Plastic materials contain thousands of hazardous substances. Toxic chemicals, included on purpose as additives or as unintentional contaminants, cause harm to human health and the environment, undermine recycling operations and circular economy, and contaminate the entire value chain.

To address this problem, all stakeholders need publicly available information about toxic ingredients in plastic materials and products throughout the lifecycle. Transparency of information has the potential to unlock national, regional, and global measures to control and reduce harmful substances. It will also support countries, especially developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in their efforts to apply national measures, such as production and import control, surveillance, and regulation, to reduce pollution.

Being the main source of information, plastic manufacturers should be obliged to make information about the chemicals they use for production and in plastic materials transparent. This will help them improve sustainability, become responsible, and gain trust and recognition for their efforts. Companies along the value chain, and especially downstream users, will know about the ingredients of the articles or products they use and produce, including the recyclates they apply. Recyclers will be able to handle waste responsibly and avoid producing contaminated secondary raw materials used for new products. Consumers will be able to access their right to know and make informed decisions while purchasing and disposing of plastic products.

Transparency of chemicals in plastics is a win-win situation for everyone: policymakers, consumers, businesses, recyclers, and the environment. Only with this precondition fulfilled, a safe and non-toxic circular economy is possible.

To achieve its goals, the Plastic Treaty must include ambitious, binding and harmonized requirements for transparency of information on chemicals in plastics.

We are calling on governments to:
• Include ambitious, binding and harmonized requirements for transparency of information on chemicals used in plastic production and in plastic materials and products in the text of the Plastic Treaty
• Apply the right to know principle along the whole plastic lifecycle and make the information publicly available to everyone everywhere

For more information about transparency measures on chemical ingredients of plastic see the paper: https://hej-support.org/global-plastics-treaty-transparency-requirement-for-chemical-constituents-in-plastic-is-a-must/
Transparency requirements on chemicals in plastics will support the effectiveness of the Plastic Treaty

Organisations supporting the Call

SGYRES
ALHem, Serbia
Association For Promotion Sustainable Development, APSDHISAR, India
Aotearoa Plastic Pollution Alliance, Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment
Association Jeunesse pour l’Environnement et le Développement Durable, AJEDD
Bali Waste Platform, Indonesia
BANToxics, Philippines
Bio Vision Africa
BUND, Friends of the Earth Germany
CELA, Canadian Environmental Law Association
Center for Environment, Justice and Development, CEJAD, Kenya
Center for International Environmental Law, CIEL
Chemical Safety Agency, Ukraine
Chemsec, Sweden
Citizen consumer and Civic Action Group, India
Citizens’ Alliance Latin American Toxic-free Environment
Civil Society, Advocacy Network on Climate Change and The Environment
Clean Production Action, USA
ClientEarth
Community Action Against Plastic Waste, CAPws
Corporate Europe Observatory, CEO
Defend our Health, USA
Development Indian Ocean Network, DION, NGO Network of SIDS
ecocity, Greece
ECOSOUM, Mongolia
Ecoton, Ecological Observation and Wetlands Conservation
EcoWaste Coalition, Philippines
Ekologi Brez Meja, Ecologists without borders, Slovenia
Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development, Serbia
environmental defense, Canada
environmental investigation agency, eia

ESDO, Bangladesh
European Environmental Bureau, EEB
European Network for Environmental Medicine
Exit Plastik, Germany
Front Commun Pour la Protection de l’Environnement et des Espace Protégées, FCPEEP, R.D. Congo
FSCI, Tajikistan
Fundación vida sostenible, fvs, Spain
GAIA
Green Transition, Denmark
Greenwomen, Kazakhstan
hamraah foundation, India
Health Care Without Harm, HCWH
HUMUsZ szövetség, Hungary
IndyACT, Lebanon
IOGZ, Istoryt Gospardarki o Obiegu Zamknietym, Poland
Journalists for Human Rights, North Macedonia
Nexus3 Foundation, Indonesia
Nipe Fagio, Tanzania
No Plastic in my Sea, France
Mother Earth Foundation, Philippines
Paryavaran Mitra, India
plastic change, India
Polske Stowarzyszenie, Zero Waste, Poland
Polski Klub Ekoologiczny, Poland
PULAU PINANG, Malaysia
RAPAL, Uruguay
Research and Education Centre for Development, CREPD, Cameroon
Sahabat Alam, Malaysia
Shenzhen Zero Waste and Toxics-Free Corps, China
SRADev Nigeria, Nigeria
Sredina, Serbia
Taiwan Watch, Taiwan
Taller Ecologista, Argentina
Thanh Myanmar, Myanmar
Toxics Link, India
Toxisphera, Brasil

Contact
Health and Environment Justice Support (HEJSupport)
Olga Speranskaya, Alexandra Caterbow
www.hej-support.org
info@hej-support.org

Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC)
Andreas Prevodnik, andreas.prevodnik@naturskyddforeningen.se
www.naturskyddforeningen.se

groundWork SA
Rico Euripidou, rico@groundwork.org.za
Mafoko Phomane, mafoko@groundwork.org.za
www.groundwork.org.za