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Plastics Associations Report Progress on Global Marine Litter Commitments

“Global Declaration” Encompasses More Than 140 Projects in over 34 Countries

Miami December 10, 2012 – Today the world’s leading plastics associations announced a [Progress Report](#) on the Global Declaration of the Plastics Associations for Solutions on Marine Litter originally announced in March 2011 at the 5th International Marine Debris Conference. The Progress Report identifies more than 140 projects to prevent marine litter that are completed, underway or planned – a substantial and significant increase from the 100 projects announced in Dubai in November 2011. In addition, the Progress Report provides case studies and detailed insights into preventing marine litter that can be expanded in other regions.

In March 2011, leaders from plastics associations across the globe announced the Global Declaration, a public commitment by a global industry to work with partners to tackle a global problem: plastics in the marine environment.

These plastics associations identified six areas of engagement aimed at contributing to sustainable solutions, focusing on public private partnerships to prevent marine litter, research, public policy, sharing best practices, plastics recycling/recovery and plastic pellet containment. Subsequently, declaration signatories identified 100 specific actions designed to fulfill the declaration, and they agreed to track and report progress.

Additional associations subsequently signed the Declaration, and today there are more than 140 projects completed, underway or planned. The projects vary widely, from education to global research and eco-efficient waste management and litter prevention.

“The plastics industry is firmly committed to the principle that plastics do not belong in the world’s oceans and should not be littered -- plastics should be responsibly used, reused, recycled and finally recovered for their energy value. I’m pleased that actions taken in 2012 and planned for 2013 greatly exceed our commitments from Nov 2011,” said Steve Russell, Vice President, Plastics, at the American Chemistry Council. “This report reflects the determination of our industry to shape solutions in partnerships with others,” said Wilfred Haensel, Executive Director of Plastics Europe.

“The Canadian Plastics Industry Association (CPIA) is pleased to be a signatory to the Global Declaration for Solutions on Marine Litter and is committed to continue efforts here in Canada to reduce marine litter”, says Carol Hochu, President and CEO, CPIA. “The Canadian plastics industry has a dozen projects complete or in progress to further recycling and recovery opportunities to reduce plastics entering the marine environment. We invite all Canadians to visit www.marinelittersolutions.com to learn more about the plastics industry initiatives for the protection of our seas and oceans”, says Cathy Cirko, Vice President CPIA.

[Global Plastics Association For Solutions On Marine Litter Progress Report](#). For more information on the Global Declaration, please 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.

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