GREENPEACE

Per email: srtoxicshr@ohchr.org
Marcos Orellana, Special Rapporteur on toxics and human rights

Dear Marcos Orellana,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the upcoming report “The lifecycle of plastics and human rights”.

Greenpeace has been campaigning on the issue of single-use plastic for the last five years and on the issue of toxic pollution since the early 80s. We have produced numerous reports, investigations and case studies that could be relevant to your report. Below you can find a selection of our most relevant and recent work. We have also included papers that have been peer reviewed by our Science Unit and some external publications.

Let us know if you have any questions. We are looking forward to reading the final report.

Ana Hristova
Global Campaign Strategist
Greenpeace International

Greenpeace publications:

- Southeast Asia’s Struggle Against the Plastic Waste Trade (2019)
- Waste Trade in the Philippines - How local and global policy instruments can stop the tide of foreign waste dumping in the country (2020)
- The Recycling Myth - Malaysia and the broken global recycling system (2018)
- The Recycling Myth 2.0 - The toxic after-effects of imported plastic waste in Malaysia (2020)
- The Quest for Plastic - How Greenpeace and people all around the country searched for plastic waste on the shores of Russian rivers, lakes and seas, including UNESCO World Heritage sites (2020) (**see attached UN submission folder**)
- Fossil Fuel Racism - How phasing out oil, gas, and coal can protect communities (2021)
- Deception by the Numbers - American Chemistry Council claims about chemical recycling investments fail to hold up to scrutiny (2020)
- Greenpeace US vs Walmart - a lawsuit alleging that Walmart has employed unlawful, unfair, and deceptive business practices by incorrectly labeling and

advertising its various private label throwaway plastic products and packaging as recyclable (2020)

- Circular Claims Fall Flat - a comprehensive survey of plastic product waste collection, sortation and reprocessing in the United States was performed to determine the legitimacy of “recyclable” claims and labels on consumer plastic products. (2020)
- Data from the global plastics waste trade 2016-2018 and the offshore impact of China’s foreign waste import ban - An analysis of import-export data from the top 21 exporters and 21 importers (2019)
- Oil-backed trade group is lobbying the Trump administration to push plastics across Africa - Greenpeace Unearthed Investigation (2020) and corresponding New York Times front page article Big Oil Is in Trouble. Its Plan: Flood Africa With Plastic.
- Global Pattern of Microplastics (MPs) in Commercial Food-Grade Salts: Sea Salt as an Indicator of Seawater MP Pollution (October 2018) - **(see attached UN submission folder)**
- Throwing Away the Future - How companies still have it wrong on plastic pollution “solutions” (2019)
- A Crisis of Convenience: The corporations behind the plastics pollution pandemic (2018)
- Microplastics and persistent fluorinated chemicals in the Antarctic (June 2018)
- The case against Coca-Cola How the world’s biggest soft drinks company is failing to address ocean plastic pollution (2017)
- Polyester: microplastic emissions from polyester shirts (2019 in German)
- Climate Killer Plastic - Factsheet on Plastic and it's CO2 footprint with focus on Austria (in German) **(see attached UN submission folder)**
- Liquid plastic: the latest trick to poison the sea - plastic in laundry, dishwashing and cleaning detergents (2020) (in Italian)
- Removing Plastics from Cosmetics - Greenpeace Germany study that found plastics in three quarters of make-up products examined (2021) (in German)
- Not Clean But Cleaner - Micro plastic research on the Rhine river (2021) (in German)
- Current situation of plastics in Colombia and its impact on the environment - Legal and Environmental approach (2019) (in Spanish)

Greenpeace Science Unit publications and reports relating to plastics (including collaborative research):

