

NewsBrief

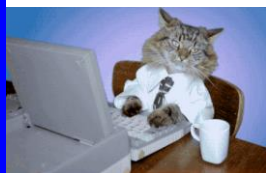
Issue No.100 June 2018



Responsible Care®
OUR COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY

Highlights

- Your views on HSWA Review
- WES update
- Your Association
- Compliance roadshows coming
- Environment



What Do You Need To Know?

Fifteen years ago, New Zealand was first in the world to implement the newly devised Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) to safeguard workers from the chemicals they encounter in every workplace.

The subsequent innovative coupling of the GHS (Workplaces) and the familiar UN Model Regulations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (UNRTDG) simplifies the management of chemicals throughout their life cycle, saving time and money. Industry codes of practice provide best practice performance standards.

Fast forward to 2018 and site compliance assessments by WorkSafe NZ and Responsible Care NZ confirm safe chemical management falls short in too many businesses, particularly SMEs who still struggle to understand complex compliance obligations and identify appropriate remedial action. Changes to the hazardous substances regulations included no doubt well intended, but disappointing, decisions such as diluting the flawed but necessary Approved Handler requirements, modifying SDS availability criteria and undermining comprehensive codes of practice with general guideline material. Concerned business operators seeking compliance solutions are often advised to “Read the regulations”.

As a result, your association will deliver SME-oriented workshops to explain key chemical safety compliance obligations and wherever possible, pragmatic solutions. Our Auckland seminar attracted more than 200 participants, demonstrating the need for a shorter, focused version in provincial centres, which will include inviting local WorkSafe NZ staff.

Internationally, Responsible Care® participants are supporting governments, NGOs and consumer groups to address the pollution caused by plastic waste in our oceans and communities. The Responsible Care® contribution is evident throughout the UN Environment Sustainability Goals and cleaning up waterborne plastic waste is presently the catalyst for universal action.

A review of the workplace health and safety strategy launched last week seeks to improve healthy workplaces to match safer workplaces, while extolling the value of mutually beneficial partnerships with proactive industry groups – a goal your Association has long advocated and continues to pursue.



Trouble on the Farm

With the support of all major farming bodies, New Zealand has decided to attempt to eradicate the Mycoplasma Bovis disease affecting an estimated 3% of our cattle, rather than adjust to living with the disease like all other countries except Norway. The disease is not harmful to humans and is not listed with the WHO and therefore not a trade risk. However, image is critical when our reputation for ‘safe food’ is endangered. Animal welfare is the other key consideration.

The phased two-year eradication campaign will remove 150,000 animals from the national herd of five million and monitor 900 of the 20,000 farms at risk. The testing regime is prolonged and not necessarily definitive.

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) is reviewing bio-security management at our borders, while pursuing the source of this outbreak.



Workplace Safety – Your Views Requested!

Despite minimal media exposure, the Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety seeks your opinion of a revised draft strategy to help ensure safer workplaces. The focus is shifting to incorporating health issues arising from occupational disease such as stress, fatigue and bullying in the workplace. The present ACC driven, injury-focused targeting will be dropped in 2021.

Involving workers in decision-making is emphasised, together with addressing the greater harm regularly occurring to specific groups such as Maori, Pacific Islanders, migrants, older workers and Youth. A key strategic goal is for Government to support proactive industry groups leading by example and developing cost-effective compliance solutions, particularly to SMES. To date, WorkSafe NZ has focused almost exclusively on sectors with the highest casualty rates such as forestry, farming and construction.

Your Association will reiterate our long-standing view that improving national chemical management performance contributes significantly to safer and healthier workplaces. RCNZ Members offer unique experience and credible suggestions for performance improvement.

We need your expertise!

