



One planet  
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# Solutions from the One Planet Network to Curb Plastic Pollution

High-Level event  
organized in collaboration with  
the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment in the margins of the INC2

*By invitation only*

**30 May 2023 | 6:30 - 9pm CEST**  
**Address: 1 quai de Grenelle, Paris (Rooftop Grenelle)**

**T**he challenges around plastic pollution result from unsustainable consumption and production patterns and inadequate waste management, compounded by increased demand for single use plastic products and packaging caused by the global coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), among other factors<sup>1</sup>. The [2022 New Plastics Economy Global Commitment Progress Report](#) demonstrates that, in 2021, the use of virgin plastic in packaging by its business signatories increased by 2,5%, returning to 2018 levels.

Given this context, only a systemic change in the ways we produce and consume can reverse the current trends. Circular approaches can support driving this systemic change. UNEP latest spotlight *report Turning off the Tap: How the world can end plastic pollution and create a circular economy* enhances the key role of circular economy in addressing ambitious responses to tackle plastic pollution globally.

The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, that was set to support the negotiation process towards developing a legally binding treaty to end plastic pollution, will consider how to promote sustainable production and consumption of plastics from product design through to environmentally sound waste management, via resource efficiency and circular economy approaches.

This shift in paradigm requires reliable sustainability information which is systematically distributed to consumers and is based on life cycle thinking and credible labelling standards.

As a response to a mandate given in 2019 by the United Nations Environment Assembly 4, in its Resolution 6 on 'Marine plastic litter and microplastics', operative paragraph 5 (UNEP/EA.4/Res.6)<sup>2</sup> the One Planet Network leveraged the expertise of its global community of comprising thousands of practitioners, policymakers, and experts to collect

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), 2021b. From Pollution to Solution. A global assessment of marine litter and plastic pollution. United Nations Environment Programme. Nairobi, Kenya.

<sup>2</sup> "Requests the Executive Director, through UNEP's 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production patterns, to develop guidelines for the use and production of plastics in order to inform consumers, including about standards and labels; to incentivize businesses and retailers to commit themselves to using sustainable practices and products; and to support governments in promoting the use of information tools and incentives to foster sustainable consumption and production."

tools and solutions that can support governments and businesses with the transition towards circular economy of plastics by improving consumption practices.

UNEP latest spotlight report *Turning off the Tap: How the world can end plastic pollution and create a circular economy* proposes asystems change to address the causes of plastic pollution, combining reducing problematic and unnecessary plastic use with a market transformation towards circularity in plastics. This can be achieved by accelerating three key shifts – reuse, recycle, and reorient and diversify – and actions to deal with the legacy of plastic pollution.

In this regard a set of solutions and action frameworks developed by the One Planet Network programmes on Consumer Information, Lifestyles and Education, Public Procurement and Tourism were developed and compiled between 2020 and 2022 with the financial support of the European Union, the French Ministry of Environment and the Swiss Federal Office for Environment.

Solutions to be showcased during this event comprise critical areas such as:

- Use of reliable standards, labels, and claims on plastics
- Development of behavioral change campaigns
- Sustainable public procurement of plastic products and packaging and their alternatives
- Engagement of businesses to implement circular economy of plastics, particularly in the tourism sector, through the Global Tourism Plastics Initiative.

## Objectives of the Event

The high-level event *Solutions from the One Planet Network to Curb Plastic Pollution* is aimed at providing a space to showcase UNEP latest spotlight report *Turning off the Tap: How the world can end plastic pollution and create a circular economy* and advocate for impactful solutions and acknowledge commitments taken by governments and businesses to support global efforts towards the implementation of circular economy of plastics in the context of the One Planet Network. The event is co-organized by the One Planet Network and the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment team, co-led by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation and UNEP.

Voluntary commitment and action frameworks such as the *New Plastics Economy Global Commitment* and its sectoral interface the *Global Tourism plastics Initiative*, offer a clear pathway for the implementation of circular economy of plastics, while the *One Planet network and its programmes* provide tools, methodologies and solutions that support governments and businesses with the implementation of this vision in the context of a global emergency to scale up ambition and efforts to effectively address plastic pollution.

## Agenda

Refer to the following page.

## Agenda

18:30-18:37	<b>Opening remarks</b>
18:37-18:45	<b>Key message from the Report Turning off the Tap: How the world can end plastic pollution and create a circular economy</b> , Sheila Aggarwal-Khan, Director Industry and Economy Division, UNEP (tbc)
18:45-18:52	<b>Inspiring keynote:</b> Ms. Georgina Grenon, Director Environmental Excellence, Organization Committee, <b>Olympic Games 2024</b>
18:52-19:00	<b>Solutions from the One Planet network to support governments and businesses to implement ambitious commitments on circular economy of plastics:</b> Jorge Laguna-Celis, Head of the 10YFP Secretariat
19:00-20:05	<p><b>High level round table</b></p> <p><b>Joining forces through the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment (NPEGC) and the Global Tourism Plastics Initiative (GTPI) to implement circular economy of plastics</b></p> <p><b>Moderation:</b> Mr. Rob Opsomer, Executive Lead for Plastics and Finance, <b>Ellen MacArthur Foundation</b></p> <p><b>1. Setting ambitious policies towards circular economy of plastics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hon. Sam Cheptoris, Minister of Water and Environment, <b>Uganda</b></li> <li>Mr. Samat Shatmanov, Vice Minister of Culture, Information and Tourism of the <b>Kyrgyz Republic</b>, Director of the Department of Tourism</li> <li>Ms. Cecilia Nicolini, State Secretary of Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Innovation, <b>Argentina</b></li> <li>Mr. Petros Varelidis, Secretary-General for Natural Environment and Water, Ministry of Environment and Energy, <b>Greece</b></li> </ul> <p><b>2. Front-running businesses in support of the Business Coalition for a Global Plastics Treaty</b></p> <p><i>Announcement of annual results of implementation of the Global Tourism Plastics Initiative</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Zoritsa Urosevic, Executive Director of the <b>World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)</b></li> </ul> <p><i>Ambitious solutions and pilots implemented by the GTPI and the NPEGC business signatories:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Brune Poirson, Chief Sustainability Officer, <b>ACCOR</b></li> <li>Mr. Bertrand Swiderski, Chief Sustainability Officer, <b>Carrefour</b></li> </ul>
20:05-20:10	<b>Closing remarks</b> by H.E. Ambassador Giovanna Valverde, <b>Co-Chair of the 10YFP Board, Ambassador of Costa Rica in Kenya and Permanent Representative to UN agencies, UNEP and UN Habitat</b>
20:10-21:00	<b>Cocktail reception</b>

**About the One Planet network:**

The One Planet network programmes, a global community of practitioners, policymakers, and experts, including governments, businesses, civil society, academia, and international organizations, joining forces around implementation of Sustainable Development Goal12 (SDG12).

**About the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment:**

Launched in October 2018 by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation and the UN Environment Programme, the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment unites businesses, governments, and other organizations from around the world behind a common vision of a circular economy for plastic, in which it never becomes waste or pollution. It brings together over 500 signatories that are determined to start building a circular economy for plastics. Signatory businesses and governments represent 20% of all plastic packaging produced globally and more than 1 billion people.

**About the Global Tourism Plastics Initiative:**

The Global Tourism Plastics Initiative acts as the tourism sector interface of the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment and unites the tourism sector behind a common vision to address the root causes of plastic pollution. It enables businesses, governments, associations and NGOs to take concerted action, leading by example in the shift towards a circularity in the use of plastics. Global Tourism Plastics Initiative is led by the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Tourism Organisation, in collaboration with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation.