brief aims to highlight the adverse and disproportionate impacts that Pacific island territories face from plastic pollution.

Building on the [Rapa Nui Declaration](#), signed in April 2024, and follow-up actions agreed at INC-4<sup>1</sup>, this document provides guidance and practical recommendations for negotiators of the Global Plastics Treaty to incorporate measures that bolster the international response to plastic pollution in island territories, which affects both the health and livelihoods of indigenous people and coastal communities, and the unique biodiversity of the Pacific region. Our contribution seeks to achieve a robust outcome from INC5 negotiations in Busan that equips us with the necessary legal, institutional, and economic tools to address this growing global problem.

## Recommendations

- Pacific Islands suffer disproportionately from plastic pollution, threatening biodiversity, livelihoods, and public health, despite minimal contributions to the problem. A Global Plastics Treaty (GPT) offers an opportunity to address this injustice. Including small nuances in the GPT text can have a powerful effect on the protection of our island homes.
- The increased production of new plastics needs to be addressed in the GPT. The production of plastics has a huge impact on climate change, puts a strain on waste management systems and prevents other important measures, such as extended responsibility, reuse and repair schemes and the promotion of the circular economy, from being effective. Production of plastic polymers must be reduced in order to end pollution at its very root.
- The GPT must mandate the elimination of non-essential single-use plastics, promote eco-design principles for all plastic products, and enforce strict producer responsibility to minimise pollution and harm throughout the entire plastic lifecycle. Measures should extend to include and enforce regulations on fishing gear and aquaculture fisheries and stringent controls on vessel waste disposal.
- Corporate accountability is crucial, with producers bearing the costs of managing plastic waste through robust traceability systems and enforcement of the Polluter Pays Principle.
- Plastic pollution endangers public health and ecosystems, making it critical for the treaty to prioritise human and environmental well-being while upholding the right to a healthy environment.
- Accessible and sustainable financing mechanisms are vital to support islands and community-based solutions, ensuring the treaty delivers real impact where it is needed most.

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# Introduction



The Pacific Islands are a stunningly diverse region, home to vibrant cultures and communities that coexist with a wide array of species, up to 75% of which are found nowhere else<sup>2</sup>.

The region features some of the world's most unique ecosystems, including the most extensive coral reefs and the deepest ocean trenches. Yet, despite significant conservation efforts, scientific evidence shows the widespread and transboundary nature of plastic pollution. Carried by ocean currents and wind, plastic crosses borders into even the most pristine Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), undermining local efforts and threatening marine biodiversity. Moreover, it is estimated that by 2030, up to 53 million metric tons of plastic will enter our aquatic ecosystems affecting 25,000 Pacific islands annually, which are home to 2.3 million people, jeopardising their health, livelihoods and the overall well-being of life on islands. This means plastic pollution will triple without significant changes in plastic production, consumption, and disposal.

Islands in the Pacific face distinct challenges, such as geographic isolation, limited infrastructure, dependence on imports, high tourism rates, and high exposure to climate change that exacerbate the impacts of plastic pollution. This combination of factors makes our communities disproportionately vulnerable, despite contributing less than 1.3% of mismanaged global plastic pollution.

## Nonetheless, the Pacific Islands are territories of hope.

If the unfair burden of plastic pollution is effectively and collectively tackled on the islands, then proven solutions will be available for the world to replicate. Pacific Islands are already pioneering local solutions that demonstrate that plastic pollution can be defeated when tackled holistically. By promoting prosperity and sustainability, our communities are leading the way to a future where thriving ecosystems and resilient communities coexist in harmony. It is therefore essential that the forthcoming Global Plastics Treaty recognises the Pacific's unique circumstances and opportunities, crafting a holistic and systemic approach that addresses the multifaceted drivers of plastic pollution.

## The INC Chair's non-paper as baseline for negotiations

The [INC Chair's non-paper 3](#) provides an important basis for the forthcoming treaty, with provisions that align with the concerns of Pacific Island communities. We highlight, for example, the focus on reducing plastic use, improving plastic waste management, and promoting international cooperation as key strengths. We value the inclusion of Article 19 on Health, given the exposure island communities face and the potential risks of microplastic ingestion. We also applaud the recognition of the special circumstances and needs of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and the provision for these states to be represented on the treaty's potential Implementation Committee.