To comment:

- ✓ Read the Strategy and supporting information at <http://www.mbie.govt.nz/info-services/employment-skills/health-and-safety-at-work-strategy>
- ✓ Complete the attached submission form and send to HSWStrategy@mbie.govt.nz. Please copy info@responsiblecarenz.com.
- ✓ If you prefer, send your comment directly to us. **The deadline for submissions is 08 June 2018.**

WORKSAFE WES Update

WorkSafe NZ is calling for submissions on updating the Workplace Exposure Standards (WES) and Biological Exposure Indices (BEI).

The initial **WES review** involves:

- Foam dust
- Hydrogen sulphide
- Nitrogen dioxide
- Propylene oxide
- Styrene

The **BEI review** includes common substances such as:

- Arsenic
- Benzene
- Carbon disulphide
- Carbon monoxide
- Chromium VI
- Ethyl benzene
- Fluorides
- Mercury
- Pentachlorophenol (PCP)
- Phenol
- Toluene

- ✓ The proposed WES and BEI, together with the required submission document are found at [Proposed Changes to Workplace Exposure Standards](#) and [Biological Exposure Indices](#).
- ✓ Please send submissions to exposurestandards@worksafe.govt.nz, with a copy to info@responsiblecarenz.com. **The deadline for submissions is 15 June 2018.**

A second tranche in a few weeks will involve heavy metals, minerals and fumes, including:

- Beryllium
- Cobalt
- Manganese
- Nickel
- Perchloroethylene
- Portland cement
- Synthetic fibres
- Sulphuric acid
- Welding fumes



Asbestos Regulations Kick In

WorkSafe NZ believes up to 170 people die each year from unwanted exposure to asbestos. If you own or occupy a building that contains asbestos, you must have an asbestos management plan in place from **04 April 2018**.

Buildings constructed or altered between 1940 and 2000 can contain either asbestos or more likely Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM), including ceiling panels, floor coverings, cladding and pipe insulation.

Plans must include the identification process, location of all ACM, decisions taken to remove or minimise the risk and preparations to safely manage an emergency involving the product either before or during the remediation.



Association Update

Your interests are being advanced through RCNZ-led advocacy initiatives, addressing improvements in regulations, establishing world-class national performance standards and enabling compliance obligations.

We are currently:

- Responding to increasing enquiries seeking chemical compliance advice, reflecting our unique 'one stop' Approach for successfully navigating our complex hazardous substances regime.
- Participating in a joint industry working group to examine and refine the management of AS/NZ Standards to ensure costs are fairly shared under the Government's 'industry will pay' policy. Costly overhauls could mean the demise of all but the most widely used Standards. As a Designated Standards Agency, RCNZ is considering updating popular industry-related Standards which do not presently attract government support.
- Leading a team of logistics experts seeking to close the gap between regulations and practical compliance in transit depots. A site visit involving WorkSafe NZ, industry operators and LTA representatives successfully illustrated the conflict between best practice and impracticable regulatory requirements.
- Advocating the importance of effective regional Hazardous Substances Technical Liaison Committees (HSTLC) to support the emergency services and local authorities facing a chemical incident.
- Reviewing SDS to ensure NZ compliance.
- Upgrading our unique PRINCE® site assessment criteria to include specialist operational scenarios, e.g. healthcare facility, major hazard facility and transit depots.
- Developing draft Unit Standards for safely handling workplace chemicals. See www.nzqa.govt.nz
- Mentoring a new Responsible Care® association in Kenya, with several other African countries seeking similar support from our small, international capacity building team.
- Training management and staff operating timber treatment and milling operations.
- Reminding regulators our expertise and resources are available to help ensure New Zealand workers remain healthy and safe at work.
- Updating our popular safe chemical management courses, together with Asbestos and Silica advice.
- Producing guidance material for sites captured by the Major Hazard Facilities criteria. This will reflect the regulators' response to the seven known Tier One safety cases submitted to date.



Regulatory Compliance Update

Some MHF Tier One sites are choosing to distribute their hazardous substances to multiple sites in order to fall below the prescribed MHF thresholds.

