

## Written Statement of Islamic Republic of Iran

Iran has located among Oman Sea, Persian Gulf (ROPME Sea Area) and Caspian Sea, so Marine environment is the most important ecosystem in our country. In the same time, now we are under the fast economic and industry development, also the most of these developments are expanding near the coastal zones. Therefore, liters and debris as plastic and microplastic are the most important issues in our marine environment.

To reduce and eliminate marine liters and in its consequence microplastics, the government has established following laws:

**1) Waste Management Law of Islamic republic of Iran:** was rectified in 2004 and the resolution for the implementation of the law was approved in 2005. In 2019 the taxation system resolution was approved and distributed amongst all related parties of the resolution to be in effect.

The Waste Management Law contains 23 articles with 9 paragraphs. Within article 1 all parties to this resolution should act fully upon all article and conserve the environment from ever increasing danger of waste materials.

**2) The Law of taking taxes for productions that causes creation of dangerous materials:** Recently established in 2019, contains 6 articles witch parties to this resolution should act fully upon all articles. This law obtains tax for list of goods that cause creation of litter, such as different kinds of tiers, toys witch made of plastic and so on. The stakeholders, who reuse the goods, do not force to pay task.

In addition, Iran has participated in regional Tehran convention. There is following related protocol, action plan and project:

**1) LBS: Protocol for the protection of the Caspian Sea against pollution from land-based sources and activities to the framework Convention for the protection of the marine environment of the Caspian Sea.**

## **2) REGIONAL CASPIAN SEA MARINE LITTER ACTION PLAN**

### **Preamble Caspian Marine Litter Action Plan**

The objectives of the Caspian Marine Litter Action Plan are to:

- Prevent and reduce marine litter pollution to a minimum in the marine and coastal environment of the Caspian Sea region and its impact on ecosystem services, habitats and species (in particular the endangered species), economic development, public health and safety and reduce the socioeconomic costs it causes;
- Remove to the extent possible already existent marine litter by using environmentally acceptable methods;
- Enhance knowledge and awareness about marine litter and its impacts amongst all stakeholders in the Caspian Sea, including but not limited to citizens, government decision makers, the private sector such as fisheries, shipping, ports, tourism, plastic and the packaging industry, and civil society including the general public;
- Strengthen national institutional arrangements to prevent and reduce the amount of marine litter effectively, with clearly defined responsibility of the governing authority based on best management practices to deal with marine litter from its generation to disposal;
- Assist in the establishment of cross-sectoral cooperation among relevant national and local authorities which are involved in the marine litter issues;
- Ensure that the management of marine litter in the Caspian Sea is performed in accordance with accepted international standards and approaches and as appropriate in harmony with programmes and measures applied in other regional seas; and
- Establish the Caspian Regional Monitoring Programme on the quantities and distribution of marine litter and assist Caspian Countries to develop and implement National Monitoring Programmes on Marine Litter.

### **3) Regional project “Addressing Marine litter in Caspian Sea Region”**

Establish a sound network for Addressing Marine litter and promoting the cooperation of the relevant stakeholders as well as to develop a Caspian marine litter Action Plan to prevent and reduce marine litter in the Caspian Sea.

In case of monitoring and management the microplastic, we have some researches on marine microplastics as identification, toxicity, measurement and so on.

To conclude, improving our data, instruments and technical methods to enhance our management programs for reducing the marine microplastic, we need more cooperation with regional and international programs, and fund resources, also we need to have regional guide line for our north sea water (Caspian Sea) and south marine water (ROPME Sea area).