However, we share our concern about the limited approach to some provisions that could hinder the effective implementation of the treaty and jeopardise its success. In this regard, we support voices from civil society such as the [Scientists Coalition](#), [World Wildlife Fund](#), [Pacific Civil Society Organizations](#) and the [Center for International Environmental Law \(CIEL\)](#), calling on negotiators to seek an agreement that necessarily includes:

- Addressing the **full life cycle of plastics to protect human health and the environment**, including existing plastic pollution;
- Reducing the production of **new plastic polymers**, including rapid measures to curb the production of non-essential plastics;
- A **human rights-based approach**, ensuring that the **rights of Indigenous Peoples**, workers including waste pickers, youth, and communities living on the frontlines of the plastic crisis are respected and upheld;
- **Mandatory periodic reporting** by Parties and the creation of a centralised information system that allows States and stakeholders to monitor, report, and analyse data on plastic pollution **transparently** and with a view to **accountability**;
- Implementation mechanisms that allow **treaty provisions to be built and adapted over time**, including that decisions are adopted by **majority vote**, so that progress cannot be vetoed by any of the parties.

# Policy recommendations to support Pacific Islands



With the talks in Busan on the horizon, where the future of the treaty will be determined, we raise our voices to demand a legally binding instrument that effectively protects island homes.

Delivering on the Rapa Nui Pacific Leaders Summit Declaration (Point 12), and on the [Galapagos, Rapa Nui and Juan Fernández Sisterhood Declaration](#), this policy brief presents recommendations and concrete edits to the Chair's [non-paper 3](#). This reflects the reality of Pacific islands and provides evidence of challenges, successes and learnings in the region.

## 1. Ensure equitable treatment for all island territories

Plastic pollution affects islands in similar ways, regardless of their legal status, whether an island is an independent nation, a region within a continental state, or even uninhabited. The difference lies in the support available to address the problem. While many Pacific territories share vulnerabilities with SIDS, the former do not always have the same access to international aid. The Treaty should extend its protections and provisions to **all islands** to ensure that all island communities receive the support they need. (See recommendations to [Preamble](#) and [Article 9](#) and [Article 12](#)).

## 2. Localise the economy and promote the eco-design approach

Waste management services in island ecosystems are collapsing due to an increase in imported products, mainly single-use plastics (SUPs), packaging and material recovered from coastal clean-ups. This situation is threatening the effectiveness of local mitigation strategies such as coastlines beach clean-ups, as macroplastics exposed to the elements (UV-radiation, temperature variations, water) and in landfills break down into microplastics, making them harder to collect and control.

To prevent this situation, the Global Plastics Treaty must support localisation of economies and mandate producers' responsibility for eco-design to prevent pollution throughout their whole lifecycle. Producers should focus on keeping any resource in the economy for a long period of time by creating value through interventions to slow and narrow the loop, with schemes such as reuse, repair, refurbish, and repurpose. In addition, any alternatives to SUPs should actively support the regeneration of ecosystems, including by contributing to essential natural processes such as the carbon and nitrogen nutrient cycles.

However, eco-design will not be enough. Plastic production and its significant contribution to greenhouse gas emissions has a particular impact on islands and their communities. Control measures to reduce virgin plastic production, as well as moratoriums and caps on new production, will be indispensable to reduce the pressure on waste management systems, extended producer responsibility and even eco-design, reuse, repair and others. At the same time chemicals of concern and the path by which they will be reduced and phased out must be clearly identified in the specific annex, and the circular economy must be safe and non-toxic for biodiversity and people. (See recommendations to [Article 3](#) and [Article 6](#)).

### Spotlight

#### Aotea - Mugs to Last

On 1 October 2023, Aotea all but eliminated single-use cups. To ensure this was a sustainable solution, particularly for tourists who may not have their own reusable cup, the island has set up a 'mug library', which was formed from disused household mugs from the community, where you can borrow a mug for free and return it on your next visit to any participating outlet, or you have the option to purchase a reusable cup which you can keep or also return at the same outlets. This drives [Aotea's ambition](#) for zero waste to landfill by 2040.

Aotea provides an example of a system that has been designed to reduce SUPs by promoting the re-use of mugs on the island, where communities and visitors are happy to adapt to use them.



