



ROADMAP TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE PLASTICS MANAGEMENT

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I. Background

The Presidents of the countries that conform the Pacific Alliance, gathered in Lima on July 6, 2019, on the occasion of the XIV Presidential Summit of the Pacific Alliance, expressed their intention to continue promoting sustainable and inclusive development in the region, contributing to the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and its goals, aligned with the Strategic Vision of the Pacific Alliance to the year 2030. In that framework, they signed the Presidential Declaration of the Pacific Alliance on Sustainable Management of Plastics (henceforth “the Declaration”)

In the Declaration, the Presidents stated their firm intention to work on the analysis and development of initiatives that contribute to the integral management of plastic, including topics such as the regulation of single-use plastics, extended producer responsibility for plastic packaging, innovation, research and development, education and informing of the costumer, encouragement of production, rational use of substitute products, promotion of circular and blue economy schemes, prevention, pollution reduction and analysis and reduction of the impact of plastic waste and micro plastics on marine, coastal, lake and river ecosystems, prioritizing protected areas and world heritage sites, awareness raising, reuse models and strategic cooperation and partnerships.

In order to fulfill the objectives of the Declaration, the Ministries of Environment in coordination with the other public sector entities of the Pacific Alliance countries involved in the implementation of the Declaration as well as in coordination with the private sector, the Innovation and Cooperation Technical Groups of the Pacific Alliance, and with the support of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), developed this Roadmap, which defines a series of actions that, in accordance with the regulatory framework and actions developed by each country, will allow for joint and collaborative progress in the implementation of the Declaration.

II. Objective of the Roadmap

The purpose of this Roadmap is to identify concrete actions that will enable progress towards a sustainable plastics management in the countries that make up the Pacific Alliance, in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration.

III. Areas of action

In the Declaration, the countries that make up the Pacific Alliance identified areas of action in which they intend to work together. Based on the efforts made by each country, both at the public and private levels, and the work in the framework of the Pacific Alliance, eight areas of action have been identified as priorities for the roadmap.

a) Area of Action 1: Regulation, Best Practices and Public Policies

The objective is to share experiences in the design and implementation of regulatory frameworks and public policies that allow the countries that make up the Pacific Alliance to advance towards their common vision of sustainable plastics management, identifying best practices and lessons learned, and analyzing the potential that exists from regulatory similarities and in public policies implemented in each of them. This objective will be achieved through the following actions:

- i. Developing of an inventory and analysis of the regulations in force and under discussion in the countries of the Pacific Alliance and in leading countries in the sustainable management of plastics, including regulations related to single-use plastics, extended producer responsibility for containers and packaging, within the framework of a circular

economy.

- ii. Preparing a diagnosis by country of the existing regulatory, technical, technological, and cultural obstacles to the widespread use of recycled plastic material as a raw material for food containers and packaging, ensuring the safety and innocuousness of the product contained.
- iii. Advancement in the development of quality standards to classify plastic goods and waste and recycled plastics in each country.

b) Area of Action 2: Innovation, Research and Business Transformation

The objective is to support research and innovation in the integrated management of plastics by relevant institutions and actors that favor companies, especially small and medium-sized ones, to accelerate their transformation processes. This objective will be achieved through the following actions:

- i. Elaborating baseline documents and environmental impact analysis or others, of single-use plastics and micro plastics, as well as the life cycle of plastic products.
- ii. Encouraging and implementing "public procurement" mechanisms that incentivize sustainable plastics management principles among suppliers.
- iii. Evaluating the convenience of using biodegradable plastics in the industry, recommending the conditions under which they should be processed to ensure good final disposal.

c) Area of Action 3: Plastic Waste Management and Recycling

The objective is to advance in the implementation of programs and actions to reduce plastic waste, improve the collection, segregation,

and recycling of municipal and non-municipal solid waste, prioritizing the inclusion of recyclers in the value chains; as well as to limit the entry of single-use plastics in areas that protect the natural and cultural heritage of each country. This objective will be achieved through the following actions:

- i. Advance in the recovery of areas degraded by solid waste, as well as in the eradication of illegal landfills and those located near coastal areas, protected ecosystems, and heritage areas.
- ii. Implementing programs that promote the formalization and certification of waste collectors and recyclers at the grassroots level.
- iii. Identification, analysis and proposal of economic and fiscal measures and instruments that promote the reincorporation of raw materials produced through recycling processes into the production process.

d) Area of Action 4: Circular Economy

The objective is to encourage the adoption of circular economy schemes, both on public and private sector levels, through the following actions:

- i. Analyzing the work on the definition of circular economy Roadmap in each country, identifying best practices in this area and seeking strategic partnerships with other actors at the international level.
- ii. Evaluating the existing conditions in each country to move towards a circular economy, so that each country can implement a Roadmap to achieve it.
- iii. Promoting the implementation of social and participatory economy projects related to the management of plastic waste and circular economy.
- iv. Analyzing the potential linkage or participation of governments and private sector associations in the Regional Circular Economy Coalition of Latin America and the Caribbean¹.

