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2022 PROGRESS REPORT

# NEW PLASTICS ECONOMY GLOBAL COMMITMENT



**PROQUIMIA**  
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NEW  
PLASTICS  
ECONOMY

Global  
Commitment

# New Plastics Economy Global Commitment



Global  
Commitment



## Context

**P**lastic waste and pollution have captured the attention of the public, governments, and businesses around the world. The search for solutions has started, and there is a growing recognition that addressing the symptoms through clean-ups is not enough. A systemic shift tackling the root causes is required: a transition towards a circular economy for plastic, in which plastic never becomes waste.

Over the past years, the Ellen MacArthur Foundation ('the Foundation') has been rallying businesses and governments behind this positive vision of a circular economy for plastic. Its 2016 and 2017 New Plastics Economy reports captured worldwide headlines and became a global reference. The Foundation's New Plastics Economy initiative is driving action with businesses and governments.

In January 2018, the Foundation's initiative brought together leading companies committed to work towards 100% reusable, recyclable, or compostable plastic packaging by 2025, which was scaled to an industry-wide, global effort with the launch of the Global Commitment in October 2018. The Commitment unifies the global value chain behind a common vision for upstream solutions, supported by action-oriented targets.

## The new plastics Economy global Commitment

**T**he Global Commitment, launched by the Foundation and UN Environment in October 2018, draws a line in the sand in the fight against plastic waste and pollution. It unites more than 500 businesses, governments, NGO, universities, and other organisations globally behind a common vision to address plastic waste and pollution at its root cause.

To help make this vision a reality, businesses and governments commit to a set of ambitious 2025 targets.



Signatories include companies representing 20% of all plastic packaging produced globally, as well as governments, NGOs, universities, industry associations, investors, and other organisations.

They work to eliminate the plastic items we don't need; innovate so all plastics we do need are designed to be safely reused, recycled, or composted; and circulate everything we use to keep it in the economy and out of the environment.

Credibility and transparency will be ensured by setting a clear minimum level of ambition for signatories, common definitions underpinning all commitments, and annual

reporting on progress. The first Progress Report was published in October 2019, with nearly 200 organisations reporting on progress against their commitments.

The Global Commitment is led by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, in collaboration with the UN Environment Programme. The Ellen MacArthur Foundation leads the engagement with the private sector (the business signatories and endorsers), and UNEP leads the engagement with the governments.

## Vision

**A**t the heart of the Global Commitment is a vision of a circular economy for plastic in which it never becomes waste.

### Signatories commit to three actions to realise this vision:

Eliminate all problematic and unnecessary plastic items.

Innovate to ensure that the plastics we do need are reusable, recyclable, or compostable.

Circulate all the plastic items we use to keep them in the economy and out of the environment.

### The vision has six key points:

1. Elimination of problematic or unnecessary plastic packaging through redesign, innovation, and new delivery models is a priority.

2. Reuse models are applied where relevant, reducing the need for single-use packaging.

3. All plastic packaging is 100% reusable, recyclable, or compostable.

4. All plastic packaging is reused, recycled, or composted in practice.

5. The use of plastic is fully decoupled from the consumption of finite resources.

6. All plastic packaging is free of hazardous chemicals, and the health, safety, and rights of all people involved are respected.

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## Commitments

To contribute towards that vision, all signatories of the Global Commitment should perform a “minimum bar” of commitments.

### As a packaged goods company, PROQUIMIA is implementing next commitments:

Take action to eliminate problematic or unnecessary plastic packaging by 2025.

Take action to move from single-use towards reuse models where relevant by 2025.

100% of plastic packaging to be reusable, recyclable, or compostable by 2025.

Set an ambitious 2025 recycled content target across all plastic packaging used.

None of the commitments, on its own, will be sufficient to achieve a circular economy for plastics. However, all of them contribute towards that vision, and, collectively, they are an important and necessary step forward.

Every 18 to 24 months, the ‘minimum bar’ of commitments will be reviewed and, where relevant and after consultation with signatories, raised to ensure the Global Commitment continues to represent true leadership.

PROQUIMIA joined the Global Commitment on February 2019.

Quantitative data on commitments provided in this report is based on data from 2021.

## Progress on elimination

Next actions have been developed and implemented during 2021 & 2022:

### Move from diluted products to concentrated products:

→ New concentrated products for water treatment of cooling systems were launched on the market during beginning 2021: CONPACK WT-4060, CONPACK WT-4070 and CONPACK ASEP IS35.



