Your Excellencies, Heads of State Your Excellencies, Ministers.

We, the undersigned organizations and Peoples, are writing to urge that, as you step into the 79th session of the UN General Assembly and the New York Climate Week, **you demonstrate unwavering commitment to securing an international legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution that controls and reduces plastic production.** The science is clear: ending plastic pollution requires ambitious action across the full lifecycle of plastics, with substantially reducing plastic production levels considerably being a priority. The rights of current and future generations hinge upon your leadership in the high-level meetings that will take place this week where the last scheduled stages of the plastics treaty negotiations will be discussed.

We welcome the recent G7 <u>Presidential</u> and <u>Ministerial</u> commitments to reduce the production and consumption of primary plastic polymers and the reports from unnamed sources on the <u>US's potential shift on its position</u> to support a global reduction target for plastic production. Furthermore, over 50 countries and counting have signed a Declaration on Primary Plastic Polymers, the <u>Bridge to Busan</u>. We also recognize the initiative of Peru and Rwanda in proposing a target to reduce production by 40% by 2040 in the negotiations.

<u>Plastic production is fuelling the climate crisis and threatening to undermine the 1.5°C goal of the Paris Agreement.</u> If left uncontrolled, it will consume <u>up to one-third</u> of the remaining carbon budget by 2050, surpassing the energy and transportation sectors. Approximately <u>90%</u> of the GHG emissions associated with the plastics life cycle that comes from the extraction of raw materials — 99% of which are fossil fuels — and their transformation into polymers. A cornerstone of ending plastic pollution is containing and preventing these emissions.

The overwhelming amount of plastics produced today, mostly for nonessential items, has exposed us to an increased presence of microplastics in the environment and in our bodies — the quantity of microplastics found in brain samples from 2024 is nearly double that of samples from 2016. These production levels are also exposing us, daily, to more than 16,000 chemicals, with 4,200 of them identified as a hazard for the environment and human health.

Already the culprit of an exponentially growing crisis, plastic production is projected to almost triple in the next decades, significantly exacerbating its impacts. With more than 1,400 new fossil fuel-dependent projects to expand production capacity set to be built by 2027, the disproportionate harm and toxic exposure already faced by Indigenous Peoples and frontline and fenceline communities living near these production sites will surely intensify. Moreover, waste management systems—already insufficient to handle the amount and complexity of plastics we produce today—will not be able to keep pace as production continues to grow.

Measures in place today — such as recycling and selective product bans — have proven insufficient in addressing the plastic crisis. <u>The evidence is clear: in order for us to meaningfully</u> <u>address this environmental and human health crisis, it is imperative to reduce plastic production.</u>

With the last scheduled stages of the plastics treaty negotiations in your hands, we urge you to include and elevate in your public interventions the unequivocal need for this treaty to reduce plastic production to protect human health, human rights, and the environment.

We also urge you to participate in the high-level event "Galvanizing Global Momentum for a Plastic Pollution Instrument" and the Ministerial Consultation Meeting led by the governments of Canada and Norway, to lead the call for a political agreement that secures a legally binding instrument that, in addition to other essential elements:

- 1. Delivers concrete supply-side rules by the end of the negotiations that prevent the growth and reduce the production of virgin plastics.
- 2. Includes a global reduction target that serves as a collective benchmark, <u>unequivocally</u> <u>accompanied by mandatory targets</u> and clear pathways for each country to deliver the necessary reductions to achieve it.

The world is watching. We are ready to collaborate and support you in this effort.

Signed,

- 1. Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)
- 2. Environmental Defence Canada
- 3. Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA)
- 4. Nipe Fagio
- 5. MarViva Foundation
- 6. Gallifrey Foundation, Switzerland
- 7. Plastic Pollution Coalition
- 8. The Last Plastic Straw
- 9. Objectif Zéro Plastique (OZP)
- 10. BAN Toxics
- 11. Health and Environment Justice Support (HEJSupport)
- 12. Plastic Free Future
- 13. Mingas por el Mar Foundation
- 14. Congo Basin Youth for Climate
- 15. Polish Zero Waste Association
- 16. OceanCare
- 17. Race for Water Foundation
- 18. Plastic Change
- 19. Trash Hero World
- 20. Trash Free Trails
- 21. Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA)
- 22. DION Development Indian Ocean Network
- 23. CREPD-Centre de Recherche et d'Education pour le Développement, Cameroon
- 24. Pesticide Action Network Mauritius.
- 25. Azul
- 26. Defend Our Health

- 27. Association For Promotion Sustainable Development
- 28. Ocean. Now!
- 29. No Plastic In My Sea
- 30. VOICE Ireland
- 31. City to Sea
- 32. ECOS (Environmental Coalition on Standards)
- 33. Fondazione European Research Institute
- 34. Friends of the Earth Canada
- 35. Retorna (Spain)
- 36. Žiedinė ekonomika (Lithuania)
- 37. Seas At Risk
- 38. Sciaena
- 39. Center for Coalfield Justice
- 40. ZERO Association for the Sustainability of the Earth System
- 41. Women Engage for a Common Future, WECF
- 42. REACHOUT SALONE
- 43. Sustainable Environment Development Initiative (SEDI)
- 44. adansonia.green (Sénégal)
- 45. Zero Waste Europe
- 46. Observatoire du principe pollueur-payeur
- 47. Greenpeace
- 48. Zero Waste France
- 49. Zero Waste Kiel e.V.
- 50. Humusz Szövetség
- 51. Reacción Climática
- 52. Plastic Soup Foundation
- 53. Green Vientiane
- 54. Center for Biological Diversity
- 55. Beyond Plastics
- 56. Justice for Formosa's Victims
- 57. The Center for Oceanic Awareness, Research, and Education (COARE)
- 58. Bend the Curve
- 59. Fenceline Watch
- 60. Fundación El Árbol, Chile
- 61. Ecojustice Canada
- 62. The Story of Stuff Project
- 63. Plastic Free Restaurants
- 64. Waterkeeper Alliance
- 65. Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment (AWHHE)
- 66. Three Rivers Waterkeeper
- 67. Egyptian Foundation for Environmental Rights (EFER)
- 68. Centre for Financial Accountability
- 69. Cut The Plastic Environmental Mitigation Solutions
- 70. Zero Waste Society (Ukraine)

