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**Intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop
an international legally binding instrument on plastic
pollution, including in the marine environment**
Second session
Paris, 29 May–2 June 2023

Turning off the Tap: How the world can end plastic pollution and create a circular economy

Note by the secretariat

1. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has submitted a report titled “Turning off the Tap: How the world can end plastic pollution and create a circular economy” as an information document to the second session of the committee.
2. The report examines the economic and business models needed to address the impacts of the plastics economy. It proposes a systems 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.
3. **Reuse** refers to the transformation of the ‘throwaway economy’ to a ‘reuse society’ where reusing plastic products makes more economic sense than throwing them away. The report highlights the importance of accelerating the **recycling** market for plastic recycling by ensuring that recycling becomes a more profitable venture.
4. **Reorient and diversify** refers to shifting the market towards sustainable plastic alternatives, which will require a shift in consumer demand, regulatory frameworks and costs.
5. The report highlights that these solutions are available now and that a systems change, underpinned by the necessary regulatory instruments, will result in a range of economic benefits and reduce damage to human health, the environment and the climate.
6. The report and related resource are available at the following [link](#).