

Just Transitions through Environmental Justice



Centering Impacted Communities
And Recognizing Generational Harms
At the United Nations Global Plastics Treaty



PUNTA DEL ESTE
CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTER



“We must not forget that we are the air. We are the water. We are the land. We are not separate from the environment. We are the environment.”

Frankie Orona, Society of Native Nations

1. End plastic and toxic chemical pollution across the entire supply chain.

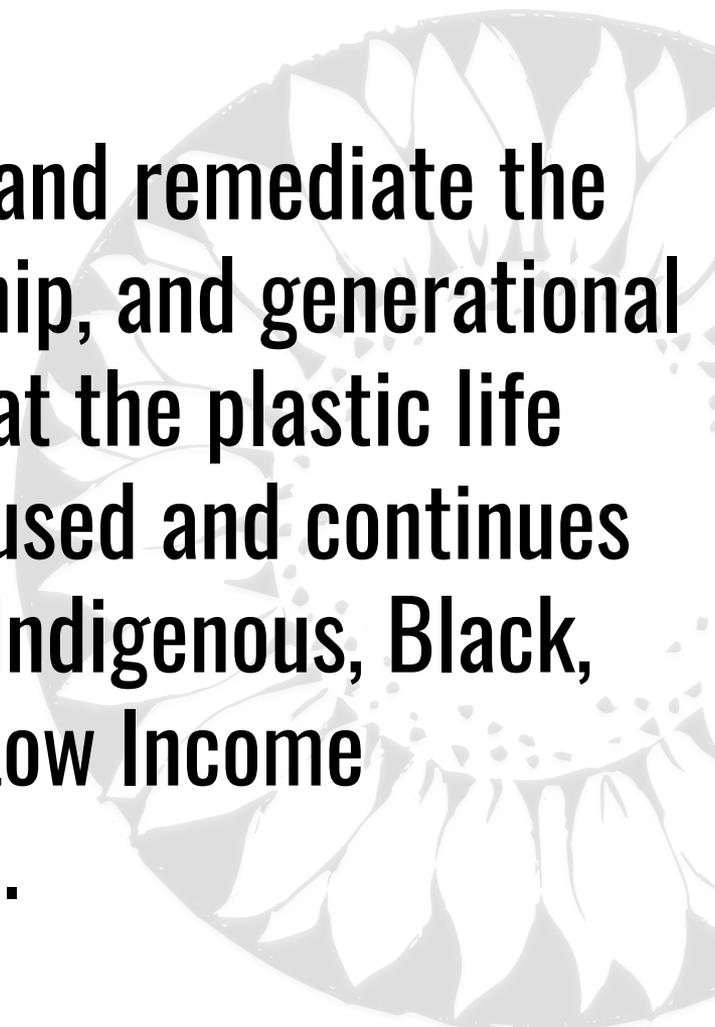
From fossil extraction to petrochemical refinement, manufacture, use, and disposal.

The plastic crisis is not only connected to the climate crisis and to biodiversity loss; it is also connected to social inequities, systemic racism, and cultural erasure. We have a moral obligation to confront the intergenerational environmental injustices and violence which lies at the root of the global plastic pollution crisis.





2. Confront the plastic pollution crisis by prioritizing the protection of public health and human rights over the interests and profit motives of the industries responsible for the global plastic pollution crisis.



3. Eliminate and remediate the harm, hardship, and generational injustices that the plastic life cycle has caused and continues to inflict on Indigenous, Black, Brown, and Low Income communities.

Tribal erasure and the systemic marginalization of Black, Brown, and Low Income communities in the Americas is ongoing and evident in the constant attack by the plastics, petrochemical, and waste management industries who continue polluting our lands.

The killing of our people continues to this day in industrial sacrifice zones across the country.

4. Phase out and eliminate toxic polymers and additives in plastic production as well as materials that shed harmful microplastics

The chemicals used during the production of plastics are destroying communities.