- 71. Foundation for Environment and Development (FEDEV)
- 72. San Antonio Bay Estuarine Waterkeeper
- 73. Snake River Waterkeeper
- 74. Surfrider Foundation
- 75. Surfrider Foundation Europe
- 76. Thant Myanmar
- 77. EARTHDAY.ORG
- 78. Plastic Free Seas
- 79. Ecosoum (Mongolian NGO)
- 80. Društvo Ekologi brez meja
- 81. Tearfund
- 82. Community Action Against Plastic Waste (CAPws)
- 83. European Environmental Bureau
- 84. Hogar sin Tóxicos (Spain)
- 85. Child Rights International Network (CRIN)
- 86. Columbia Riverkeeper
- 87. Terra Peninsular
- 88. Savannah Riverkeeper
- 89. Perpetual
- 90. Basel Action Network
- 91. Human Environmental Association for Development (HEAD)
- 92. Peconic Baykeeper
- 93. Environmental Protection Society Malaysia (EPSM)
- 94. Milwaukee Riverkeeper
- 95. NY/NJ Baykeeper
- 96. Seneca Lake Guardian, a Waterkeeper Alliance Affiliate
- 97. Tualatin Riverkeepers
- 98. Orange County Coastkeeper
- 99. Inland Empire Waterkeeper
- 100. Willamette Riverkeeper
- 101. Upstream
- 102. Taller Ecologista
- 103. Sustainable Research Action for Environmental Development (SRADeV Nigeria)
- 104. Waterkeepers Chesapeake
- 105. Environmental Health Project
- 106. Irrigation Training and Economic Empowerment Organization (IRTECO), Tanzania
- 107. Only One
- 108. Hann Baykeeper Réseau Baie de Hann
- 109. Persatuan Tindakan ALAM Sekitar Kuala Langat
- 110. Grambangla Unnayan Committee, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- 111. Sahabat Alam Malaysia (Friends of the Earth)
- 112. Consumers' Association of Penang (CAP), Malaysia
- 113. South Durban Comunity Environmental Alliance, Durban South Africa
- 114. Dhoritri Rokhhay Amra (DHORA), Bangladesh

- 115. Waterkeepers Bangladesh, Bangladesh
- 116. Center for Environmental Justice and Development (CEJAD), Kenya
- 117. Appui aux Initiatives Communautaires de Conservation de l'Environnement et Développement Durable,(AICED), RDCongo
- 118. La Grande Puissance de Dieu
- 119. National Hawker Federation (NHF), India
- 120. Centre for Citizens Conserving Environment & Mgt (CECIC) Uganda
- 121. Rapid Transition Alliance (UK)
- 122. Zero Waste Durban, South Africa
- 123. Solidarité pour la Protection des Droits de l'Enfant (SOPRODE), RDCongo
- 124. AGENDA for Environment and Responsible Development (AGENDA), Tanzania
- 125. National Consortium for the Elimination of Malaria NaCEM-Sierra Leone
- 126. Youth Alliance for Sustainable Development YASDev Sierra Leone
- 127. ECOCITY, Greece
- 128. AEEFG, Tunisia
- 129. Satilla Riverkeeper
- 130. Leave it in the Ground Initiative (LINGO)
- 131. Andy Gheorghiu Consulting
- 132. Regional Advocacy for Women's Sustainable Advancement Alliance for African and Arab States
- 133. Exit Plastik Alliance (Germany)
- 134. France Nature Environnement
- 135. Environmental Action Germany (Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V.)
- 136. Brantas River Waterkeeper, East Java Indonesia
- 137. Center for Public Health and Environmental Development (CEPHED), Nepal
- 138. Zero Waste Senegal Association
- 139. ROOHCAM, Cameroun
- 140. Calusa Waterkeeper, Inc.
- 141. Muchi Childrens Home
- 142. Dean Wilson Atchafalaya Basinkeeper
- 143. Australian Marine Conservation Society
- 144. ECOTON Ecological Observation and Wetlands Conservation, Indonesia
- 145. Brantas River Waterkeeper, Indonesia
- 146. River Warrior, Indonesia
- 147. Break Free From Plastic (BFFP), Global
- 148. Zero Waste Sabah
- 149. Malaysian Nature Society Selangor Branch
- 150. Natural Justice
- 151. Plastic Free Ibiza & Formentera (alliance), Spain
- 152. (Ma) Learning Lab for Sustainable Transformation (Ibiza, Spain)
- 153. Women In Climate Change Action-WICCA
- 154. ClientEarth
- 155. Just Zero
- 156. Ottawa Riverkeeper | Garde-rivière des Outaouais, Canada

- 157. Red Mexicana de Acción Ecológica
- 158. Swedish Society for Nature Conservation.
- 159. IndyACT- Lebanon
- 160. Integrative Strategies Form
- 161. Common Seas
- 162. Fundación PlastiCo. Project, Ecuador
- 163. Aliança Resíduo Zero Brasil
- 164. Ecology Center Berkeley
- 165. Innovation pour le Développement et la Protection de l'Environnement, RD.Congo
- 166. Hudson Riverkeeper
- 167. Life Out Of Plastic L.O.O.P. (Perú)