



G20 and Marine Plastic Waste

 drishtias.com/printpdf/g20-and-marine-plastic-waste

The **Group of 20 (G20)** environment ministers, on 15th June, 2019, **agreed** to adopt a **new implementation framework** for actions to tackle the issue of **marine plastic waste** on a global scale.

- The **environment and the energy ministers** of the G20 major economies **met in Karuizawa**, northwest of Tokyo, **ahead of the G20 summit in Osaka**, Japan on 28th-29th June, 2019.
- The new framework is aimed at **facilitating further concrete action** on marine waste, though on a voluntary basis, **after** the G20 Hamburg Summit in Germany adopted the **G20 Action Plan on Marine Litter** in 2017.
- Under the new framework, G20 members will promote a **comprehensive life-cycle approach** to prevent and reduce plastic litter discharge to the oceans through various measures and international cooperation.
- The members will also share best practices, promote innovation and boost scientific monitoring and analytical methodologies.
- Japan may host the **first meeting under the new framework** at the time when officials of environment ministers in the G20 countries will **meet for the G20 Resource Efficiency Dialogue**.

The G20 Summit

- The G20 Summit is formally known as **the Summit on Financial Markets and the World Economy**.
- The host country of the G20 summit leads the group over the course of one year from December through the following November as the G20 presidency.
- The G20 presidency also organizes relevant ministerial and working group meetings.
- **It is the first time that Japan has taken on the G20 presidency.**

- Over the years, the G20 summits have focused not only on macroeconomy and trade, but also on a wide range of global issues which have an immense impact on the global economy, such as development, climate change and energy, health, counter-terrorism, as well as migration and refugees.
- **The G20 is a group of 19 countries** (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, **India**, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States) **and the European Union.**

The G20 Action Plan on Marine Litter

It includes **seven high level policy principles:**

- Promote the socio-economic benefits of establishing policies to prevent marine litter.
- Promote waste prevention and resource efficiency.
- Promote sustainable waste management.
- Promote effective wastewater treatment and storm water management.
- Raise awareness, promote education and research.
- Support removal and remediation activity.
- Strengthen the engagement of stakeholders.

The G20 Resource Efficiency Dialogue

- The G20 countries decided to establish a G20 Resource Efficiency Dialogue at the summit in Hamburg in 2017.
- The dialogue makes the efficient and **sustainable use of natural resources a core element of the G20 talks.**