

# Information seminar on “Creating a Circular Economy to End Plastics Pollution”

Organised by the Delegation of the European Union to Japan

Monday 17 April  
14:00-17:00 JST

**Delegation of the European Union to Japan, Tokyo (in-person only)**  
*(English and Japanese with simultaneous interpretation)*

The purpose of the event is to inform the Japanese audience on the latest developments regarding the [EU Strategy on Plastics](#) such as the [Single Use Plastics Directive](#) and the [EU policy framework on bio-based, biodegradable and compostable plastics](#), as well as to provide scientific data on the harmful impacts of plastics waste on the environment, climate, health and economy and the actions taken by EU and Japanese companies to tackle plastics waste.

The event will be chaired by the [EU Commissioner for Environment Sinkevičius](#).

We would like to invite you to take part in this roundtable and **confirm your attendance using this [link](#) by Wednesday, 12 April**. Registration will be closed once the venue capacity limit is reached.

Registration:

For onsite participation (capacity 100 people): [Click here](#)

## Programme

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|-------------|---|
| 14:00-14:05 | <b>Welcome by Jean-Eric Paquet, Ambassador of the European Union to Japan</b>   |
| 14:05-14:10 | <b>Opening remarks by Masaya Okuyama, Deputy Director General of Environment Regeneration and Resource Circulation Bureau, Ministry of Environment, Japan</b>         |
| 14:10-14:15 | <b>Opening remarks by Shinichi Kihara, Deputy Director-General for Technology and Environment, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Circular Economy Division</b> |

- 14:15-14:35 **Latest developments in the area of plastics - G7 Ministerial on Climate, Energy and Environment; Global Plastics Agreement; EU Strategy on Plastics**  
*Speaker: Virginijus Sinkevičius, EU Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries*
- 14:35-14:50 **Marine Microplastics**  
*Speaker: Yutaka Michida, Professor, Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute, The University of Tokyo*
- 14:50-15:10 **Overview of Tara JAMBIO Microplastic Joint Survey project with preliminary scientific results on Microplastic Pollution in the coastal waters of Japan**  
*Speaker: Yumi Patouillet, General Manager, TARA Ocean Foundation, Japan*
- 15:10 -15:20 **Consumer Trends on Plastics in Japan**  
*Speaker: Susumu Kataoka, Director-General for Evidence-based policy-making, Consumer Affairs Agency, Japan*
- 15:20 - 15:40 **Actions taken by Japanese Companies to reduce the use of plastics**  
*Speakers:*  
  - *Noriko Ogawa, Vice President, ESG Promotion Department, Japan Airlines*
  - *Shingo Yoshizumi, CEO, Kaman/Megloo*
  - *Yuichi Yoshimura, Group Manager, Re&Go (Nissha, NEC Solutions)*
- 15:40-15:50 **Innovative solutions to tackle plastic waste**  
*Speakers:*  
  - *Erwan Hinault, Deputy Director, Waste Solutions Business Department, Veolia Japan,*
  - *Hiroki Ishida, Representative Director & President, BASF Japan (tbc)*
- 15:50-16:00 **NGO perspectives on plastic pollution**

*Speakers:*

- *Hiroaki Odachi, Plastic Project Lead, Greenpeace Japan*
- *Yukihiko Misawa, Circular Economy Manager/ Plastics Policy Manager  
WWF Japan*

16:00 - 16:15    **Q&A**

16:15 – 16:20    **Closing remarks**

16:20 - 17:00    **Networking cocktail (Reception Room)**

*For inquiries, please contact:*

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