GLOBAL PLASTICS POLLUTION FEE (GPPF)

Ghana’s Proposal For The International Legally Binding Instrument On Plastics Pollution

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THE GOAL OF UNEA RESOLUTION 5/14?

- UNEA Resolution 5/14 calls for an end to Plastics Pollution, including in the marine environment, through an international legally binding instrument.

- The Resolution calls for a full life cycle approach, based on the principles of Circular Economy.

- The resolution also enjoins member states to be ambitious, and to be innovative in our approaches.

- Ghana is advocating that in addition to ending plastic pollution, the treaty must lead to a total transformation of the Plastics industry, and the treaty must serve as a strong catalyst for a just transition to Circular Economy.

- These form the basis of Ghana’s proposal for a Global Plastic Pollution Fee (GPPF).
THE GLOBAL PLASTICS POLLUTION FEE (GPPF)

- Ghana has proposed GPPF as an essential component of the international legally binding instrument.

- GPPF makes 3 key contributions towards the treaty’s objectives:
  - GPPF will reduce the production and consumption of plastics
  - Through eco-modulation, GPPF will encourage producers to switch to more sustainable alternatives based on circularity.
  - GPPF can raise significant revenues to fund the treaty’s implementation, including paying for a global end-of-life infrastructure to close the Pollution Gap.

- GPPF rests on 6 pillars:
  1. The plastics pollution gap
  2. Extention of coverage for the polluter-pays-principle
  3. Establishment of the global plastics pollution fund
  4. Application of the global plastics pollution fund
  5. Alignment with national action plans of member-states
  6. The role of national governments
THE PLASTICS POLLUTION GAP

- The Plastics Pollution Gap is the difference between the volume of plastic waste that we generate globally, and our global capacity to manage that waste in an environmentally safe and sound way.

- Fundamentally, to achieve the treaty’s ambitious objectives, countries need to close the Plastic Pollution Gap. As long as the Pollution Gap is NOT CLOSED, the volume of plastic pollution will continue to grow every day.

- Even with ambitious “upstream” and “midstream” control measures, to limit production and promote circularity, the pollution gap is expected to keep growing in decades to come.

- To close this pollution gap and implement the objective of ending plastic pollution, we must make significant investments in environmentally safe and sound waste management infrastructure, especially in Africa and other developing countries; and

- We must also eliminate legacy plastic pollution, which is an important source of ongoing pollution.
PLASTICS POLLUTION GAP – THE CASE OF 2021

- 78M Tons added in 2021

- How do we eliminate the Pollution Gap?
  - Reduce Production & Consumption
  - Design & Produce Recyclable Plastics
  - Collect & Recycle Waste Plastics
  - When recycling is impossible, dispose in an environmentally safe and sound way

- What is needed to eliminate the Pollution Gap?
  - Considerable Funding
  - Global Waste Management Infrastructure
  - Technology Transfer
  - Education & Awareness Creation
  - Capacity Building,
  - Etc.
The Polluter-Pays-Principle is applied to hold producers whose products pollute the environment to account.

Under the Principle, producers are asked to contribute financially towards the management of the waste and the pollution that results from the use of their products.

GPPF calls for the extension of the Polluter-Pays-Principle to cover the producers of plastic polymers, whose entire production creates environmental risk and costs, wherever it ends up.

Currently, only those producers who use already-produced plastics to package their products (Midstream actors) are held to account, when they are asked to contribute to national EPR schemes.

GPPF calls for the extension of the Polluter-Pays-principle to cover the producers of plastic polymers, as well as the producers of plastics (Upstream actors).

GPPF complements national EPR schemes, which focus only on some producers and products, in some places, but not the global costs of all plastic production.

Based on the Polluter-Pays-Principle, the GPPF will substantially increase the financial resources available to implement the treaty.
ESTABLISHING THE GLOBAL PLASTIC POLLUTION FUND

- ESTABLISHMENT OF GLOBAL STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS FOR PLASTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT

- ASSESSMENT OF FEES BASED ON PRODUCTION VOLUMES, AND ALSO ECO-MODULATION OF FEES

- FUNDING FOR GLOBAL WASTE MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS, SYSTEMS, INFRASTRUCTURE & SERVICES
ALIGNMENT OF THE GPPF WITH NATIONAL ACTION PLANS

- WASTE MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE IN EACH MEMBER-STATE
- MANAGING LEGACY POLLUTION
- TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE & CAPACITY BUILDING
- TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER
- EDUCATION & AWARENESS CREATION
EXAMPLES OF OTHER POTENTIAL USES OF FUND

- DEVELOP PRIORITIES FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND REMEDIATION OF LEGACY PLASTICS BASED ON NEEDS.

- SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL ACTION PLANS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE ROLL OUT AND REMEDIATION OF LEGACY PLASTICS.

- DEVELOP PROGRAMS THAT PROMOTE NORTH-SOUTH COLLABORATION AND R&D COOPERATION.
THE ROLE OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS

- NEED FOR NATIONAL LEGISLATION BASED ON GPPF PROVISIONS IN TREATY
- COLLECTION AND ADMINISTRATION OF ASSESSED FEES
- RETENTION OF % OF FEES FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES
- ALLOCATION OF FEES TO GPPF FUND AFTER NATIONAL RETENTION
- REPORTING ON FEE COLLECTION AND ALLOCATION TO THE COP
OTHER IMPACTS OF GPPF

- GLOBAL PRODUCTION, SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE OF WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS & EQUIPMENT
- THIS WILL LEAD TO SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH IN BUSINESS IN DEVELOPED AND EMERGING ECONOMIES
- CREATE A LOT OF JOBS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY IN VULNERABLE SEGMENTS OF THE ECONOMY
- SERVE AS A STRONG CATALYST FOR TRANSITION TO CIRCULAR ECONOMY
- RESULT IN A REVOLUTIONARY TRANSFORMATION OF THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY