

Commission : Environment
Session : 6th Zonal MUN 2019
Sponsors : Argentina, Australia, China, Denmark, Kuwait, Libya,
Myanmar, North Korea, Peru, Somalia, Vietnam

QUESTION OF: **ADDRESSING THE GLOBAL MICRO-PLASTIC PROBLEM**

The General Assembly,

Alarmed by the deaths of countless fish, including rare species, which hinders the availability of food,

Expressing deep concern that micro-plastic results in the degradation of the landscape and has a negative impact on the aesthetic value of the surrounding environment, therefore affecting local tourism,

Fully aware that textile and cosmetic industries discard synthetic fabrics and microbeads in estuaries,

Noting with regret that one third of micro-plastic particles caused by tyre wear, are washed into the sewers by rainwater and endanger marine life,

Deeply conscious that fish is a significant source of protein for humans who are at the end of the food chain and that micro-plastic ingested by fish are subsequently consumed by humans and may lead to some serious health problems,

Deeply concerned that microplastics rarely degrade and can last for thousands of years and this is becoming a huge environmental issue,

1. Suggests the use of membrane technology to purify wastewater as it captures all micro-plastics along with bacteria and it is designed to filter water without using pumps, making it a more energy efficient solution;
2. Recommends consumer education concerning littering of plastic materials and the enforcement of fines for littering;
3. Supports clean up campaigns such as Clean up the World and activities that address local environmental issues including the damage caused by plastics;
4. Invites the United Nations Environment and European Commission hosting Global Plastics Platform to explore innovative ways to change the habits of production and disposal of plastic products;

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5. Expresses its appreciation towards the European Union for calling upon the European Commission to introduce the banning of intentionally added micro-plastics in products such as cosmetics in the very near future;
6. Requests member States to urge industries to minimise their plastic packaging and use alternatives such as bioplastics, mushroom root and bagasse;
7. Renews its appeal for international help from allies to invest in research and development to provide new non-polluting alternatives which will eventually produce less micro-plastic;
8. Urges member States to maintain demand for new plastic by incinerating postconsumer material efficacy through regulated designs and producer responsibility;
9. Calls upon international NGOs such as Algalita and Clear Blue Sea to help fight against micro-plastic pollution;
10. Endorses the mapping of sources of marine waste, increased market responsibility to prevent new propagation and strengthening of waste management globally;
11. Applauds the private sector for its engagement in promoting more environmentally-conscious practices, such as recycling plastic bags.