We are increasingly concerned at the varying quality of chemical management advice offered to time-poor SME operators. Our popular educational chemical safety posters and Approved HSNO Codes of Practice provide user-friendly, accurate and low cost compliance information. If in doubt, call us!

- A review of NZS 5433 Transport of Dangerous Goods on Land: 2012 is underway. As well as reflecting the latest (2017) Edition of the UNTDG, consideration is being given to improving the format of this essential national performance standard. Updating the widely used companion SAA/SNZ HB76: 2010 Emergency Response Guide could follow if justified by the relevance of new information.
- Our popular 'walk and talk' site compliance assessments, which are free to new Members and Partners, continue to gather plaudits from businesses seeking accurate compliance solutions.



Budget 2018

The Coalition government's first budget confirms New Zealand's resilient economy continues to out-perform pre-election predictions.

Sustained 3% growth, low inflation, unemployment below 4.3% and a steadily increasing tax take provide an increasingly healthy financial reserve. The tax take forecast has risen to \$100bn by the 2021 elections and a potential budget surplus of \$7.36bn by 2022.

Business remains ambivalent about the absence of bi-partisan economic planning and controversial prioritized spending. Expectations of substantial public service pay increases for nurses, law enforcement and teachers exert pressure on funds earmarked for responding to national disasters, such as major earthquakes and the ever-present biosecurity threats to our vital agricultural industry.

The re-installment of a 12.5% R&D tax deduction in the Budget is welcomed, however the Science, Research and Innovation Minister heralded the end of the controversial \$657.2m Callaghan Innovation Growth Grants in March 2019.

Five million tourists per year are expected by 2020 as the Hospitality and Service sectors struggle to fill job vacancies with immigrants. Skilled tradespeople are an issue, with 50,000 new arrivals a year outstripping available housing.

Details of how NZ is to meet our 2017 Paris Agreement climate change commitments and the likely cost involved, are nervously awaited by major industry groups and the agricultural sector.

Next month's negotiations for an EU-NZ free trade deal and the update of the ageing but very important China-NZ FTA affecting particularly our agricultural exports, signal more jobs and reduced consumer prices, together with further tariff reductions to counter threats of global protectionism.



These Are Our Members

A warm welcome to new Members **Kop-Coat New Zealand**, **Superior New Zealand** and Partner the **Wairarapa District Health Board**.



With almost 100 years' experience in over 30 countries, **Kop-Coat New Zealand** provides specialist advice to New Zealand's forestry industry about maximising the value of wood products. Among Kop Coat's innovations is the first comprehensive

Anti-Sapstain programme and the first mechanical harvester field treatment programme. Chief Executive **Warren Banks** is an RCNZ Board Member.



Superior New Zealand is a privately owned, boutique agrichemical manufacturer and consultancy based in Mosgiel, supporting South Island farmers with customised solid fertilizer, water and soil testing services, together with certified organic products.



Wairarapa DHB
Wairarapa District Health Board
Te Pori Hauora a-rohe o Wairarapa

Wairarapa District Health Board is the latest healthcare provider to join the RCNZ Partner programme in order to better demonstrate and validate safe chemical management throughout the facility.

The DHB of 700 staff is responsible for providing comprehensive healthcare services to a population of 43,800 in Martinborough, Featherston, Greytown, Carterton, Masterton and outlying districts.



PRINCE® Awards



Congratulations to Members **Interchem Agencies** for their record fourth PRINCE Gold® Certification and **Chemcouriers' (Mainfreight Group)** Penrose Auckland depot for achieving their third award.

Evonik Industries' hydrogen peroxide plant in Morrinsville gained a second PRINCE® Certification.

WorkSafe NZ acknowledges PRINCE® Certification could be recognised as evidence a site complies with the criteria required to obtain an extension to Certification requirements.



BASF has opened its construction chemicals plant in East Dagon Industries Zone, 25kms from central Yangon, Myanmar's largest city. The facility provides customised concrete additives and comprises production units, a laboratory and warehousing.

