

MALAYSIA'S ROADMAP TOWARDS ZERO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS 2018-2030



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Towards a sustainable future

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ROADMAP TOWARDS ZERO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

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INTRODUCTION



Since the 1950s, the production of plastic has outpaced that of almost every other material due to its versatility and functionality. Most of these plastics are designed to be thrown away after being used only once (single-use) which results in single-use disposable plastics waste accumulation. Only nine per cent of the nine billion tonnes of plastic the world has ever produced has been recycled. Most ends up in landfills, dumps or in the open environment¹. Single-use plastics² are plastics that are commonly used for plastic packaging, carry bags and include items intended to be used only once before they are thrown away.

Malaysia is a global player in the plastic industry with currently about 1,300 plastic manufacturers. As of 2016, our exports amounted to RM30 billion which saw a 2.26 million metric tonnes of resin utilised to produce plastics.

Environmental problems related to plastic waste have become a major problem in Malaysia where it has been ranked as 8th among the top ten countries with mismanaged plastic waste in the world. A study estimated that Malaysia had produced 0.94 million tons of mismanaged plastic wastes, of which 0.14 to 0.37 million tons may have been washed into the oceans³.

Some studies have also highlighted the potential health effects of single-use plastics on human and animals. Besides that, the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) had estimated USD13 billion impact of marine plastic pollution to the Asia Pacific region⁴.

More than 60 countries have introduced some measures to curb single-use plastics waste such as imposing bans and levies. Some countries have imposed direct ban on single-use plastics but according to a UNEP1 report, the bans have not been effective to curtail plastic pollution. The report also highlights other countries have taken a phased approach and in some cases, complimented with economic instruments. For example, India is planning to phase-out single-use plastics by 2022. Taiwan and European Union plan to phase-out single-use plastics by 2030.

Plastic pollution is a global problem that needs to be addressed in a sustainable manner. Malaysia has always promoted sustainable development by balancing economic growth with environmental protection in line with the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals. Malaysia plans to address single-use plastics by encouraging the plastic industry to transition to eco-friendly products. This will ensure the industry thrives by adapting green technologies while the environment is safeguarded. As such, this Roadmap is prepared to be used as a guide towards zero single-use plastics in Malaysia in a holistic manner.

4) APEC, 2009

¹⁾ UNEP (2018) SINGLE-USE PLASTICS: A Roadmap for Sustainability

²⁾ Plastics in this document is referred to the conventional petroleum based plastic
3) Estimation of mismanaged plastic waste in Malaysia in 2010 (Jenna R. Jambeck et al. 2015)

THE VISION

"Towards zero single-use plastics for a cleaner and healthier environment in Malaysia by 2030"

The vision of this Roadmap is to take a phased, evidence-based and holistic approach by involving all stakeholders in jointly addressing single-use plastics pollution in Malaysia. This Roadmap is envisaged to deploy actions that can deflect the current trajectory to a more sustainable pathway towards a cleaner and healthier environment by 2030.

The Roadmap will be implemented from 2018 leading up to 2030 with an expectation that all relevant stakeholders will play their roles effectively to ensure the objectives of this roadmap are met.



THE PRINCIPLES



Shared Responsibility

The responsibility to eliminate single-use plastics waste from the natural environment has to be shared by all the stakeholders including the government, industries, civil society and the consumers.



Sustainable Development

This Roadmap will support the wider national agenda on sustainable development that includes the consideration of economic, technology, environment, development and social factors.



Precautionary Principle

Plastics, as reported have an impact on biodiversity, environment and human health and some of these impacts are still being studied. When an activity raises threats or harm to human health or the environment, precautionary measures should be taken even if some cause and effect relationships are not fully established scientifically.



Participatory

Planning and execution of the Roadmap will be carried out by engaging all the relevant stakeholders in an open and transparent manner.



Good Governance

Good governance with appropriate mechanisms including accountability and transparency is crucial for the implementation of the Roadmap.



Living Document

This Roadmap will be updated from time to time taking into account advances in technology

预览已结束,完整报告链接和二维码如下:

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=12_21

