

How to reduce the impact of plastic products on the marine environment?

Date: Wednesday 11 July 2018 | 11:00 – 13:30

Venue: Norway House – Rue Archimède 17 (access only coming from the Rue Stevin direction)

The ocean provides us with everything we need: food, oxygen, inspiration and jobs. It also regulates the climate. Despite its vital importance, between 4.8 and 12 million tons of plastic enter the ocean every year.

Plastic pollution has become an environmental challenge for the marine environment, from seabirds eating plastic particles to microplastics which can be found even in the planet's most remote locations. The transition to a circular economy is not ensured and the associated economic impact cannot be underestimated.

On 28 May, the European Commission proposed new rules targeting the 10 single-use plastic products most often found on beaches and seas in the EU, as well as lost and abandoned fishing gear, constituting together 70 % of all marine litter items. The proposed rules will include a ban of certain products, consumption reduction, collection targets and obligations for producers.

We invite you to this high-level discussion on how to reduce the impact of plastic products on the environment. Questions will include:

- What role of extended producer responsibility?
- Should policymakers increase fees and taxes on polluting plastics to reduce the impact on the environment?
- How can new regulations be effectively implemented in all member-states?
- How to achieve more sustainable design?
- What are good alternative materials from a life cycle perspective?

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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OPENING SPEECH

Ola Elvestuen, Minister of Climate and Environment in Norway

OVERVIEW OF ISSUES

Dominic Hogg, Founder and Chairman, Eunomia Research & Consulting Ltd

PANELLISTS

Gesine Meissner, MEP, Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, European Parliament

Frederique Ries, MEP, Rapporteur on the Reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment, European Parliament *

Hugo Schally, Head of Unit Sustainable Production, Products & Consumption DG ENV, European Commission

Monica Mireles, Senior Advisor, Global Public Affairs, IKEA Group

Ariadna Rodrigo, Sustainable Products Campaigner, Zero Waste Europe

*To be confirmed

MODERATOR

Jennifer Baker, EU Policy Correspondent, EURACTIV

PROGRAMME

11:00 – 11:30 Registration

11:30 – 11:40 Opening Speech

11:40 – 11:50 Overview of Issues

11:50 – 12:10 Panelists Statements

12:10 – 13:30 Discussion and Q&A

REGISTRATION

To confirm your participation, please register at <http://eurac.tv/9PH4>



Norwegian Ministry
of Climate and Environment