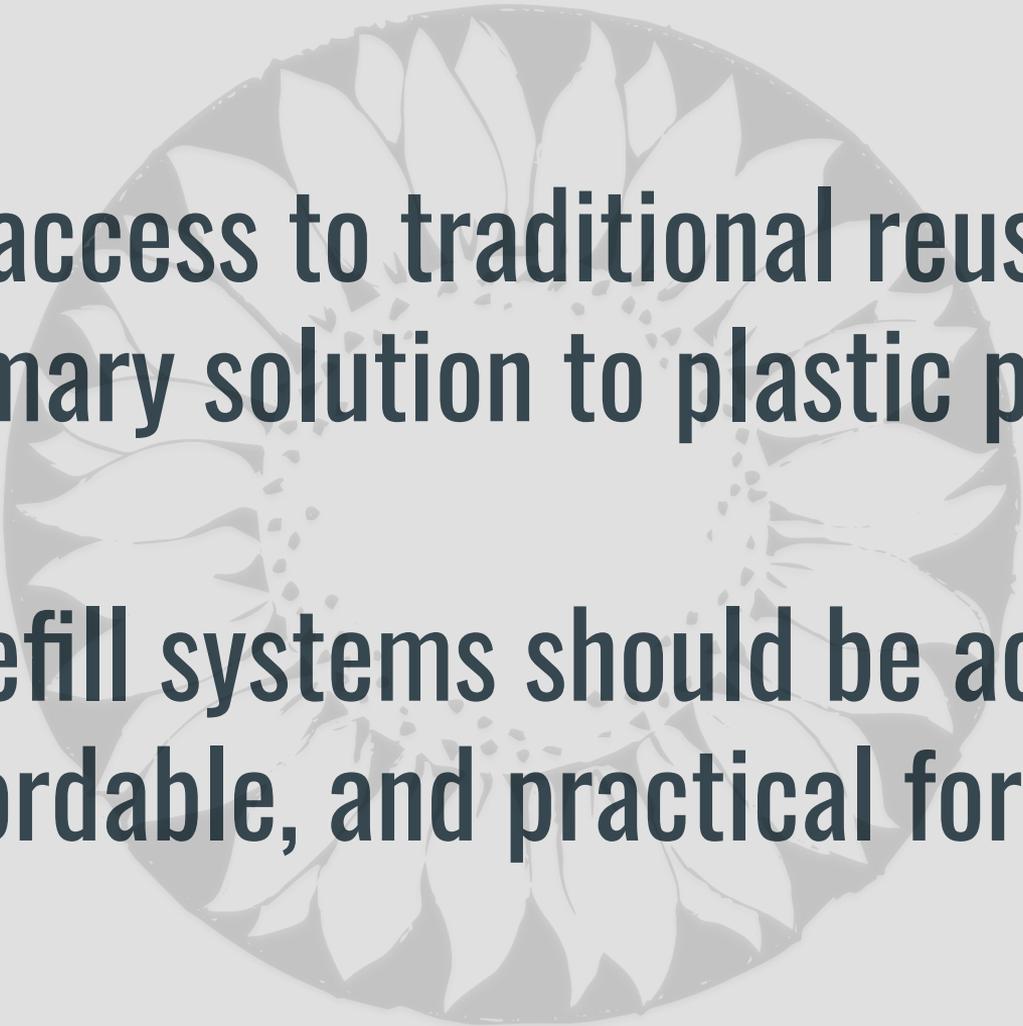




5. Reject harmful industry-backed waste management schemes involving waste exports and thermal treatment.

Including, but not limited to incineration, pyrolysis and gasification, and other forms of so-called chemical recycling.

There is no place for toxic plastics or bioplastics in a truly circular economy.



6. Center access to traditional reuse systems as a primary solution to plastic pollution.

Reuse/Refill systems should be accessible, affordable, and practical for all.

7. Identify plastics as fossil fuels which are inextricably linked to climate change and biodiversity loss.

Ensuring that plastic pollution becomes a criminal offense under national and international laws.



8. We must make zero waste considerations more equitable and inclusive to Indigenous peoples, frontline communities, waste pickers, and the youth of our next generation.

National plans must prioritize a just transition for affected workers in formal and informal sectors.



To read our submission to the
UN Secretariat, go to this website:

bit.ly/EJDelegation

