



**CENTRE
FOR AMBITION**
AN INSTITUTE FOR CIVIL SERVICES
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PLASTICS TREATY DRAFT OVERLOOKS KEY ISSUE : LIMITING PRODUCTION

SUMMARY FOR CIVIL SERVICES ASPIRANTS

Key Points from the Article

1. Global Plastics Treaty Draft :

- After five days of negotiations in Busan, South Korea, a preliminary draft of the UN-led Global Plastics Treaty has been finalized.
- The treaty aims to address plastic pollution, including production, trade, and health hazards of plastics.

2. Criticism by the High Ambition Coalition:

- A group of 67 countries, including the EU and Pacific Island nations, believes the treaty does not sufficiently limit plastic production or address hazardous chemicals in plastics.

3. Points of Disagreement:

- The EU proposed global targets for reducing plastic polymer production and strategies for mitigating health risks of plastic pollution.
- Opposition from countries like India, China, and Saudi Arabia, where plastic polymer production is a significant industry, resisted including these measures.

4. Common Ground and Challenges:

- Agreement on regulating only a small portion (6%) of hazardous chemicals, under existing conventions like the Rotterdam, Basel, and Stockholm treaties.

5. Environmental and Health Risks:

- **Scientific Evidence** : Plastics harm marine life and human health, with microplastics found in seafood and even human placenta.
- If unchecked, plastic production could double by mid-century, surpassing the weight of fish in oceans.

6. Balanced Approach:

- Advocates like the EU highlight plastics' utility (e.g., making vehicles lighter) but stress the need to eliminate polluting plastics.

Highlighted Keywords:

- Global Plastics Treaty
- High Ambition Coalition
- Plastic polymer production
- Hazardous chemicals
- Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm conventions
- Plastic pollution
- Environmental and health risks

Drafted Multiple Choice Questions :

1. What was a major point of disagreement during the Global Plastics Treaty negotiations?

- a) Proposals for banning all forms of plastic usage
- b) Global targets for reducing primary plastic polymer production
- c) Complete removal of plastics from industries like aviation
- d) Exclusion of hazardous chemicals from the treaty

Answer : b) Global targets for reducing primary plastic polymer production

2. What percentage of harmful chemicals in plastics are currently regulated under international conventions?

- a) 20%
- b) 10%
- c) 6%
- d) 50%

Answer : c) 6%