

Distinguished delegates and colleagues, Republic of Korea has made efforts to manage marine litter and microplastics through a life cycle management.

According to the **Marine Environment Management Act**, the National Marine Debris Management Plan is renewed every 5 years.

This year, Korea has established **the 3rd national marine debris management plan** from 2019 to 2023.

Also, we have established **National Marine Plastic Reduction Plan** this June. It aims to reduce 50% of current marine plastic waste by 2030.

Lastly, **Act on Management of Marine Debris and Marine Pollution Compositing Material** has been approved at the plenary session of the National Assembly in October to strengthen legal basis for marine waste management.

Given that all the seas in the world are connected and marine litter is a serious global issue on the same level as climate change, Korea agrees that a global response is needed to address marine litter.

Korea is actively participating in global cooperative efforts. Korea has developed APEC Roadmap on Marine Debris with Chile this year, which is endorsed at the 3rd Senior Official Meetings in August.

Korea hopes to increase its cooperation with UN member states in terms of sharing marine litter policies and statistics and standardizing survey methodologies.

Thank you.