A similar, two year old facility builds on the company's 50 year association with Sri Lanka by supporting local community rehabilitation and relief programmes.



A leading provider of over 3,000 specialty chemicals and food ingredients, **Chemcolour Industries (NZ)** has been acquired by Belgian multi-national Azelis Group.

Azelis services more than 40,000 customers from facilities in North America, Asia Pacific and Europe.

Retiring Chemcolour Managing Director **Murray Nancekivell** is a long-serving Responsible Care NZ Director and Chemcolour was a foundation signatory to the Responsible Care® Global Charter.



The German supplier of foam chemicals and transport plastics which evolved from Bayer in 2015 reports a 20% increase in anticipated earnings of €1.06bn.



Evonik has bought the materials performance operations from industrial gases supplier Air Products for US \$3.8bn.



Specialty chemicals company Lanxess has finalised the purchase of Chemtura Corporation, a leading supplier of lubricants and flame-retardants.



Methanex, the Canadian-based methanol producer and Responsible Care® icon achieved a profit of US \$2m on increased earnings of US \$965m.



NZALS Powers Ahead

A more favourable electricity supply contract will enable **NZ Aluminium Smelters** (NZALS) to recommission a fourth pot line and take advantage of improving global demand for first grade aluminium used in aircraft and cars. The company has announced a three-fold improvement in earnings.

Chief Executive Gretta Stephens, who after four years is leaving to run Blue Scope Steel NZ and Pacific Islands (formerly BHP Steel), hands over to former NZALS engineer Stewart Hamilton in July 2018.

The fourth potline will add about 30 skilled operators to the 800 employees and contractors who export NZ\$ 525m worth of a particularly high quality product.



**Shell
New Zealand**

All Shell NZ assets have been sold to Vienna-based oil and gas company OMV. The sale includes offshore and onshore oil and gas production sites, exploration permits, drilling operations and tank farms.

Parent Royal Dutch Shell is divesting US \$80bn of global assets to reshape the company into a world-class investment vehicle. Shell Taranaki and Shell NZ staff will join OMV New Zealand.



Efficiency Vs Competitiveness?

The ongoing consolidation of global chemical suppliers claims greater efficiencies outweigh regulator and consumer concerns about the perceived loss of competitiveness.

Some customers point out the Bayer takeover of seed supplier Monsanto creates a monopoly, while the merger of ChemChina and Syngenta to secure market share for herbicides, pesticides, fungicides and plant growth products severely limits competition for these expensive products.

DowDuPont recently announced the corporate brand names that each of its divisions plans to assume once they are separated as independent companies. The Agriculture Division will be called Corteva Agriscience™, reflecting its purpose of enriching the lives of those who produce and consume.

The Materials Science Division will be called Dow, and will retain the Dow diamond as its brand, building on the Company's globally recognized 121-year history of innovation and value creation.

The Specialty Products Division is to be the new DuPont, carrying forward a 215-year legacy of science-based innovation to transform industries and everyday life.

Materials Science division is anticipated to separate by the end of the first quarter of 2019 and Agriculture and Specialty Products divisions are expected to separate by June 1, 2019.

The latest news can be found at <https://www.dow.com/en-us/news/press-releases/dowdupont-announces-brand-names-for-the-three-independent-companies-it-intends-to-create-reflecting-ongoing-progress-towards-separations>

DuPont has divested most crop protection products to FMC while DowDuPont seeks savings of US\$3bn by shedding employees and rationalising facilities. The earlier DuPont spinoff, Chemours supplies titanium and fluoroproducts to the automobile, paints, plastics, electronics and energy industries.

Akzo Nobel has created stand-alone Coatings and Specialty Chemicals divisions. This follows last year's acquisition of US Chemtura Corporation, a supplier of flame-retardant and lubricant additives, by Lanxess, a specialty chemical company.



