

Unpacking the UN's Plan on Plastic Pollution



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The future of all plastic production is at stake

UNEP/PP/INC.3/4

Part II

1. Primary plastic polymers

1. Parties shall take the necessary measures to prevent and mitigate the potential for adverse impacts on human health or the environment from the production of primary plastic polymers, including their feedstocks and precursors.

Option 1

2. Each Party shall not allow its level of production and supply of primary plastic polymers to exceed the reduction target specified in part I of annex A.³

Option 2

2. Parties shall manage and reduce the global production and supply of primary plastic polymers to achieve the global target set out in part I of annex A.⁴

The UN is moving at a blistering pace toward a plastic treaty



The High Ambition Coalition (HAC) vs. the Global Coalition for Plastics Sustainability



THE GLOBAL COALITION FOR PLASTICS SUSTAINABILITY



Process

Voting rules will shape the scope of the instrument

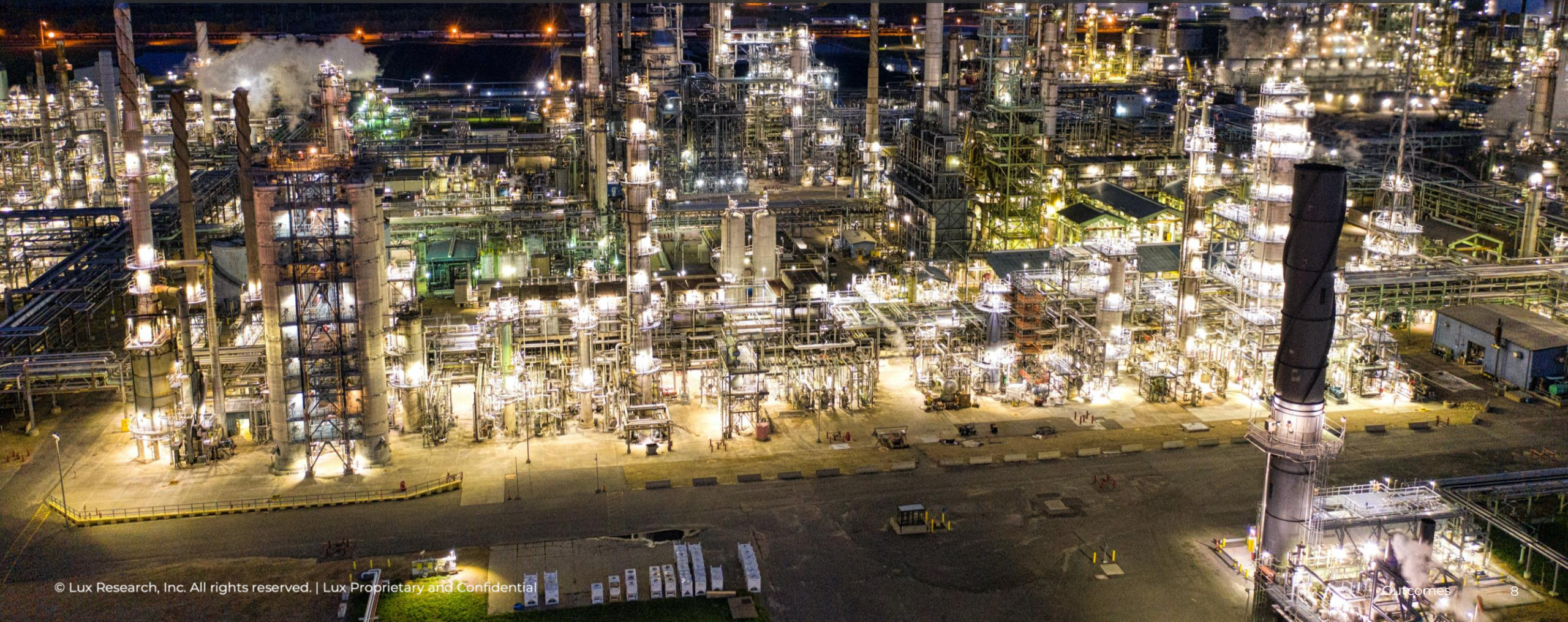


Targets

National voluntary plans will delay action

Plastic production

Plastic limits are the most contentious issue at stake



A wide-angle photograph of a massive landfill site. The ground is covered in a dense, multi-colored sea of trash, including plastic bags, bottles, and other debris. In the foreground, a yellow Komatsu excavator is positioned on the right side, partially obscured by the waste. To the left, a person wearing a hat and carrying a basket on their head is walking through the trash. In the background, a hillside with some buildings and trees is visible under a clear sky. A dark, semi-transparent banner is overlaid across the top of the image, containing white text.

Waste management

Expect the most progress in collection and cleanup



Recycling and circularity

Deep divisions are preventing forward momentum

Outlook

1 The UN treaty is currently on track for a low-ambition outcome.

Process rules and organized opposition make it hard for the HAC to achieve its goals.

2 There will be long-term ramifications for waste availability.

Funding and regulations should help encourage global collection of plastics over the next decade.

3 It's not over 'til it's over.

Much has not been decided. While we can see the shape of the outcome, there is still the chance for big swings and impactful details.

Thank you

A link of the webinar recording will be emailed within 24–48 hours.

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