

Toward a Global Plastic treaty:

Control measures, prevention & mitigation services

**Pacific workshop on plastic pollution and material substitutes
Exploring material substitutes and green finance for SDG 14.1 and 12**

Fiji 17-19 October 2023

David Vivas Eugui and Henrique Pacini

Trade, Environment, Climate Change and Sustainable Development Branch,

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

2 key multilateral processes ongoing:

- Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution (INC)
- World Trade Organization – Dialogue on Plastic Pollution (DPP)



CONTROL AND MITIGATION MEASURES ACROSS EACH STAGE OF THE PLASTICS VALUE CHAIN

Control measures applicable to plastics are being discussed as one of the main **tools for a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution**, including in the marine environment. This table summarizes several options, **covering both trade / border measures and internal market measures**, which can be adopted by countries. Control measures can help steer economies away from harmful, problematic, single-use plastics and at the same time help to promote more sustainable material substitutes and alternatives.

RAW MATERIALS



Hydrocarbons

UPSTREAM



Polymer pellets

MIDSTREAM



Products and parts

DOWNSTREAM



Plastic waste or residues






RECOVERY



From land or water bodies

		RAW MATERIALS	UPSTREAM	MIDSTREAM	DOWNSTREAM	RECOVERY
TRADE / BORDER MEASURES	TARIFFS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preferential or higher tariffs on certain goods. 	×	×	×	×
	IMPORT BAN (QR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Import ban on imports of single-use plastics causing persistent pollution. 			×	×
	IMPORT QUOTAS (QR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limitations on imports of single-use plastics. 	×	×	×	×
	IMPORT LICENSES (ILP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Import licenses for recyclable plastic waste; Import licenses for plastic bag components to avoid circumventing. 		×	×	×
	EXPORT BAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Export ban of polymers, products or scrap material to destinations with limited capacity to process end-of-life materials. 		×	×	×
	EXPORT QUOTAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limits on specific polymer or scrap material exports. 		×		×
	EXPORT LICENSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adherence to Basel plastic waste amendments / PIC procedure. 				×
	EXPORT TAXES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explicit tax or via state marketing boards. 				×
	TRADE DEFENSE TOOLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AD/CVD applied to plastics; Peace clause so not to apply AD/CVD on material substitutes. 	×	×	×	×

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INTERNAL MARKET MEASURES	MONETARY AND ECONOMIC INSTRUMENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental or chemical taxes applicable to plastics; Packaging and recycling fees; Preferential tax treatment to alternatives/substitutes. 	×	×	×	×	×
	PUBLIC PROCUREMENT <small>-not including public hydrocarbon enterprises-</small> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government procurement favouring goods with recycled content; Procurement of plastic depollution services. 			×		×
	SUBSIDIES TO SERVICES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct grants to R&D; Subsidies for recycling or decontamination services imports. 	×	×		×	×
	REMOVAL OF SUBSIDIES TO GOODS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of subsidies to fossil fuels; Remove subsidies from polymer pellets. 	×	×			
	OPERATION LICENSES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorize operation for polymer production or recycling/recovery services of sufficient quality. 	×	×	×	×	×
	LABELLING (TBT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Labelling requirements clearly indicating polymer and recycled content; Proper labelling requirements of recycled plastic scrap trimmings or pellets. 		×	×	×	
	INVESTMENT REGULATIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorize operation for polymer production or recycling/recovery services of sufficient quality. 	×	×		×	×
	SERVICES LIBERALIZATION & REGULATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plastics decontamination services liberalization; National plastic waste management frameworks. 					×
	EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deposit schemes; Take-back programmes. 				×	
	DESIGN AND QUALITY STANDARDS (TBT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exclusion of any hazardous chemicals; Minimum thickness, reusability, mono-material requirements; Durability. 	×	×	×	×	
	INTERNAL PRODUCTION AND COMMERCIALIZATION BANS OF PLASTIC PRODUCTS			×	×	
	CERTIFICATION AND CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT (SPS/TBT)		×	×		
RECYCLING TARGETS (ADM)				×	×	
MEASURING, MONITORING AND MAPPING OF PLASTIC LITTER (ADM)				×	×	

Zero Draft text INC-3 on control and mitigation (Part II)

Subject matter:

- Primary plastic polymers
- Chemicals, groups of chemicals and polymers of concern (+3000 chemicals)
- Problematic and avoidable plastic products, including:
 - a) short-lived and single-use plastic products and
 - b) intentionally added microplastics
- Product design, composition and performance

Control and mitigation measures listed:

- to prevent and mitigate the potential for adverse impacts on human health or the environment
- to reduce production and demand
- to regulate trade (sale, distribution, import or exports)
- to adopt national plans
- to not allow, to eliminate, or to regulate the presence and use of the certain chemicals, groups of chemicals and polymers
- to prevent and minimize human exposure or release into the environment throughout the life cycle

World Trade Organization – Dialogue on Plastic Pollution (draft WTO/W10)

Subject matter:

- Unnecessary or harmful plastics or plastic products
- Primary plastics, polymers, additives and plastics products.
- Plastic pollution

Trade-related Measures:

- Improve transparency, monitoring and understanding of trade flows across the full life cycle of plastics
- Address trade-related capacity building & technical assistance needs of developing members, LDCs & SIDS
- Reduce unnecessary or harmful plastics and plastic products
- Address the environmental, social & health impacts and leakage associated with primary plastics, polymers, additives & plastics products
- Contribute to the control of cross-border movement of plastic pollution & waste, including through, the effectively implementing the Basel Convention Plastic Waste Amendments
- Promote trade of goods, services and technologies to tackle plastic pollution, including those necessary for environmentally sound and safe waste management & clean up

A sustainable plastics trade agenda for the Pacific

- **A POSITIVE AGENDA** that can support:
- **Production and consumption measures** that enable the shift toward other sustainable activities (e.g., package less business models)
- **Parallel trade control measures** that are fair, non-discriminatory, inclusive and transparent and in line with multilateral trade and environmental agreements
- **Attention to trade where there are limited productive capacities.** Value addition to local natural materials is key.
- **Green industrial policies and incentives** to encourage production and trade in **non-plastics substitutes** and related “**sunrise**” **industries** where developing countries are already trying to diversify
- **Green technology transfer**; e.g., open sourcing of plastics-related waste technologies and substitute technologies. Declare these public goods.
- **Support to SIDS especially**, given the complexities of their economies.



Thank you Merci

david.vivaseugui@unctad.org

Henrique.pacini@un.org