Rising Insurance Premiums

Insurers are warning higher premiums are on the way due to several factors, particularly continuing severe weather events, higher compliance and repair costs and increases to the NZ Fire and Emergency and Earthquake Commission levies.



SNZ PAS 4509:2008 NZFS Fire Fighting Water Supplies CoP

The Standard seeks to guarantee the supply of adequate water to fire fighters. This includes the capacity, operation and location of access points, issues pertinent to the development of site safety cases required by the MHF regulations. The free Code can be downloaded here: [Fire Fighting Water Supply CoP](#)



Logisticians Rejoice!

Transport operators are celebrating the re-opening of State Highway One and the adjoining railway between Picton and Kaikoura this month. Both were seriously damaged by a 7.8 earthquake in November 2016 resulting in a long detour through the Lewis Pass which is susceptible to closure by heavy snowfalls. Tourists and locals will welcome the restoration of access to Kaikoura's busy Whale Watching centre.



Recent Chemical Incidents

- A leaking IBC in a container at Auckland Airport resulted in emergency responders cordoning the spill of an unidentified substance. Two people who inhaled the chemical were hospitalised for observation.
- Industrial chemicals and consumer products were destroyed when a B train caught fire in the Lewis Pass. Cautious firefighters declared a 3km exclusion zone, evacuating nearby Boyle Village and Outdoors Centre. The driver managed to uncouple the trailer which was allowed to burn out.
- Another alert driver moved his tank and trailer unit clear of the pumps at a Blenheim service station just before the trailer burst into flames. No dangerous goods were involved.
- A suspicious fire destroyed vehicles and equipment in a Horizons Regional Council storage depot containing controversial 1080 pest control poison. Police believe the premises were broken into, however the 1080 poison secured in a freezer was not accessed prior to the building being torched.

Recent calls to the **0800 CHEMCALL® 24/7 Emergency Response Advisory Service** involved:

- Several instances of a hazardous substance entering the eyes in the absence of safety glasses.
- Inhaling fumes from cleaning products and water treatment chemicals.
- Prison inmates injured with cleaning chemicals during a fight.
- Spills in homes and school plant rooms.
- Doctors seeking advice on industrial and consumer chemical products.
- Burns from handling chemicals without gloves.

The Message: Supply and wear appropriate PPE.



Costly Fuel Leak

Last year's breach in the pipeline which delivers jet fuel from the Marsden Point Refinery to Auckland Airport cost Refining NZ more than NZ\$14m. Frustrated customers are reportedly suing the pipeline operators.

An excavator operator allegedly gouged the buried pipe which subsequently failed under an increased load, releasing 125 cubic metres of fuel and stopping deliveries for two weeks.

The spill was contained and no long-term environmental damage is likely.



Environment

The Environment Court has ordered the removal of an estimated 120,000 tyres which caught fire in February. The remnants of the open-air stockpile will be relocated to a Christchurch warehouse for processing.

A new Waste Management Ltd tyre recycling facility has received a \$3.8m grant to process up to three million of the five million used tyres New Zealand produces every year.



Climate Change

At COP 23 (UN Framework Convention on Climate Change) New Zealand signed up to the international 'Powering Past Coal Alliance', which is committed to phasing out coal for electricity generation, despite not seeking to ban international coal exploration.

As a signatory to the Paris climate agreement, New Zealand is one of nearly 200 countries seeking to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions, thereby restricting global average temperature rises to 1.5°C.

The Government is banning new onshore and offshore oil and gas exploration permits, despite the significant economic contribution of oil exports and the almost completed replacement of coal fired electricity generators with natural gas. The oil and gas industry was not consulted prior to the unexpected decision.

POPs Persist

A surprising quantity of banned Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) remain throughout the country, including more than two tonnes of DDT found at one property. The second attempt to remove POPs from circulation, funded by the Ministry for the Environment, coincides with the unwelcome discovery that a fire-fighting foam containing Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS), banned in 2006, is still being stocked.