### 3. Replace and eliminate non-essential plastics and single-use plastics (SUPs) that have no economic incentive to be recycled and are not safe

Island territories face significant challenges in addressing plastic pollution due to limited resources and infrastructure, while dealing with both local waste and pollution from continental and oceanic sources reaching these islands via marine currents. The Plastics Treaty presents two key opportunities to address these constraints. Firstly, it can establish a global ban on non-essential single-use plastics, and require producers to disclose information about plastic types and additives on the product to help territories make informed decisions about local management. Non-essentiality criteria must be developed in line with the [waste management hierarchy](#) and prioritising a health-focused approach.

Secondly, the treaty should empower islands to lead case-by-case assessments of their waste management capacities and limitations. With these provisions, islands like the Galapagos and Rapa Nui would have the legal backing to promote national discussions to decide which materials should be sent to the mainland for recycling and which should be banned because there is no infrastructure to deal with them, or because it is not economically viable or environmentally sustainable to transport them. These considerations regarding the use of plastics should underpin the actions of the new Plastics Treaty and should be required for all countries and islands. (See recommendations to [Article 3](#), [Article 5](#), and [Article 6](#)).

#### Spotlight

#### Banning single-use plastics

Vanuatu's [single-use plastic ban](#) (2018), which includes shopping bags, polystyrene takeaway boxes and plastic tableware, has seen a reduction of now-banned items from making up 35% of Vanuatu's waste, to now less than 2%. A similar successful proactive approach has been taken in Tuvalu, Marshall Islands and across the Pacific.

SUP bans in the Global Plastics Treaty are essential to islands to prevent SUPs pollution arriving on oceanic currents (from rivers or fleets) and through imports from the mainland.



[MORE CASE STUDIES >](#)



## 4. Preventive principle, polluter liability and traceability

In line with the previous points, it is important that the Plastics Treaty first includes the Preventive principle through promoting the reduction of virgin plastic production and promoting eco-design. In addition, the GPT should include the Polluter Pays Principle, through Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes or Advanced Recovery/recycling Fees to ensure a response to any corporate pollution by strengthening reverse logistics models, funding mitigating strategies (i.e. coastal clean-ups or recovering ALDFG), fostering industrial symbiosis among local governments, the private sector, recyclers and consumers, and funding brand audits (similar to when the fisheries sectors pay for on-board observers). On Galapagos coastlines, for example, 98 manufacturers have been identified, of which four brands account for more than 50% of the plastics found: AjeGroup (20%)<sup>3</sup>, Coca-Cola (18.2%), Tingyi Holding Corporation (8.8%) and Pepsico (6.22%)<sup>4</sup>. These companies are also identified in other case studies<sup>5</sup>.

Although Coca-Cola is making efforts to promote returnability schemes on some islands, plastic pollution is still received through ocean currents. At the moment, the full life cycle of these plastics is unlikely to be dealt with by the companies due to the lack of adequate traceability systems. Therefore, for polluters to take full liability they should be guided by the [preventive principle](#). Moreover, the following components need to be incorporated

- a. Harmonisation of data collection** to monitor plastic pollution and measure progress.
- b. Product Labelling and Tracking:** Mandate clear labelling and chemical transparency on plastics for traceability, enabling waste origin to be linked back to responsible producers.
- c. Traceability Technology:** Employ QR codes, RFID tags, or chemical tags that allow communities to track pollution sources, enhancing producer accountability.
- d. Community Engagement:** Educate communities on identifying polluting brands or products, incentivising them to report pollution and participate in clean-up and advocacy initiatives.

(See recommendations to [Article 8](#) and [Article 14](#)).

### Spotlight

#### Container deposit schemes in the Pacific

One model that has seen success in the Pacific Islands context is [container deposit schemes](#) (CDSs).

For example, in **Tuvalu**, the Waste Management Levy Deposit Regulation (August 2019) integrates an advanced recycling fee (through a deposit system) for supporting recycling operations, as well as an advanced disposal fee (through a product tax) to support the collection and safe disposal of specific waste streams. This has ensured that importers are obligated to pay the deposits / levy for the import of their products.

In 2021, in collaboration with Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), the project expanded to build small Waste Levy sheds or depots on each island so communities can claim their Waste Levy refunds like social and economic benefits, have a cleaner environment, and have equal access to waste facilities, so recyclable items can be transported back to Funafuti, and onwards, for recycling.



