



Hong Kong, 24 May 2020

Dr Hon Junius Ho Kwan-yiu, JP
Panel on Environmental Affairs
Legislative Council
panel_ea@legco.gov.hk

Subject: "Management of Waste Plastics"

Dear Chairman and Members,

"Drink Without Waste" is an initiative led by the Single Use Beverage Packaging Working Group, a coalition of beverage manufacturers and importers, waste handlers and recyclers, institutions, retailers and NGOs in Hong Kong. Together we are responsible for producing, retailing, and recycling the packaging of the majority of non-alcohol beverages consumed in Hong Kong. See www.drinkwithoutwaste.org

Research shows that 139 tons (roughly 5.5 million) of PET bottles and 67 tons of liquid cartons are being disposed of at landfills every day. The "Drink Without Waste" initiative seeks to reduce this volume of used beverage packaging going to waste by 70 to 90% in 2025.

To achieve this, we promote four strategies: to reduce the use of single-use beverage packaging; to achieve sustainable beverage packaging standards; to collect used beverage packaging; and to recycle the collected materials.

Our Working Group supports government's plans to launch a Producer Responsibility Scheme for beverage containers. Such schemes have proven to be an effective tool in ensuring that relevant stakeholders share their responsibilities fairly. We encourage expediting the necessary legislation to create a level-playing field for local beverage producers and importers, and all packaging types.

We welcome government's trial schemes and support of community recycling efforts. Our participants are investing in voluntary schemes to learn how to minimize impacts on cost, choice and convenience for consumers. We are considering the impacts of financial incentives and deposit schemes. We are reviewing existing and new recycling networks for better outcomes. We are testing both reverse vending machines and manual operations. We are concerned over the risks of unintended consequences, including the migration from relatively easy to recycle packaging (e.g. PET plastic) to difficult to recycle packaging (e.g. mixed material sachets and pouches).

At your convenience, we look forward to an opportunity to share with you our findings and recommendations on the management of waste plastics related to beverage consumption.

Yours sincerely,

Cosmo Lo
Project Manager

Ph: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

Attached: Participant list of the Working Group



Participants

A.S. Watson Group
ADM Capital Foundation Limited
ALBA Group (Asia) Limited
Baguio Waste Management & Recycling Limited
Business Environment Council (BEC)
Coordinate4u
Designing Hong Kong Limited
EcoDrive
Environmental Association Limited
Friends of the Earth (HK) Charity Limited
Fung Group/Convenience Retail Asia
Green Power Limited
Hong Kong Retail Management Association
John Swire & Sons (HK) Limited
Link Asset Management Limited
Plastic Free Seas Limited
Secure Information Disposal Services Limited (SSID)
Steven Molyneaux-Webb
SUEZ NWS R&R (Hong Kong) Limited
Swire Coca-Cola Limited
Swire Waste Management Limited
The Coca-Cola Company
The Dairy Farm Company Ltd.
The Green Earth
The Hong Kong Beverage Association Limited
The Hong Kong Jockey Club
Veolia Asia Limited
Vitasoy International Holdings Limited
WWF – Hong Kong
WYNG Foundation