



PRESS STATEMENT

NRES COMMITTED IN REDUCING PLASTIC POLLUTION

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES) fully supports the aspirations of ordinary Malaysians that plastic pollution be reduced in our country.

As Minister, I have called for the review of laws governing plastic pollution to strengthen measures against this phenomenon. The government likewise has in place policies on single-use plastic and sustainable plastic—although more can and must be done.

We are also working on a national policy on plastic production, use and waste that will be in line with the 2022 Global Plastics Treaty (GPT), which is still under negotiation. The GPT, once in force, will lead to a decrease in unnecessary plastic consumption via a just transition.

Malaysia has so far taken part in 4 rounds of international negotiations on the GPT at the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to Develop an International Legally Binding Instrument on Plastic Pollution, Including in the Marine Environment (INC).

To ensure the very best outcomes, the NRES has—via Malaysia’s National Negotiating Committee—engaged various stakeholders such as government ministries and agencies, industry bodies and NGOs. We will continue to engage civil society inclusively in formulating our position on the GPT.

The NRES as such views the recent survey commissioned by Greenpeace International, which found, among other things, that 87% of the 1,000 Malaysians surveyed nationwide support plastic production being reduced to fight pollution, as a sign of support for the government to ensure our society transitions away from this material.

The fact that support in Malaysia was higher than the global average of 82% shows that a move towards sustainability is supported by the rakyat. Indeed, it is a core principle of the government's Malaysia Madani agenda.

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