

NINTH REGIONAL 3R Forum IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Discussion Points of Plenary Session-2

1. In the era of Fourth Industrial Revolution (Industry 4.0), the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment (2018) shows that many major public and private sector are increasingly advocating the benefits of circular economic model in closing the loop on plastics production through innovative reuse with technological interventions. What are the major gaps (in terms of policy, institutional, technological, and financial and data/information) in Asia-Pacific region in achieving the true potential of business and economic opportunities towards circular economic utilization of plastics waste?

2. How can full scale circular economic utilization of plastics waste contribute in achieving SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities), SDG 12 (sustainable consumption and production), SDG 14 (life below water) and SDG 15 (life on land)?

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3. What are the key enabling factors to achieve full scale utilization of plastics waste to prevent their open dumping and open burning, including dumping into oceans? To what extent countries have addressed – a) building market potential; b) engaging private sector; c) developing PPP models; and d) technology transfer – towards circular economic utilization of plastics waste?

4. How could we improve the availability of data, information, indicators, and build required knowledge-base (information, experts and institutions) in areas of plastics waste? How could we promote credible use of those information and knowledge-base towards sound management, including circular economic utilization, of plastics waste?

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5. Many countries in Asia-Pacific region have banned the use of single use plastics. What critical lessons do they offer in moving towards circular economic applications for managing plastics waste?

6. What is the state of 3R technological interventions in addressing the growing problem of plastics waste management in the region?

7. Do existing financial arrangements for managing plastics waste achieve financial sustainability? If not, what are the suitable financial mechanisms that are viable for Asia-Pacific countries?