## Spotlight

### Galapagos coastal clean-up and baseline assessments of plastic pollution

Since 2017, the Galapagos National Park Directorate (GNPD) has taken significant steps to tackle plastic pollution. In collaboration with Conservation International and Galapagos Conservation Trust, the GNPD has undertaken coastal clean-ups and supported scientific research to understand and mitigate the impacts of plastic pollution.

Key funding has enabled the development of a baseline assessment of plastic pollution sources and impacts and the implementation of targeted mitigation strategies. These efforts are further strengthened by the Pacific Plastics: Science to Solutions network which generates critical evidence of sources and impacts of plastic pollution.

[This baseline](#) has placed Galapagos in a stronger position to guide policy-making and management decisions. Indeed, in 2025, the GNPD will launch its 2030 Coastal and Marine Plastic Pollution Management Plan, while the Consejo de Gobierno de Galápagos will present its new ordinance to reduce plastic pollution in populated areas. Despite these advancements, Galapagos faces challenges in securing sufficient funding to address both coastal and imported plastic pollution, and to prevent the formation of microplastics. To tackle this, implementing a polluter-pays mechanism could provide a solution to offset the financial burden imposed by external sources of plastic pollution, ensuring Galapagos can maintain its conservation leadership.



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## 5. Focus on the origin and impacts of plastic pollution, including for marine ecosystems in island territories and MPAs

A key strategy to safeguard marine ecosystems is to address plastic pollution at the outset, stopping it from reaching the ocean<sup>6</sup>. Island territories, with their extensive Exclusive Economic Zones and MPAs, are particularly affected by the direct dumping of plastics by fleets operating in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ)<sup>47</sup>. Inefficient or non-existent waste management on board results in a variety of hard-to-manage waste, such as single-use plastics and Abandoned, Lost or Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG), including fish aggregating devices (FADs), which poses a significant challenge for island communities.

While many international regulations exist, their implementation is often lacking. The Plastics Treaty must act as a catalyst, coordinating efforts to facilitate the enforcement of mandates like the MARPOL Annex 5 (International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships), the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ), and FAO's Agreement on Port State Measures (PSMA) and other international instruments. By providing the necessary resources, the new treaty can help ensure that existing regulations are effectively implemented in all waters (territorial, international and MPAs), reducing plastic pollution, improving fleet management and safeguarding biodiversity from threats like IUU fishing, in line with marine conservation efforts at ecosystem level. (See recommendations to [Article 8](#) and [Article 16](#)).

## 6. Treating plastic pollution as a public health issue

Treating plastic pollution as a public health problem means putting people and ecosystems at the centre of the discussion. The United Nations has recognised the human right to a healthy environment, which encompasses access to safe water and sanitation, healthy and sustainably produced food, and non-toxic living conditions. Plastic pollution hinders the enjoyment of this fundamental right, particularly for island and coastal communities that rely on local food sources and are prone to ingesting microplastics - a disproportionate burden on vulnerable populations like women, children, and indigenous peoples.

The scientific community is increasingly concerned about the health risks posed by human exposure to plastics, including adverse impacts on endocrine, reproductive and cardiovascular systems, and socio-psychological effects<sup>4</sup>. Similarly, wildlife faces threats from microplastic ingestion, as evidenced by studies in the Galapagos Islands showing 52 species are affected by this contamination<sup>8</sup>. Beyond human and ecological harm, plastic pollution also jeopardises local economies dependent on ecotourism.

To uphold the human right to a healthy environment, the new global plastics treaty must gather comprehensive data and implement measures to prevent the risks posed by exposure to plastic particles and associated pollutants. Prioritising public health and ecosystem integrity should be central to the treaty's vision and implementation (See recommendations to [Preamble](#), [Article 5](#), and [Article 19](#)).

### Spotlight

#### The Plan AMOR Programme from Rapa Nui stands as a model of environmental sustainability and health promotion in island contexts

Rapa Nui, one of the world's most remote inhabited islands, faces severe plastic pollution, particularly microplastics carried by ocean currents. This pollution threatens marine biodiversity and human health, as the community depends on local resources like fishing.



The [AMOR Plan](#) (Self-Sufficiency, Continuous Improvement, Resource Optimisation, and Respect) tackles this issue by integrating circular economy practices with ancestral values like 'Umaŋa (solidarity) and Mo'a (respect). Initiatives such as recycling at the Orito Waste Valorisation Centre, the Textile Recycling Centre, and the Tapa'ō Ritomata green label transform waste into resources, reduce environmental impacts, and strengthen the local economy.