→ In 2020 we started developing new concentrated products in water soluble packaging caps (ECOCONPACK system) for institutional hygiene (hard surface cleaners/disinfectants, floor cleaners, air-fresheners). New products: ECOXOP NATURE and ECOXOP GREEN (floor cleaners), XOP PERSIST, XOP SWEET and XOP BLUE (air freshener), ECOXOP MULTIUSOS (multipurpose/window cleaner) and XOP BAC (hard surface disinfectant). The new ECOXOP range of products was launched in the market during beginning 2022.



### Move from rigid PE plastic packaging (bottles and jerry-cans) to low-weight flexible plastic packaging (800 ml bags for cosmetic products):

→ During 2021 and 2022 new cosmetic products for hand wash and hand disinfection packed in low-weight 800ml flexible bag have been developed, some of them with EU Ecolabel certification. New products: VITA ASEP GEL, VITASAN ECO, VITAHAND ECO, VITAFOAM ECO and VITACARE ECO. Existing products: VITABAC FOAM and VITAFOAM. The new products will be launched in the market during 2022. → approx. 50% reduction of plastic consumption (weight 1L bottle -50 g- vs weight 800ml bag - 22 g-).



### Move from rigid PE plastic packaging (bottles and jerry-cans) to low-weight flexible plastic packaging (bag in box - ECOCONPACK system):

→ New low-weight flexible 5L bag in box system developed during 2021 and 2022. New concentrated products will be launched in the market during end of 2022 for I&I automatic dishwashing (ECOCONPACK ABRILLANTADOR, ECOCONPACK A30) with EU Ecolabel certification. → approx. 60% reduction of plastic consumption (weight 5L jerrycan -166 g- vs weight 5L bag in box - 70 g-).



→ New concentrated products for water treatment of cooling systems were launched on the market during beginning 2021. New products: CONPACK WT-4060, CONPACK WT-4070 and CONPACK ASEP IS35. Low-weight flexible 10L bag in box packaging. → approx. 75% reduction of plastic consumption (weight 10L jerrycan -450 g- vs weight 10L bag in box - 110 g-).

### Move from rigid PE plastic packaging (bottles and jerry-cans) to watersoluble packaging caps:

→ In 2020 we started developing new concentrated products packed in water soluble PVOH film for institutional hygiene (hard surface cleaners/disinfectants, floor cleaners, air-freshener), some of them with EU Ecolabel certification. New products: ECOXOP NATURE and ECOXOP GREEN (floor cleaners), XOP PERSIST, XOP SWEET and XOP BLUE (air freshener), ECOXOP MULTIUSOS (multipurpose/window cleaner) and XOP BAC (hard surface disinfectant). The new ECOXOP range of products was launched in the market during beginning 2022.

→ During 2021 a new range of 4 concentrated household multipurpose cleaners and 1 air freshener packaged in water soluble PVOH film, were launched in the market. New products: FLOPP COCINA, FLOPP BAÑOS, FLOPP BAC, FLOPP MULTIUSOS (multipurpose cleaners) and FLOPP MEDITERRANEO (air freshener).



→ During 2021 and 2022 new concentrated products packaged in water soluble PVOH film for Household market (Private label: Laundry detergents, Automatic Dishwashing detergents, Hard Surface Cleaners) were developed and launched in the market. Some of them with EU Ecolabel certification.

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→ During 2021 and 2022 a new range of 4 concentrated cosmetic products packaged in water soluble PVOH film for hand foam-cleansing (household market) were developed and launched in the market.



All the above new packaging systems developed are based on ecodesign and circularity (reduce, reuse, recycle): reduce the amount of packaging per functional dose.

Additionally, next action has been developed to eliminate a set of commonly identified problematic plastic packaging:

### Elimination of carbon black plastic packaging:

→ The 25L PE black jerry can has been substituted by 25L PE 95% PCR without carbon black during 1st quarter 2021.



## Progress on reuse

Next actions have been developed and implemented during 2021 & 2022:

### Move products packaged in IBC 1000L from single use to deposit-return scheme.

→ All the products sold in IBC 1000L in Iberian Peninsula (Spain & Portugal) are included in the deposit-return scheme DRS. About 50% of IBC 1000L were returned for reuse.



Deposit-return scheme 1.000L (DRS)

### Increase the ratio of ready-to-use reusable packaging (trigger-spray bottles reusable):

→ All concentrated products (ECOCONPACK, ECOXOP and FLOPP system) for hard surface cleaning/disinfection and air fresheners are applied with reusable 500ml/650ml/1L trigger spray bottles. The concentrated product is diluted with water to get a ready-to-use solution of the detergent/disinfectant/air freshener that will be applied through a reusable trigger spray.