Communities adjoining military bases and former NZ Fire Service training grounds are concerned about possible health issues from potentially contaminated ground water supplies.

Readers with POPs can arrange free collection through their local authority waste management contacts.



Marine Plastics

The International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) is supporting governments, the UNE, environmental NGOs, companies and like-minded Responsible Care® Associations addressing the clean-up of the growing plastic pollution in the world's oceans.

Various schemes involve collecting the debris from the water and the shorelines and either re-using, recycling, or destroying the plastic by high temperature incineration (HTI) to generate energy. Disposal by this method could fall foul of New Zealand's HTI ban.

New Zealand is one of 42 countries which joined the Clean Seas campaign by committing to specific policies or legislative action (see last pages). Plastics New Zealand offers a member-only Plastic Waste Exchange for engineering polymers suitable for recycling. For details, please contact info@plastics.org.nz.



Too Much of a Good Thing?

Middle Earth remains a top tourist attraction with international visitors exceeding 3.5m in the year to March 2018. While obviously welcome and contributing NZ \$14.5bn per year to the economy, as well as employing thousands of Kiwis, the numbers mean overcrowded attractions such as our legendary bush walks, resulting in accommodation shortages, traffic congestion and environmental damage.

Increased littering by 'freedom campers' is a particular problem for local authorities. A proposed Visitor Tax to help remediate this damage, together with a restriction on visitor numbers at sensitive locations, would allow the local environment to recover, while sustaining a high-quality visitor experience.



Sound Science Must Prevail

Our industry is responding to the controversial pronouncement from the World Health Organisation (WHO) International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) that Glyphosate, the primary ingredient in the most widely used herbicides causes cancer.

Concerned scientists have convinced regulators and authorities as diverse as the European Union, the US EPA and the NZ EPA that there is no scientifically robust evidence to support the claim. Subsequently, the international chemical industry is seeking a comprehensive review of how the IARC undertakes studies into controversial, chemical-related issues of wide public concern, to coincide with the appointment of a new IARC Director later this year.



Baby Powder Causes Cancer?

US talcum powder manufacturer Johnson and Johnson (J&J) is facing more than 9,000 claims its popular talc causes ovarian cancer. Two recent jury trials considered claims the talc contains traces of asbestos and awarded plaintiffs US \$120m. Citing independent studies which detected no asbestos in the product, J&J will appeal.



More Dangerous Synthetic Cannabis

A new, more toxic version of synthetic cannabis is being linked to nearly 20 deaths in the past 12 months. St John Ambulance reports more than 100 callouts resulting from the more violent reaction to the latest illegal chemical cocktail. Police are appealing for information to help identify those manufacturing and selling a product 80 times more potent than natural cannabis. A Bill to raise the maximum penalty for the manufacture or supply of psychoactive substances from two years to eight years is passing through Parliament.



Unnecessary Meth House Testing?

Commenting on a new study, the Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor Sir Peter Gluckman says we shouldn't be testing houses for methamphetamine contamination unless the house contained a clandestine laboratory. There is no scientifically robust evidence that third party exposure is harmful to humans.

Hundreds of State housing tenants were evicted due to unsound risk assessments and unnecessary hysteria about tenants' health and wellbeing. Real estate agents and landlords were prosecuted or cited for misconduct. The report finding suggests up to 200 empty and sorely needed State houses could be re-occupied immediately.

Housing NZ is reviewing contamination guidance material. Public hearings on revised meth clean up Standard NZS 8510:2017 'Testing and Decontamination of Methamphetamine-Contaminated Properties' are planned for later this year.



Sky-High Cost of Keeping in Touch

Introducing Wi-Fi across Air New Zealand's international fleet of B777 and 787 aircraft has not impressed frequent flyers. The price of \$30 per sector e.g. Auckland-Los Angeles-London counts as two sectors, costing a non-competitive \$60 is under review.