The E tahi Poki E tahi Tumu (One Child, One Tree) project allows mothers to plant a tree in honour of their newborns, alongside the baby's placenta, and provides free breastfeeding counselling. This promotes early-life health, connection to nature, and reduced plastic use from the first days of life.

Rapa Nui's health-focused, community-driven model demonstrates how localised solutions can combat plastic pollution, protect biodiversity, and ensure the human right to a healthy environment, combining local resilience with global action.





## 7. Establish an adequate and accessible financing mechanism

Developing countries and island territories are disproportionately burdened by the costs of plastic pollution, often in the context of debt distress. According to [WWF](#), it costs 8 times more to manage plastic in middle and lower-middle income countries than in developed countries given structural inequalities in the current plastic value chain that penalises poorer countries that are not equipped to manage plastic waste originated elsewhere. It is the municipalities, local governments, grassroots organisations, indigenous peoples, and local communities on the frontline of waste management that often face the greatest barriers to accessing the necessary funding and international support to invest in essential infrastructure and clean-up efforts. These effects are exacerbated on remote oceanic islands.

Building on successful financing examples such as the [Montreal Protocol](#), negotiators should prioritise the creation of a **dedicated financial mechanism** that ensures sufficient financial resources from public and private sources, as well as easy and direct access to finance. As such, we envision a financial mechanism that:

- **Provides support to those who need it most:** In addition to States, local governments, indigenous and local community-based organisations must be able to engage directly, with simplified processes that respond to their priorities and needs on the ground.
- **Targets critical policy areas:** Including technology transfer for eco-design, waste management infrastructure, remediation (including safe clean-up operations and technologies to deal with plastics), circular economy initiatives and capacity building, in particular in developing countries and vulnerable territories. This funding should complement large-scale public and private investments in waste management infrastructure and technology deployment.
- **Ensures long-term financial sustainability:** By establishing a global fee on the production of new plastics, in line with the polluter pays principle, which would reduce pressure on other critical funding commitments such as climate and nature finance.

(See recommendations to [Article 11](#)).

### Spotlight

#### Making funding work for the Pacific Islands

French Polynesia offers a powerful example for financing sustainable waste management, relevant to the Global Plastics Treaty. Through collaborative efforts between the French State, local governments, and international organisations, the region has secured significant funding for infrastructure development and circular economy initiatives. Programs like the State-French Polynesia Project Contract (2015-2020), the 10th European Development Fund and, more recently, the Development and Transformation Contract (2024-2027) have enabled the construction of essential waste treatment facilities and support the gradual bans on single-use plastics. The latter mobilised about 83 million USD. This transition is accompanied by the integration of indigenous knowledge into circular economy practices and the promotion of alternatives.

French Polynesia's experience underscores the importance of well-structured and coordinated financing mechanisms, to optimise resource allocation and achieve tangible results.





# Conclusions

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The negotiations in Busan are an opportunity we cannot afford to miss.

While we recognise the complexities of reaching consensus, we urge delegates to establish a strong foundation for tackling plastic pollution at its roots, following a whole society (social-ecological, biocultural, and systems thinking) approach. This foundation must include a financial mechanism and dedicated fund, which we propose is backed by a global fee on virgin plastic production. This dedicated fund should guarantee a continuous flow of resources for waste management, environmental remediation and infrastructure strengthening projects in vulnerable territories, prioritising community leadership and traditional knowledge in the implementation of solutions.

Overall, the outcome must serve as a cohesive force, bringing together fragmented efforts across borders and sectors into one global strategy. We call for an agreed outcome that equips island territories, NGOs, policymakers, businesses, communities and future generations with the tools to build on this landmark treaty, raising global ambition in the future.

Island territories such as Galapagos and Rapa Nui, along with other Pacific islands, face a disproportionate burden from plastic pollution. We call upon the negotiators of the Global Plastics Treaty to heed our voices and respond to these realities, by incorporating specific financial, technical and legal mechanisms that ensure the unique challenges of Pacific Islands communities are at the forefront of this historic agreement.

By amplifying local solutions and forging global solidarity, we can chart a course towards a resilient, plastic pollution-free future that protects our communities through sustainable local mitigation and adaptation efforts, restores our ecosystems, and safeguards our shared planet.