During the 4th Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-4), Member States recognized sustainable consumption and production (SCP), including the circular economy, as an area where policy guidance is required, and expressed their commitment to ambitiously scale up SCP efforts to ensure the implementation of the environmental dimension in the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement goals. In this regard, during the Intersessional Meeting of the Regional Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean in November 2019, the proposal for the development of the Regional Coalition on Circular Economy was presented, which is open to all countries in the region and has as its main objectives to develop a common vision and regional work plan on circular economy in order to have a greater

impact, foster cooperation, have a regional platform for the exchange of best practices and provide technical support. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) was asked to build the coalition in close cooperation with international and regional partners such as the Ellen MacArthur Foundation (EMF), the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS), the World Economic Forum (WEF), the Platform for Accelerating the Circular Economy (PACE), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the Climate Technology Center and Network (CTCN), among others.

e) Area of Action 5: Financing

The objective is to promote the development of public and private financing mechanisms to accelerate industrial transformation in the countries that make up the Pacific Alliance. This objective will be achieved through the following actions:

- i. Financing incubation and acceleration programs that promote innovation in materials destined to the production of plastic goods and alternatives to sole use plastics.
- ii. Promoting the establishment of a financial support program for sustainable plastic management, based on potential bilateral and regional financing resources, including those of international financial institutions and international cooperation, particularly from the Observer States of the Pacific Alliance.
- iii. Developing an inventory of national, regional, and international funds and financing resources available for public and private initiatives that can support the sustainable management of plastics.

f) Area of Action 6: Citizen-centered Education, Information and Transformation

The objective is to encourage responsible production and

consumption, education, and generation of citizen awareness. This objective will be achieved through the following actions:

- i. Defining certification standards for eco-designed products and those with recycled content.
- ii. Working together for awareness campaigns based on the exchange of experiences of what has been implemented, replicating successful experiences at the Pacific Alliance level, and encouraging greater participation of the private sector in such campaigns. Some of the initiatives that can be conducted are:
 - o Joint communication campaign to reduce the use and consumption of single-use plastics, as well as the urban cycle of plastics to the seas.
 - o Information and environmental education campaigns for an adequate segregation of waste to increase the recycling of usable waste, especially plastic.
 - o Practical community exercises for the separation of solid urban waste at the source.
 - o Campaigns to promote the substitution of single-use plastic containers for reusable ones in massive public events.
 - o Campaigns on the importance of marine, coastal, lake and river ecosystems, particularly those that are protected and that protect the natural and cultural heritage
- iii. Progressively eliminating single-use plastics in all Pacific Alliance activities (meetings, summits, etc.), and move towards a vision of sustainable events.

g) Area of action 7: Business

The objective is to analyze trade and investment potential, promote cooperation and strategic partnerships for development, and analyze the feasibility of generating a common position among the countries

that make up the Pacific Alliance in international forums and treaties, while respecting their domestic legislation. This objective will be achieved through the following actions:

- i. Analyzing the existing potential for trade and investment related to plastics between the countries that make up the Pacific Alliance and with relevant partners and trade blocs, identifying opportunities and challenges. To this end, it is key to generate information with products such as:
 - o Report on intra-Pacific Alliance plastics trade.
 - o Study on costs and opportunities for the replacement of single-use plastics in sectors prioritized by each country.
- ii. Promoting dialogue and a common vision among the countries that make up the Pacific Alliance regarding the international discussion on sustainable plastic management.
- iii. Creating a permanent panel for exchange and dialogue on plastics with relevant partners of the Pacific Alliance.

h) Area of Action 8: International Cooperation

The objective of this area is to promote international cooperation for projects that have an impact on improving the quality of life of the population, reducing the impact of the use of plastics and micro plastics on the ecosystems. This objective will be achieved through the following actions:

- o Conducting a survey of information in the Pacific Alliance countries that are implementing programs, projects, and activities with cooperation resources for their articulation and coordination to move towards a circular economy in the Pacific Alliance.
- o Identifying and sharing information among the countries that make up the Pacific Alliance regarding existing bilateral and multilateral international cooperation offers on the sustainable management of plastics, and, regarding the actions outlined in

the Declaration and this Roadmap.

- Designing initiatives that include two or more countries that make up the Pacific Alliance oriented to the execution of one or several of the actions indicated in the Declaration and in the present Roadmap, to present and promote them before the financial mechanisms of bilateral and multilateral international cooperation that the countries that make up the Pacific Alliance decide.