Reusable trigger spray bottle 650ml

→ The new range of 4 concentrated cosmetic products packaged in water soluble PVOH film for hand foam-cleansing (household market) launched in the market during beginning 2022, use a reusable foaming 200 ml dispenser.



Reusable 200ml foaming dispenser

### Move from single use to deposit-return scheme (DRS) or extended producer responsibility (EPR) schemes for PE o PET bottles and jerrycans:

→ In progress.

## 100% reusable, recyclable or compostable progress

Next actions have been developed and implemented during 2021 & 2022:

### Mono-material packaging --> recyclability

→ 98 % by weight of total plastic packaging put on the market is already recyclable, made of monomaterial PET, PE or PP.

### Polyethylene (PE) bottles and jerrycans - mono-material --> improve recyclability.

→ During 2019 we moved from paper labels to PP labels in PE jerrycans, in order to fulfill the design-for-recycling guidelines recommended for PE packaging.

### Flexible plastic packaging (bag in box) --> Eliminate barrier layers (move from multilayer-multicomponent PE-OPA film to PE-PET Film) to improve recyclability.

→ During Q1 2019 we eliminated the OPA barrier layers of our flexible plastic packaging (10L and 1.5L bag in box) to fulfill the design-for-recycling criteria established by the 2017 Ecolabel requirements for detergent products. The new 5L bag in box will be manufactured with PE-PET film.

→ During Q1 2020 we eliminated OPA barrier layer for 800ml bag (personal care products) to fulfill the design-for-recycling criteria established by the 2017 Ecolabel requirements for cosmetic products.

### Doypack for water soluble caps (household detergents for laundry, dishwashing and floor cleaners) --> Eliminate barrier layers to improve recyclability.

→ During 2021 and 2022 different actions have been carried out to moved the secondary packaging (doypack) of detergent products in water soluble caps from multilayer-multicomponent PE-OPA/EVOH-PET film to PE monolayer recyclable Film (certified as recyclable according to EN 13430), some of them including % of recycled PE.

### Doypack for water soluble caps detergents (household laundry, dishwashing and floor cleaners) --> Move from doypacks based on multilayer-multicomponent PE-OPA/EVOH-PET film to compostable doypack.

→ During 2021 and 2022, secondary packaging (doypack) of some detergent products in water soluble caps (brand FLOPP) have been manufactured with compostable doypack (as alternative to multilayer-multicomponent PE-OPA/EVOH-PET film).

### Increase the ratio of ready-to-use reusable packaging (trigger-spray bottles):

→ See section "Progress on reuse"

### Flexible plastic packaging (bag in box) --> Move from multilayer-multicomponent PE-PET Film to monolayer-monocomponent PE film --> improve recyclability.

→ In progress.

# New Plastics Economy Global Commitment

## Progress on packaging recycled content

Next actions have been developed and implemented during 2021 & 2022:

**PET bottles - → use 50-100% PET post consumer recycled.**

→ During 2019 we moved from PET to PET-100%PCR (post-consumer recycled) for all products packaged in 750 ml bottles (250.000 units/year), representing 10 tons/year.



**Polyethylene (PE) bottles and jerrycans - Use 50-100% PE post consumer recycled for translucent and opaque packaging:**

→ During 2021 we moved from PE to 50% PE-PCR (post-consumer recycled) for all products (except drinking water treatment) packaged in 10L white opaque PE jerrycan (→10.000 units/year), representing approx. 2,5 tons/year.



→ During 2021 we moved from PE black opaque to 95% PE-PCR ivory opaque (post-consumer recycled) for all products packaged in 25L jerrycan (→50.000 units/year) representing aprox. 50 tons/year.

→ During 2021 we moved from PE to 50% PE-PCR (post-consumer recycled) for all products (except drinking water treatment) packaged in 10L translucent PE jerrycan (→100.000 units/year), representing approx. 30 tons/year.



→ During 2022-2023 to move from PE to PET-PCR (post-consumer recycled) for packaged in 20L white opaque PE jerrycan.

→ During 2022-2023 to move from PE to 50% PE-PCR (post-consumer recycled) for products packaged in 20 and 25L translucent PE jerrycan.

## References

→ NEW PLASTICS ECONOMY GLOBAL COMMITMENT PROGRESS REPORT OCTOBER 2019.

→ <https://www.newplasticseconomy.org/projects/global-commitment>

→ NEW PLASTICS ECONOMY GLOBAL COMMITMENT COMMITMENTS, VISION AND DEFINITIONS, Version February 2020.