**The time to act is now.**

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<sup>1</sup> This was led by the Rapa Nui Municipality and the Directorate of the Galapagos National Park, with the support of Galapagos Conservation Trust and the Pacific Plastics: Science to Solutions network between Pacific islanders and supporters.

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# About the authors

This policy brief was developed by the Pacific islands working groups led by the Rapa Nui Island Municipality and the Directorate of the Galapagos National Park, following the Rapa Nui Declaration, with the support of the Pacific Plastics: Science to Solutions network (co-led by Galapagos Conservation Trust and University of Exeter) and committed organisations and individuals from or supporting Pacific islands.

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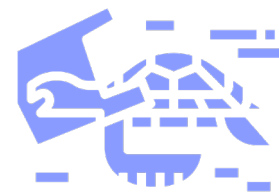
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**We invite readers to support these recommendations for islands to be considered in achieving a historic, equitable and ambitious Global Plastics Treaty.**





## Further reading

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## Appendix 1

### The negotiator's guide to a Global Plastics Treaty that supports Island Territories

\*Text additions and changes are marked in **bold** and brackets. Our additions have been made to the proposed English text of the Chair's non-paper 3. They have been translated into Spanish and French but may vary at place of insertion.

Article non-paper	Action for negotiators	Proposed text or specific recommendations
Preamble	<b>Strengthen approach</b>	Recognizing the special circumstances and needs of developing countries, and the disproportionate impact of such plastic pollution on Small Island Developing States, <b>[and all island territories under Parties' jurisdiction]</b>
	<b>Add new text</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>[Recognizing the critical role of communities living in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and indigenous peoples in combating plastic pollution, and acknowledging the unique vulnerability of their ecosystems, local economies and cultures to the impacts of plastic pollution and the need for targeted support.]</b></li> <li>• <b>[Recalling Resolution A/76/L.75 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly which recognizes the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.]</b></li> </ul>
Article 3: Plastic products and chemicals of concern as used in plastic products	<b>Consider to develop text</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure criteria to identify plastic products and chemicals of concern are transparent, including <b>clear labelling of plastic types and additives</b>, enabling waste origin to be linked back to responsible producers.</li> <li>• Ensure that Annex [A] on controlled products includes a provision to <b>phase out non-essential single-use plastics by 2040</b>.</li> <li>• Add a clause emphasising <b>the development and adoption of alternative materials that contribute to the regeneration of the ecosystems such as those contributing to their habitat and carbon or nitrogen nutrient cycle</b>.</li> <li>• Specify that <b>lists of plastic products and harmful chemicals should account for the capabilities and infrastructure limitations of low-capacity countries and islands under Parties' jurisdiction, ensuring flexibility and fairness in implementation timelines</b>.</li> <li>• Promote the use of technology such as QR codes, RFID tags, or chemical tags that allow communities to track pollution sources, enhancing producer accountability.</li> </ul>
Article 5: Plastic Product Design	<b>Strengthen approach</b>	<p>5.1. Each Party <b>[must]</b> take measures...</p> <p>5.2. The Conference of the Parties shall adopt, at its first meeting, <b>[the requirements for] Parties [to implement]</b> paragraph 1 of this Article. The Conference of the Parties shall keep under review, and update as appropriate, the <b>[requirements]</b> developed pursuant to this paragraph.</p>

Article non-paper	Action for negotiators	Proposed text or specific recommendations
Article 6: Supply	<b>Consider to develop text</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include a provision specifying that <b>curbing plastic pollution requires measures to reduce the levels of plastic entering the environment, taking into account changes in production patterns to reduce dependence on plastic materials.</b> Provisions should include <b>Parties to adopt the necessary measures within their jurisdiction to curb plastic production.</b></li> <li>• Add a clause to require States including islands under Parties' jurisdiction to <b>measure and report the levels of plastic produced, or imported, ensuring accountability and transparency in achieving supply reduction targets.</b></li> </ul>
Article 8: Plastic Waste Management	<b>Amend text with additions</b>	<p>8.1. Each Party shall take measures, (...) to ensure that plastic waste is managed in an environmentally sound manner (...). In developing such guidelines, the Conference of the Parties shall take into account arrangements in relevant international agreements.</p> <p><b>[8.1(a) Each Party shall also take measures to ensure that plastic waste in the marine environment is prevented and handled in an environmentally sound manner. To this end, Parties shall prompt guidelines that support the mandates of relevant international agreements such as the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Convention, the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures (PSMA), Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (WHC), the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).</b></p> <p>8.2. Each Party <b>[shall]</b> take additional measures which could include, inter alia: (...)</p> <p>(b) Establishing systems at national and local levels for handling, sorting, collection, transportation, storage, recycling, and treatment of plastic wastes, <b>[with an emphasis on providing targeted support for infrastructure upgrades in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and other islands under Parties' jurisdiction with low capacity];</b> (...)</p> <p>(d) Incentivizing <b>[the adoption of preventive measures towards the reduction of plastic pollution, especially pollution in the marine environment, as well as]</b> increased recyclability, promoting higher recycling rates, and enhancing the accountability of producers and importers for environmentally sound management of plastics and plastic products throughout their life cycle, including by the adoption and implementation of approaches such as extended producer responsibility (EPR) schemes <b>[or advanced recovery fees];</b></p>



