

The role of trade measures in the future instrument against plastic pollution

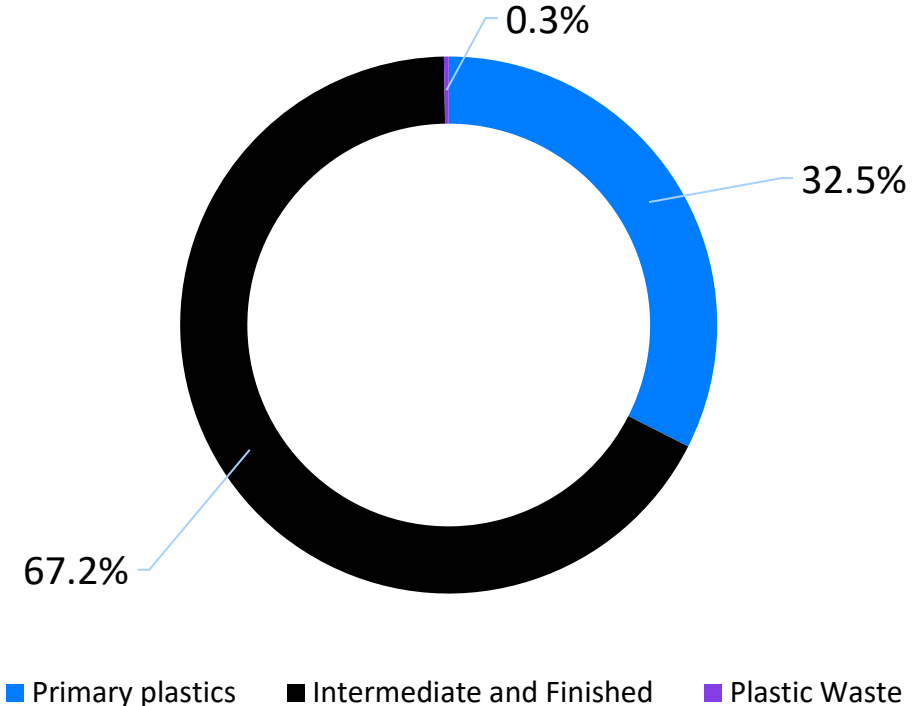
**Addressing trade measures for improved
downstream plastic management**

Vikas Chhajer
International Chamber of Commerce
Gemini Corporation NV

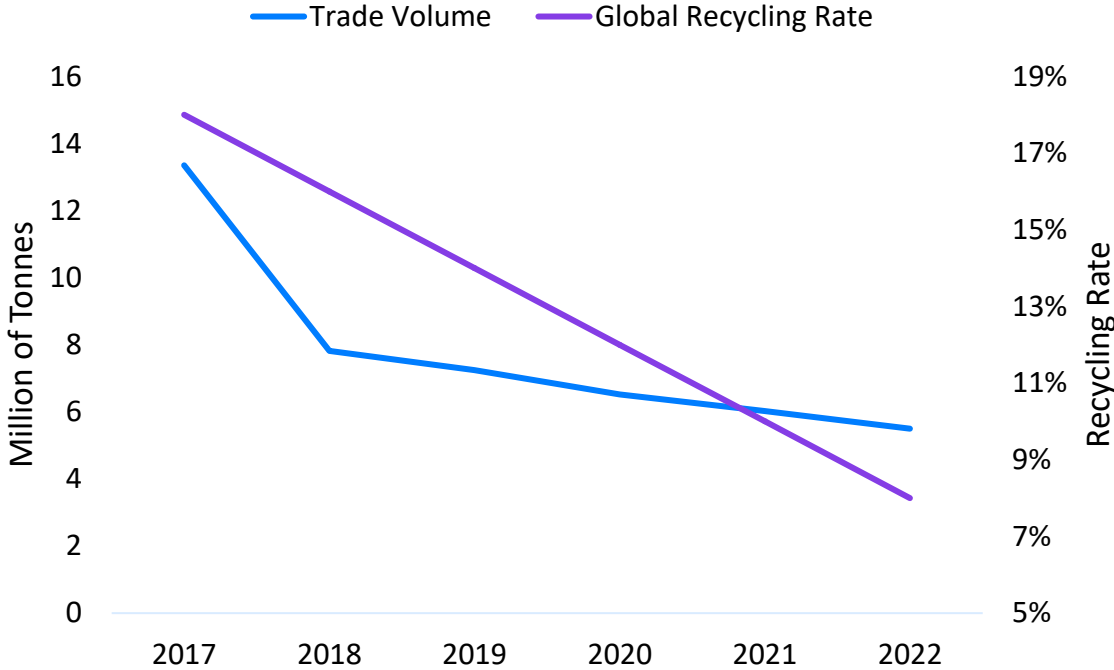


Downstream Trade steadily declined in the past 5 years – along with a decline in global plastic recycling rate

Trade flows across Life cycle of plastics



Downstream Trade



Trade policies and circular economy considerations supporting the treaty on plastic pollution

Potential interactions and integration with trade, climate and biodiversity, for better coordination and alignment

- ICC study – “The Circular Economy and International Trade: Options for the World Trade Organization”

Close the Loop

- Aligning trade policies and facilitating the international trade of goods and products and using recycled plastics
 - increasing the cost competitiveness, demand and use of recycled plastic:
 - minimum recycled plastic requirements in packaging
 - support the economic viability of local recycling infrastructure through consistent feedstock availability

Standard Global Rules for International Trade

Rules for the international trade of both plastic products and waste:

- when products are shipped to a country where a suitable (mechanical) recycling system does not yet exist at the scale needed
- when plastic waste requires processing in a third country to achieve the relevant national targets.

Financing Collection and Segregation:

- Extended producer responsibility (EPR)
- Recycling and Recycled content targets
- Incentives for recycling industries
- Investment in municipal recycling infrastructure

Addressing Downstream Trade Barriers

Aligning domestic market regulations and border management measures:

- Coordinate trade policies (via the WTO mechanisms and regional and bilateral trade agreements)
- Differentiate for circular and non-circular materials and goods

Strengthening Governance models:

- Precise and predictable regulations
- Detailed Technical specifications
- Call for strong environmental and customs compliance