

Annex 1

Declaration for Moving towards Zero Waste through IPLA

18 October 2011, Daegu, Republic of Korea

We, the members as well as prospective members of the **International Partnership for Expanding Waste Management Services of Local Authorities (IPLA)** who met in Daegu, Republic of Korea, on 17-18 October 2011, at the Special Event of the ISWA World Congress 2011, *Moving towards Zero Waste for a Green Economy – Role of Local Authorities*, to discuss and address the importance of zero waste, resource efficiency, and multi-stakeholder partnerships in the context of green economy,

Recalling that the management of solid wastes and sewage was the subject of Chapter 21 of Agenda 21, which recognized that “environmentally sound management of wastes was among the environmental issues of major concern in maintaining the quality of the Earth’s environment and especially in achieving environmentally sound and sustainable development in all countries,”

Noting that in June 2012, the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD), or Rio+20, will be organized in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, with two focused themes of (a) a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and (b) the institutional framework for sustainable development,

Considering that the rapid increase in volume and diversification of solid waste generated mainly as a result of economic growth, urbanization, industrialization, and unsustainable production and consumption patterns has had a severe impact on the global and local environment, natural resources, public health, local economy, and living conditions, and threatens the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),

Realizing that it is imperative that policy initiatives that deal with waste management become truly operational at the local and city levels by taking an integrated approach in addressing all the interrelated issues of fresh water resources, public health, and local ecosystem,

Recognizing that resource efficiency aims to minimize net resource inputs to unit production and services as well as pollution and waste, while at the same time, that through resource efficiency local and national authorities can tackle local environmental problems, address climate change, ensure energy security, preserve natural capital, improve economic competitiveness, and pursue social benefits, ultimately contributing to the promotion of a green economy,

Recognizing also that zero waste is a long-term vision that ultimately envisages a thriving society that exists within nature’s resource constraints and its ability to assimilate waste,

Recognizing further that green economy attaches significant importance to the need for moving towards resource efficiency and a zero waste society,

Emphasizing that moving towards zero waste is inherently a multi-stakeholder process which calls for partnerships within and between communities, businesses, industries, and all levels of government,

Recognizing that waste management is inherently driven by specific local dynamics, which can be enhanced by international partnerships,

Noting that the International Partnership for Expanding Waste Management Services of Local Authorities (IPLA) was launched during the CSD-19 in New York in May 2011 to address the needs of local authorities in expanding waste management services, with a mission to “share knowledge, communicate across national boundaries, and work to spread best practice in order to accelerate the uptake of waste related infrastructure and services at various stages of waste management such as avoidance, prevention, minimization, segregation, collection, transport, recycling, recovery, reuse treatment and disposal”,

hereby affirm our joint aspiration and declare our intention to:

1. move forward to a resource efficient and zero waste society by promoting **effective collaboration and partnerships** among national and local authorities, municipalities, the private and business sector, NGOs, scientific and research organizations, and all other related entities;
2. address the need for **mainstreaming zero waste and resource efficiency into the political agenda as well as city development strategies** or action plans as a pre-requisite to moving towards a **green economy**, and the required changes in the existing institutional arrangements at the local, regional, and national levels;
3. develop IPLA as a **“decentralized network” and a “knowledge platform”** whereby local authorities and public waste utilities could gain access to meaningful information, and interact and network with partner institutions (cities, private sector, professionals and research institutions, international financial institutions, UN and donor organizations, etc.) actively engaged in sustainable waste management;
4. enable local authorities to share their experiences on institutional, business, and financial models that have been successful or otherwise in addressing opportunities and specific waste problems, including **new emerging wastes such as e-waste and plastics in a marine environment**;
5. help mainstream **resource efficiency and 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)** principles into the local development agenda, including environmental, social, and economic plans, policies, strategies, and programmes;
6. facilitate the efforts of local authorities in the expansion of **waste management-related services and infrastructure** that cater to the needs of local authorities that comply with applicable regulations;
7. help identify and stimulate potential partners and required financial mechanisms in support of **“green jobs,” “green industries,” and “green investments”** ;
8. enable the local authorities to partner with enterprises to create eco-industrial zones and clusters as part of broader programmes to become eco-cities;
9. promote **partnerships as the basis for sustainable waste management** in which governments and private companies assume co-responsibility and co-ownership for the delivery of required solid waste management services to growing urban communities;
10. **encourage awareness-raising and capacity-building programmes** targeting the local authorities and other stakeholders, especially to decouple waste generation from economic

development and to manage complex and new emergent waste streams;

11. help in creating a ***practice-oriented knowledge network*** to help formulate innovative projects, select most appropriate technologies, access expertise, and promote waste exchange and waste-resource related opportunities, including financing opportunities;
12. be instrumental in the collation of ***database on waste generation, technology performance and standards, benchmarks, and key performance indicators*** for gap assessment and target setting for the local authorities; and
13. provide a platform to the local authorities in giving feedback ***to enhance and modernize the national policy framework on waste prevention, minimization, and management.***