

Oral Intervention during the Item 3 Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment, David R. Boyd.

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Your excellencies, on behalf of the Center for International Environmental Law, and Child Rights Connect, we would like to congratulate Professors Boyd and Orellana for this report on Non-Toxic Environment, which points out that “the toxification of planet Earth is intensifying¹”, causing environmental injustices and creating “sacrifice zones” which disproportionately affect children, youth and future generations.

Last week at the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), 14 resolutions were adopted. We would like to highlight three of them which are directly related to the issues of concerns identified in the report:

- A first resolution aiming to establish an Intergovernmental Panel on Chemicals, waste and pollution prevention.
- A second one on the Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste² which requests UNEP and WHO to update the state of the science report on endocrine disrupting chemicals, and that underscores that a dedicated external finance is key for the financing of the sound management of chemicals and waste.
- And finally, a third one established a mandate to negotiate a legally binding instrument on the full life cycle of plastics, as recommended in the report. Plastic is one of the main causes of the planet's toxification.

Thus, we would like to highlight the importance of a human rights-based approach as well as the participation of youth and children in the negotiation of the future treaty, including the need to address the human health dimension and the need to phase out toxics additives, in particular EDCs, from plastics and from all production in general.

¹Rapport Report of the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment, paragraph.6, <https://undocs.org/en/A/HRC/49/53>

² UNEP/EA5/L13/REV.1