Papers in peer-reviewed journals

- Wilson, D.R., Godley, B.J., Haggar, G.L., Santillo, D. & Sheen, K.L. (2021) The influence of depositional environment on the abundance of microplastic pollution on beaches in the Bristol Channel, UK. Marine Pollution Bulletin 164: 111997
- Nelms, S.E., Duncan, E.M., Patel, S., Badola, R., Bhola, S., Chakma, S., Chowdhury, G.W., Godley, B.J., Haque, A.B., Johnson, J.A., Khatoon, H., Kumar, S., Napper, I.E., Niloy, Md.N.H., Akter, T., Badola, S., Dev, A., Rawat, S., Santillo, D., Sarker, S., Sharma, E. & Koldewey, H. (2021) Riverine plastic pollution from fisheries: Insights from the Ganges River system. Science of The Total Environment, 756, 143305. ISSN 0048-9697
- Gallo, F., Fossi, C., Weber, R., Santillo, D., Sousa, J., Ingram, I., Nadal, A. & Romano, D. (2020) Marine Litter Plastics and Microplastics and Their Toxic Chemicals Components. Chapter 10 in Leo M.L. Nollet, Khwaja Salahuddin Siddiqi (Eds), Analysis of Nanoplastics and Microplastics in Food, publ. CRC Press: pp 159-180
- Parton, K.J., Godley, B.J., Santillo, D., Tausif, M., Omeyer, L.C.M. & Galloway, T.S. (2020). Investigating the presence of microplastics in demersal sharks of the North-East Atlantic. Scientific Reports 10, Article number: 12204
- D'Souza, J., Windsor, F., Santillo, D. & Ormerod, S.J. (2020) Food web transfer of plastics to an apex riverine predator. Global Change Biology, May 2020: 12 pp. DOI: 10.1111/gcb.15139
- Nelms, S.E., Parry, H.E., Bennett, K.A., Galloway, T.S., Godley, B.J., Santillo, D. & Lindeque, P.K. (2019) What goes in, must come out: Combining scat-based molecular diet analysis and quantification of ingested microplastics in a marine top predator. Methods in Ecology & Evolution, online 12th August 2019: 11 pp.
- Scott, N., Porter, A., Santillo, D., Simpson, H., Lloyd-Williams, S. & Lewis, C. (2019). Particle characteristics of microplastics contaminating the mussel Mytilus edulis and their surrounding environments. Marine Pollution Bulletin 146: 125-133
- Nelms, S.E., Barnett, J., Brownlow, A., Davison, N.J., Deaville, R., Galloway, T.S., Lindeque, P.K., Santillo, D. & Godley, B.J. (2019). Microplastics in marine mammals stranded around the British coast: ubiquitous but transitory? Scientific Reports (2019) 9:1075, 8pp. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-018-37428-3
- Duncan, E.M., Broderick, A.C., Fuller, W.J., Galloway, T.S., Godfrey, M.H., Hamann, M., Limpus, C.J., Lindeque, P.K., Mayes, A.G., Omeyer, L.C.M., Santillo, D., Snape, R.T.E. & Godley, B.J. (2018) Microplastic ingestion ubiquitous in marine turtles. Global Change Biology DOI: 10.1111/gcb.14519
- Gallo, F., Fossi, C., Weber, R., Santillo, D., Sousa, J., Ingram, I., Nadal, A. & Romano, D. (2018) Marine litter plastics and microplastics and their toxic chemicals components: the need for urgent preventive measures. Environmental Sciences Europe 30(13): 14 pp.
- Santillo, D., Miller, K. & Johnston, P. (2017) Microplastics as contaminants in commercially important seafood species. Integrated Environmental Assessment & Management 13(3): 516-521

Technical reports:

- Santillo, D., Brigden, K., Pasteur, V., Nicholls, F., Morozzo, P. & Johnston, P. (2019) Plastic pollution in UK's rivers: a 'snapshot' survey of macro- and micro-plastic contamination in surface waters of 13 river systems across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Greenpeace Research Laboratories Technical Report 04-2019, June 2019: 30 pp.
- A 'snapshot' survey of microplastics in surface waters of the Vltava and Labe (Elbe) Rivers in the Czech Republic. Greenpeace Research Laboratories Analytical Report 2019-01: 10 pp
- Identification of polymer type used for a selection of organic-certified tampon applicators and their packaging on sale in the UK. Greenpeace Research Laboratories Analytical Report 2019-04: 9 pp.
- Santillo, D., Oakes, G., Labunska, I, Casado, J., Brigden, K, Thompson, K., Wang, M. & Johnston, P. (2018) Physical and chemical characterisation of sea-surface microplastics collected from coastal and inland waters of Scotland in the summer of 2017. Greenpeace Research Laboratories Technical Report 01-2018: 63 pp.
- Identification of polymer type used for a selection of tampon applicators and their packaging on sale in the UK, and screening of applicators for chemical additives and contaminants. Greenpeace Research Laboratories Analytical Results 2018-04: 13 pp.
- Miller, K., Santillo, D. & Johnston, P. (2017) The presence and impact of plastic litter in the Mediterranean Sea. Greenpeace Research Laboratories Technical Report (Review) 05-2017: 47 pp.

Conference posters

- Santillo, D., Oakes, G., Labunska, I, Henry, C. & Johnston, P. (2019) Microplastic contaminants in surface waters around the Antarctic Peninsula: the importance of quality control and assurance. Poster presented at 12th Annual UK POPs Network Conference, Birmingham, 10-11 April 2019.
- Santillo, D., Oakes, G., Labunska, I., Casado, J., Brigden, K., Thompson, K., Wang, M. & Johnston, P. (2018) Characterisation of sea-surface microplastics collected from coastal and inland waters of Scotland. Poster presented at the 40th International Conference on Environmental and Food Monitoring, Santiago de Compostela (Spain), 18-22 June 2018

External publications:

- Microplastics in marine sediments and rabbitfish (Siganus fuscescens) from selected coastal areas of Negros Oriental, Philippines

- Occurrence of microplastic fragments in the Pasig River (Philippines)
- Are Marine-protected Areas Sheltered from Plastic Pollution? (Philippines)
- Qualitative Assessment and Management of Microplastics in Asian Green Mussels (Perna viridis) Cultured in Bacoor Bay, Cavite, Philippines