



The Plan of Action for a Model Mediterranean Sea (PAMEx) position in support of an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution including in the marine environment

Considering:

1. That to effectively combat plastic pollution in the marine environment and the challenge of marine litter at large, regional collaboration can be of paramount importance given *inter alia* the fact that marine pollution might also be of cross-border nature.
2. The efficient management model embraced in the Mediterranean region, in the context of the Barcelona Convention system, supporting an integrated regional approach for the protection of the marine and coastal environment and its biodiversity based on a circular economy approach and prevention.
3. The pioneer role of the Mediterranean region in adopting as early as in 2013 a common normative framework on marine litter and plastic pollution through the 'Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management', that was updated in 2021, and the 'Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production', both sustained by a set of concrete regional measures supporting the shift to a green and circular economy, fostering practical solutions, including to close the tap on marine litter and prevent plastic pollution.
4. This unique and long-standing Mediterranean experience, as the first region to develop and implement legally binding regional regulatory measures globally aiming to prevent plastic waste from being created, which fully aligns with the comprehensive approach called for by UNEA 5.2 resolution 5/14.
5. That these regional regulatory measures also encompass and align with the EU regulatory framework and bring together the ambitions of the High Ambition Coalition to End Plastic Pollution to reduce the production of primary plastic polymers, to eliminate and restrict specific plastic polymers, chemicals and plastic products of concern, to increase the circularity of plastics in the economy, and to eliminate the release of plastics (including microplastics) to air, water and land.

We therefore:

1. *Call* for the uptake of the regional Mediterranean policy measures, projects and program results at the global level.
2. *Invite* to the scaling up and promotion of best practices from the Mediterranean to other regions, and for stimulating further alignment of national policies and actions on plastic pollution in the Mediterranean to increase coordination and accelerate synergies.
3. *Support* the integration in the Global Treaty of a strong "prevention" component coupled with the protection of the marine and coastal environment and its biodiversity, giving emphasis to "upstream" approaches, primarily prevention and reduction, including promotion of sustainable production and consumption, extended producer responsibility, polluters pay principle, and the precautionary principle.
4. *Further support* the promotion of policies and instruments needed to incentivize the separation, collection, and recycling of plastic waste.
5. *Further call* to embrace the full life cycle approach for plastic encompassing an inclusive multi-stakeholder approach to reflect the different elements of the plastics' life cycle.
6. *Invite Parties* to build on the Mediterranean legacy to achieve the successful and fast-tracked elaboration and adoption of a Global Treaty that will address the full life cycle of plastics using a circular economy approach.