Article non-paper	Action for negotiators	Proposed text or specific recommendations
Article 8: Plastic Waste Management  (cont.)	<b>Amend text with additions</b>	<p>Work in the interim period between the DipCON and COP1 could include guidance on developing national EPR schemes and on exports of plastic waste pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 4 (for adoption by the COP at its first meeting), and any interim arrangements. It could also include: <b>[guidance on preventing and mitigating plastic pollution in the marine environment including ALDFG];</b></p>
Article 9: Existing Plastic Pollution	<b>Strengthen approach</b>	<p>9.1. Parties shall cooperate to: (...)</p> <p><b>9.1 (b)</b> Take mitigation and remediation measures, including clean-up activities in such identified affected locations or accumulation zones, taking into account the special circumstances of Small Island Developing States <b>[, islands under Parties' jurisdiction and Marine Protected Areas]</b>, and the disproportionate impacts on them of such plastic pollution. <b>[Parties shall provide these disproportionately affected territories priority assistance and financial support, in accordance with Article 11].</b></p> <p>9.3. Each Party <b>[shall ensure the]</b> engagement of local communities, civil society, <b>[in particular historically underrepresented groups such as women and indigenous groups]</b>, as well as the private sector, in activities pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 2.</p>
Article 10: Just Transition	<b>Strengthen approach</b>	<p>[1. In the implementation of this Convention, Parties shall cooperate to promote and facilitate a transition (...) taking account of the situation of workers in the informal sector, including waste pickers, Indigenous Peoples, <b>[women, and children ]</b> and...</p> <p>2. Each Party is encouraged to <b>[localise the economy and]</b> promote the engagement of affected communities, civil society, as well as the private sector, in activities pursuant to paragraph 1.</p>
Article 11: Finance, including the establishment of a Financial Mechanism	<b>Consider to develop text</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a <b>dedicated financial mechanism</b> that ensures the availability of <b>sufficient funding</b>, from public and private sources, as well as <b>easy and direct</b> access to finance for frontline organizations (local governments, indigenous and community-based organisations).</li> <li>• Establish a Fund to be resourced by a <b>fee on virgin plastic production</b> which will provide a stream of funding, discourage plastic production and redistribute funds to communities affected by plastic pollution. This fee would be collected from plastic producers by Parties.</li> <li>• Ensure that the financial mechanism prioritises <b>SIDS and islands under Parties' jurisdiction for grants and concessional funding to support the implementation of local initiatives prioritising those led by indigenous peoples to address existing pollution, capacity building, and innovation.</b></li> </ul>

