



PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development (PNLG) Marine Debris Prevention Initiative

November 2, 2019 • Xiamen, China



WE, representatives of members of the PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development (PNLG), met in Xiamen on November 2, 2019 to discuss the prevention and treatment of marine debris in coastal cities.

With marine debris increasingly becoming a global and difficult problem, posing severe threats and challenges to the global marine environment and the sustainable development of mankind, as coastal cities in the East Asian Sea, we fully recognize the importance of strengthening marine debris prevention and management, emphasize the implementation of urban marine debris management policies, plans and actions, attach importance to promoting citizens to continuously reduce waste generation, practice garbage classification, strengthen scientific and technological support in marine debris prevention and control, and effectively improve the effectiveness of various industries, enterprises and institutions in the prevention and reduction of debris into the sea.



Delegates recognizing that due to the connectivity of the ocean and the systematic prevention and control of marine debris, considering that coastal cities are usually located near estuaries, and play the role of the last barrier for land-based debris to enter the sea, all coastal cities need to join hands and shoulder their responsibilities to jointly deal with the prevention and control of marine debris and the protection of marine ecological environment. The best practice experience accumulated by coastal cities will be an important part of the global action and efforts to prevent and control marine debris.

In order to realize the UN2030 Sustainable Development Goals and to implement relevant international declarations and commitments of all countries, we unanimously advocate strengthening practice and cooperation in the following specific areas:

- I. Members of PNLG took immediate action to improve marine debris management policies and regulations at the city level as soon as possible and formulate marine waste prevention and control action plans.
- II. Establish and improve the leading institutions and coordination mechanisms of the marine debris prevention and control work of the coastal cities, increase financial support for marine waste prevention and control.
- III. Strengthen the monitoring and research of marine debris of the coastal cities, grasp the source and distribution of marine debris, using standardized methods to establish marine debris baseline information, to achieve the prediction of garbage into the sea path and distribution area.
- IV. Establish and improve the coastal city garbage classification management and marine debris collection and disposal system and mechanism, discuss and establish a low-value recyclable recycling system, strengthen the management of fishery garbage, strengthen the prevention and treatment of marine debris and disposal infrastructure construction, pay special attention to deal with the emergency disposal of marine drift garbage under extreme weather conditions such as typhoons and rainstorms.
- V. Strengthen the research on the impact of marine debris on the marine ecological environment, and improve the effectiveness and pertinence of marine garbage prevention and control policies and measures; encourage the continuously strengthening of the capacity-building of marine debris prevention and control in coastal cities through academic seminars, training courses and other related activities.
- VI. Encourage interaction and cooperation between the government, industry and academia, adhere to the concept of Blue Economy, strengthen the centralized garbage disposal capacity, accelerate the innovative research and development and application of plastic products substitution and environmental clean-up technology, promote the structural adjustment of traditional plastic industry, actively promote recyclable and degradable substitute products, increase the supply of green products, standardize the recycling of plastic waste, establish and enhance the management system in all aspects.





- VII. Call on all sectors of society to participate widely, advocate Blue Citizen action, strengthen community and school marine environment protection education, improve the general public's understanding of the sea, loving of the sea, and protection of the sea; advocating tourists to reduce the generation of disposable garbage and the random disposal of garbage; encourage social organizations and the public to carry out garbage removal operations; encourage meetings and activities without plastic or with less plastic, and carry out plastic recycling as much as possible; encourage enterprises to implement the concepts of non-plastic and less plastic in their production, and increase investment and financing beneficial to marine debris prevention and control.

- VIII. Strengthen the exchange of experience, data sharing and research cooperation between cities in marine debris prevention and marine ecological protection, promote the formation of a marine waste monitoring network and cooperation mechanism in the East Asian Sea region, and provide information for marine waste prevention and control policy formulation and enterprise investment in the region and even in the world.

WE CALL for more coastal cities to join PNLG network, to share practical experience, to strengthen inter-city cooperation, and to work together for the prevention and control of marine debris and the realization of a cleaner and healthier ocean!

