

Current Status of International Negotiation for the Global Plastic Treaty and the Way Forward

ASEAN Perspectives on the Global Plastic Treaty

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Insights from ASEAN Member States

Vietnam

- Advocates for policies supported by scientific evidence and sustainable production.
- Emphasises the need for effective plastic waste management systems.
- Supports EPR as a mechanism to encourage recycling and reduce waste impact.

Insights from ASEAN Member States

Malaysia

- Implementation should be nationally driven and align with existing international provisions.
- Highlights the importance of product design and minimum environmental impact.
- Advocates for including minimum recycled content in plastic products.
- Underlines the necessity of technology transfer from producing to consuming nations.

Insights from ASEAN Member States

Philippines

- Proposes institutionalising EPR to develop environmentally friendly products.
- Emphasises the full lifecycle approach in sustainable production and consumption.
- Advocates for international standards in the circular economy within the treaty.

Insights from ASEAN Member States

Thailand

- Strong proponent of circular economy principles: reuse, repair, and recycling.
- Calls for treaty provisions to allow exceptions based on national specific circumstances.
- Stresses the importance of technical and financial assistance to comply with treaty provisions.
- Suggests focusing on the "life cycle of plastic waste" rather than just "life cycle."

Implications of the Negotiation to ASEAN Member States

- Lack of precautionary measures and differentiated responsibilities in international law.
- Importance of lifecycle analysis in trade policies affecting ASEAN's export-oriented economies.
- Calls for extending treaty coverage to include chemicals in plastics, advocating for comprehensive EPR.
- Importance of including equitable transition frameworks that consider socio-economic realities in ASEAN.

Conclusion

- Sustainable Practices
- Common But Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR)
- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)
- Technical and Financial Assistance
- International Cooperation and Harmonisation
- Innovative Solutions and Technology Transfer
- Just transition