Article non-paper	Action for negotiators	Proposed text or specific recommendations
<p>Article 12: Capacity building, Technology Assistance and Technology Transfer, including international cooperation</p>	<p><b>Strengthen approach</b></p>	<p>12.1. Parties, within their respective capabilities, shall cooperate to provide timely, and appropriate capacity-building and technical assistance to developing country Parties, in particular to least developed country Parties, Small Island Developing State Parties <b>[and all islands under Parties' jurisdiction]</b>, to assist them in implementing their obligations under this Convention.</p> <p>12.3. Parties shall promote and facilitate the development, transfer, diffusion of and access to technologies addressing plastic pollution <b>[including plastic pollution in the marine environment affecting islands]</b> in an environmentally sound manner...</p>
<p>Article 13: Implementation and Compliance</p>	<p><b>Add text</b></p>	<p><b>[(a) This Agreement shall be interpreted and applied in a manner that does not undermine relevant legal instruments and frameworks and relevant global, regional, subregional and sectoral bodies and that promotes coherence and coordination with those instruments, frameworks and bodies, especially on marine plastic pollution in the marine environment affecting Islands and Marine Protected Areas.]</b></p>
<p>Article 14: National Plans</p>	<p><b>Strengthen approach and endorsement of proposal</b></p>	<p>1. Each Party <b>[shall]</b> develop and implement a national plan, based upon its national needs, circumstances and capabilities, to describe the measures it intends to take to implement its obligations under this Convention, <b>[including specific, time-bound targets for the reduction of plastic pollution into the environment including the marine environment]</b> (...)</p> <p>2. A Party may at any time adjust its national plan in order to enhance its level of ambition based on its national circumstances and capabilities, <b>[including through the development of specific plans for islands under Parties' jurisdiction]</b>.</p> <p>3. Parties should, in undertaking work pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 2, consult national stakeholders to facilitate the development, implementation, review and updating of their national plans, <b>[ensuring fair and equitable representation of indigenous peoples and other underrepresented and vulnerable groups, and introducing national legislation for the mandatory disclosure of plastic production from the private sector]</b>.</p> <p>4. Parties are encouraged to collaborate and coordinate on the development and implementation of subregional and regional plans <b>[including islands under Parties' jurisdiction]</b> to facilitate implementation of this Convention, as appropriate.</p>

Article non-paper	Action for negotiators	Proposed text or specific recommendations
Article 16: Effectiveness evaluation and monitoring	<b>Strengthen approach</b>	<p>16.2. The Conference of the Parties shall, at its first meeting, initiate the establishment of arrangements for providing itself with relevant data and information on plastic pollution, <b>[including in the marine environment]</b> and adopt (...)</p> <p>16.4 (f) Relevant information and recommendations provided by any subsidiary body (...) and multilateral organizations such as (...) <b>[the BBNJ, the Convention on Migratory Species and the Convention on Biological Diversity].</b></p>
Article 17: Information Exchange	<b>Strengthen approach</b>	<p>17.1 (c) (...) Scientific and technical knowledge, (...), on environmentally sound waste management, sources of plastic pollution, <b>[including in the marine environment,]</b> human and fauna and flora exposure to plastic pollution.</p> <p>17.4. Parties are encouraged to <b>[cooperate]</b> to learn from and build on existing ongoing processes, initiatives and networks to <b>[develop]</b> and share knowledge, and highlight successes, including <b>[promoting scientific research and developing]</b> examples for replicating and scaling sustainable solutions.</p>
Article 19: Health	<b>Strengthen approach</b>	19.1 (a). Promote the development and implementation of strategies and programmes to identify and protect populations at risk, particularly vulnerable populations <b>[such as children, women and indigenous peoples]</b> (...);
	<b>Add new text</b>	19.1 <b>[(e) Promote the development and implementation of strategies, programmes and guidelines on the relationship between plastic pollution and climate change].</b>

## Appendix 2

### Case Studies and Resources



#### **Policy Briefs we support for collective positive ambition at INC5**

- [WWF](#)
- [Center for International Environmental Law \(CIEL\)](#)
- [Civil Society Organizations Statement from Pacific Islands](#)
- [Scientist's Coalition for an Effective Plastics Treaty](#)

#### **Ban and eliminate non-essential plastics and SUPs that have no economic incentive to be recycled**

- [Vanuatu Single Use Plastics Ban 2018](#)
- [Tuvalu's Prohibition on the Importation of Single Use Plastic Regulation 2019](#)
- [Marshall Islands Legislation for the prohibition of \(I\) single use plastic bags, single use Styrofoam plastic cups and plates \(II\) container deposit legislation 2016](#)
- [Anamata Resource Recovery on Aotea Great Barrier Island: Mug Library](#)
- [ANZPAC Plastics Pact](#)
- [Wahieke Resources Trust](#)
- [Extended Producer Responsibility in the Philippines](#)
- [Container Deposit Schemes in the Pacific Islands](#)

#### **Corporate Accountability and Eco-Design**

- [RecyClass](#)
- [ANZPAC Plastics Pact](#)

#### **Producer and polluter pays principle and traceability**

- [Samoa's Waste Management Act](#)
- [UNEP Palau Waste Audit Report 2019 – with details on Palau's CDS](#)