

# Pillars of Action

Member States have identified several areas where activities are needed, which can be broadly placed into four pillars of action that form the structural and conceptual framework for the Convention on Plastic Pollution:



environmental  
investigation  
agency



#breakfreefromplastic

CONVENTION ON PLASTIC POLLUTION			
PILLAR 1 MONITORING AND REPORTING	PILLAR 2 PLASTIC POLLUTION PREVENTION	PILLAR 3 COORDINATION	PILLAR 4 TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT
Monitoring and reporting on the state of the environment and implementation	Measures to reduce plastic pollution and promote a safe circular economy for plastics	Coordination with other international and regional instruments on relevant topics	Technical support to policymakers and financial support to developing countries
<p><b>Harmonisation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Definitions</li> <li>Methodologies (monitoring, reporting)</li> <li>Standardised formats</li> </ul> <p><b>Environmental monitoring</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baselines (seafloor, seawater, shoreline, biota, freshwater, soils)</li> <li>Indicator species</li> <li>Evolution of plastic pollution in marine and other environments</li> </ul> <p><b>National data reporting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National inventories and sources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>virgin plastic production and use</li> <li>recycled plastic production and use</li> <li>plastic-waste management</li> <li>plastic-waste trade</li> <li>land-based sources</li> <li>sea-based sources</li> <li>microplastics</li> </ul> </li> <li>Evolution of circular economy and leakage</li> </ul> <p><b>Reporting on national action</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submission of national action plans</li> <li>Periodic review and update</li> </ul> <p><b>Periodic comprehensive assessments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress toward global objectives</li> <li>Scientific and socio-economic reviews</li> </ul>	<p><b>Global objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term elimination of discharges</li> <li>Safe circular economy for plastics</li> </ul> <p><b>National action plans</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies and legislation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>targets and market restrictions</li> <li>waste prevention and management</li> <li>recycling and secondary markets</li> </ul> </li> <li>Sustainable financing mechanisms</li> <li>Infrastructure investments</li> <li>International and regional commitments</li> </ul> <p><b>Microplastics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intentionally added (e.g. microbeads, fertilisers)</li> <li>Wear and tear (e.g. tyres, textiles)</li> <li>Mismanagement (e.g. pellets)</li> </ul> <p><b>Standardisation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Labelling</li> <li>Product design and additive restrictions</li> <li>Certification schemes</li> <li>Voluntary industry standards</li> </ul> <p><b>Virgin plastic production and use</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Controls and quality standards</li> </ul> <p><b>Remediation and legacy pollution</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protocols and guidelines</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sea-based sources (including fishing gear)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International Maritime Organization (IMO)</li> <li>Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)</li> </ul> <p><b>Plastic waste trade</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basel Convention</li> <li>Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and regional instruments</li> </ul> <p><b>Chemicals and additives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stockholm Convention</li> <li>Strategic Approach to Integrated Chemical Management (SAICM)</li> </ul> <p><b>Biodiversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)</li> <li>Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)</li> <li>International Whaling Commission (IWC)</li> </ul> <p><b>Climate change</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)</li> <li>Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)</li> </ul> <p><b>Agriculture</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)</li> </ul> <p><b>Cross-regional knowledge exchange</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional seas conventions and programmes</li> <li>Regional fisheries management organisations</li> </ul>	<p><b>Scientific Assessment Panel</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Periodic comprehensive assessments</li> <li>Ad hoc reports</li> </ul> <p><b>Socio-Economic Assessment Panel</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Periodic comprehensive assessments</li> <li>Ad hoc reports</li> </ul> <p><b>Implementing and bilateral agencies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technical assistance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>capacity-building and training</li> <li>policy development</li> <li>monitoring and reporting</li> </ul> </li> <li>Best practices and knowledge exchanges</li> </ul> <p><b>Financial resources and mechanism</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enabling activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>capacity-building and training</li> <li>policy development</li> <li>monitoring and reporting</li> <li>institutional strengthening</li> <li>Pilot and demonstration projects</li> </ul> </li> <li>Incremental costs</li> </ul> <p><b>Implementation and compliance mechanism</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation guidance</li> <li>Assistance for countries in non-compliance</li> </ul>