

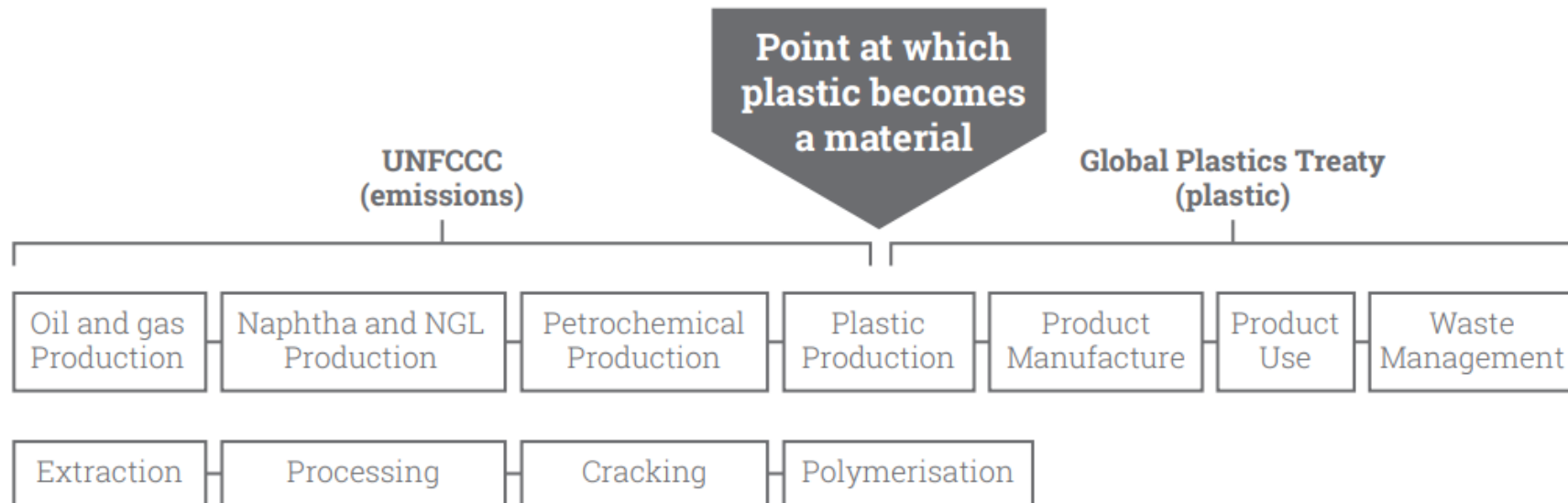
World Café Cluster 3

Sustainable Production and Consumption

Pacific Regional Preparatory Workshop for the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee

UNEA 5/14, OP3(b)

To promote **sustainable production and consumption of plastics**, including, among others, product design and environmentally sound waste management, including through resource efficiency and circular economy approaches



Relevance of **Sustainable Production and Consumption (SDG12)** to plastics

Examples...(not exhaustive)

Target 12.2

By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and **efficient use of natural resources**

Target 12.4

By 2020, achieve the **environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle**, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment

Target 12.5

By 2030, substantially **reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse**

Target 12.6

Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt **sustainable practices** and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle

Helpful definitions

- **Virgin plastic polymers** = newly manufactured resin produced from petrochemical or biomass feedstock used as the raw material for the manufacture of plastic products
- **Consumption** = production plus imports minus exports of virgin plastic polymers
- **Controlled substance** = in this case, plastic polymers – Parties would need to set out which polymers to be controlled
- **Freeze and phase down** = cap on production and consumption on controlled substances followed by reduction measures. Consideration for different categories, e.g “worst first” and allowable tail for plastics in essential use
- **Licensing systems** = regulatory system whereby a license is granted for a company to produce, export or import a controlled substance

Virgin plastic polymers

(% of total market share by weight in 2019)

- **Polyethylene** (low density) (LDPE) = 17.4%
- **Polyethylene** (high density) (HDPE) = 12.4%
- **Polypropylene** (PP) = 19.4
- **Polyvinyl Chloride** (PVC) = 10%
- **Polyethylene Terephthalate** (PET) = 7.9%
- **Polystyrene** (PS, EPS) = 6.2%
- **Polyurethane** (PUR) = 7.9%
- **Other Thermoset Polymers** = 7.5%
- **Other Thermoplastic Polymers** = 11.3%

What is in the Pacific regional declaration?



Call for future discussions on the agreement to consider the need for elements such as a **reduction of virgin plastic production**, the **phasing out of toxic and avoidable plastics**, **problematic and single-use plastic products** and additives and the harmonization of design and labelling standards, to support transition to a safe circular global economy and to find alternatives to allow for our continued economic development.

Guiding Questions

- What policy measures on sustainable production and consumption of plastics should be priorities for PICTs? Noting that PICTs are not major producers of plastics but are significant importers
- What does success look like for PICTs when it comes to sustainable production and consumption of plastics?
- How do PICTs want to deal with the restriction of certain polymers (e.g controlled substances) or products?
- Does the position in the regional declaration still reflect the position for PICTs (state and non-state actors)?