



NEWS RELEASE

PROGRESS REPORT OUTLINES INTERNATIONAL PLASTICS INDUSTRY EFFORTS TO COMBAT MARINE LITTER

TORONTO (June 18, 2014) – Earlier this week, plastics organizations from around the world released the [2014 Progress Report for the Declaration of the Global Plastics Associations for Solutions on Marine Litter](#) (Global Declaration). This important report outlines the industry’s public commitment to tackle plastic in the marine environment, and lists the more than 180 projects that are planned, underway or completed (as of December 2013). These 180 projects represent a nearly 90 per cent increase in the number of projects initiated since the Global Declaration’s announcement in 2011.

“As an original signatory to the Global Declaration, the Canadian Plastics Industry Association is proud of the role that industry has played in developing sustainable solutions for marine litter,” said Carol Hochu, President and CEO of CPIA. “As the national voice for the Canadian plastics industry, we are excited by the range of projects and initiatives that are happening across Canada as well as the globe.

“In terms of delivering litter reduction projects in Canada, we are encouraged to see such a high level of cooperation between CPIA, government agencies, private sector partners, academics and environmental groups,” added Krista Friesen, Vice President of Sustainability for CPIA. “These types of partnerships are crucial to tackling this very serious issue.”

The Global Declaration, signed in March 2011 at the 5th International Marine Debris Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii, was originally signed by 47 plastics associations from regions across the globe. Recognizing their important role in fighting marine litter, these plastics associations launched and supported projects in the following six key areas aimed at contributing to solutions – education, research, public policy, sharing best practices, plastics recycling/recovery, and plastic pellet containment.

Since initiating the Global Declaration, signatories have identified numerous specific actions designed to fulfill these commitments and have agreed to track and report progress. In 2013, the Global Declaration also became part of the United Nations Environment Programme’s Global Partnership on Marine Litter.

Today, 60 associations in 34 countries have signed on to the Global Declaration.

[Click here for the 2014 Progress Report](#). For more information on the Global Declaration, visit www.marinelittersolutions.com

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The Canadian Plastics Industry Association is the national voice of Canada’s plastics industry, representing the interests of processors, material suppliers, equipment manufacturers and brand owners across the country. Visit www.plastics.ca for more information.

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