The CleanSeas campaign on Marine Litter

The Issue

Each year at least 8 million tonnes of plastic end up in the oceans; the equivalent of a full garbage truck every minute. Between 60 and 90% of the litter that accumulates on shorelines, the sea surface and the sea floor is made up of plastic - the most common items being cigarette butts, bags, remains of fishing gear and food and drink containers.

The consequences are severe: marine litter harms over 600 marine species (15% of which are endangered), impacts on coastal economies and can enter the food chain through fish consumption. In the last 20 years, the proliferation of micro-beads and single-use plastics has made the problem even more serious.

Unless we act now, our seas will be hit by a plastic tide caused by human consumption. If not action is taken, by 2050 there could be more plastic than fish in the oceans.

In response to this crisis, UN Environment promotes the Clean Seas campaign. We hope you will join us in our call to action.

Introduction to Clean Seas

In February 2017, UN Environment launched Clean Seas with the aim of engaging governments, the general public, civil society and the private sector in the fight against marine plastic litter.

The campaign seeks to address the root causes of the problem through a five-year strategy that includes:

Educating and engaging citizens;

Collaborating with governments and the private sector;

Replicating and scaling up the efforts around the world.

The campaign's key assets are its ability to convene member states and work with them to implement concrete initiatives, its global reach through the UN network and a unified call to action that can support national movements to influence change.



Overall goal

CleanSeas aims to drive a shift towards substantial up-stream actions in the fight against plastic litter. The goal is to have industrial plastics management improved, non-recoverable plastics (e.g. microplastics in cosmetics) phased out, and single-use plastic significantly reduced within the next five years.

Objectives

1. UN Environment invites Governments to:

- Establish National and Regional Marine Litter Action Plans.
- Pioneer national legislation and policies to promote marine litter reduction.
- Set up national plastic management systems to measure and reduce their plastic footprint.

2. UN Environment invites the private sector to:

- Commit to reduce plastics use in production, product design and packaging.
- Improve, measure and report actions to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics.
- Showcase good practices and raise the profile of this issue with their audiences.

3. UN Environment aims to increase and improve public engagement by:

- Reaching the widest possible audience through the campaign's social and digital channels.
- Registering thousands of individual commitments to action, which range from reducing personal use of single-use plastic to engaging in beach clean-up initiatives.
- Supporting national movements to come together under one globally recognized brand, with assets that can enhance national efforts.

Impact

As of March 2018, only one year after **CleanSeas** was launched:

- **42 Governments** have already joined the campaign and committed to specific legislative or policy actions. The full list is as follows:
Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Grenada, Iceland, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Madagascar, Maldives, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Saint Lucia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, UK, Uruguay.
- **Key private sector partnerships and non-governmental alliances** have been established, including with:
DELL, Volvo Ocean Race, Volvo Car, Musto, the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators, the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums, the Flipflop Project, WWF, the Lonely Whale Foundation and others.
- **Tens of thousands of citizens** have pledged to reduce their own plastic footprint and/or take action in their communities to raise awareness on plastic pollution and propose local initiatives including petitions, consumer actions and beach clean-ups.

Funding

To achieve the goals above, significant funding for the campaign is needed over the next five years. While UN Environment contributes with its staff and expertise, CleanSeas relies almost entirely on voluntary contributions from member states and the private sector.

Since its launch, the campaign has become a key asset to contribute to policy dialogue and the promotion of positive change in national legislation, programs and projects. Through CleanSeas, UN Environment is intensifying partnership activity around marine pollution and contributing new expertise and access to decision-makers and the scientific community for its stakeholders.

By supporting the Clean Seas campaign, you will contribute to saving our oceans from the plastic threat, to protect marine wildlife and human health, and to support coastal economies.

Together we can turn the tide on plastic.



For further information and inquiries:

cleanseas@un.org | cleanseas.org | unenvironment.org

