



## PR3 (RESOLVE) and ECOS Text Recommendations on Effective References to Standards in The Global Plastics Treaty

**The concern:** Most of the proposed text on the revised zero draft calls for developing global voluntary standards. We agree standards are necessary to align and scale the technologies and systems that we need to stem plastic pollution and better manage our limited resources. However, too often global voluntary standards are developed through processes dominated by industry interests. Key stakeholders, including environmental agencies, scientists, small businesses, trade unions, and consumers, are poorly represented in standard development. For this reason, many voluntary standards lack ambition and can have unintended health and environmental consequences.

### Our recommendations:

1. The governing body or a subsidiary body to the treaty shall set technical measures and minimum performance criteria for systems that enable the reusability, refillability, and recyclability of plastics and plastic products.
2. Parties shall be required to adopt standards for such systems. These standards must be developed such that conforming systems meet the technical measures and minimum performance criteria established by the governing body.
3. The development of any standards created to support the treaty's implementation must include equitable participation from a broad spectrum of impacted communities and sectors, including: small, medium and large businesses, formal and informal workers, consumers, communities, and environmental and public health experts.
4. The governing body shall establish a committee or subsidiary body that, in the long term, oversees the harmonization and maintenance of reuse, refill and recycling system standards around the world. This body shall also facilitate capacity-building assistance for the development and implementation of standards worldwide. Similar entities in other multilateral environmental agreements may serve as experiences, such as the [International Plant Protection Convention's Commission](#), which harmonizes phytosanitary measures through the development and implementation of standards, and the [Montreal Protocol's Standardisation Taskforce](#) which oversees standardisation activities related to the Protocol.

*We believe these provisions fit best in Part II sections 5 through 7, and Part V section 2 of the streamlined text produced by the INC on April 26 (recognizing this might change as the text is further revised).*