

Committee: Environmental

Question of: Tackling Textile Waste in the Fast Fashion Industry

Submitted by: Norway

Signatories: France, Chile, Kenya, El Salvador, Japan

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Acknowledging the significant role of the textile and fashion industry in the global economy, while also recognizing its substantial contribution to environmental degradation, including water pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, and landfill waste,

Alarmed by the United Nations Environment Programme's findings that the fashion industry is responsible for 10% of annual global carbon emissions, surpassing the emissions of all international flights and maritime shipping,

Deeply Concerned by the fact that less than 1% of material used in clothing production is recycled into new garments, leading to a loss of more than USD 100 billion worth of materials each year,

Noting with Regret the significant environmental impact of fast fashion, which contributes to excessive water consumption, the use of harmful chemicals, and the generation of considerable textile waste,

Recognizing the importance of sustainable practices in the textile industry, including the promotion of circular economy principles, ethical production methods, and the need for global cooperation in reducing the environmental footprint of textile production and waste,

1. Recommends the adoption of a clothing subscription model to reduce impulse purchases, including:
 - a. Encouraging brands to offer rental services for their apparel
 - b. Providing customer incentives for participating in rental programs;
2. Promotes the use of digital fashion to minimize physical waste, by:
 - a. Supporting tech companies creating virtual fitting rooms and augmented reality shopping experiences
 - b. Investing in the development of digital wardrobes and online fashion platforms;
3. Endorses the creation of community mending hubs to extend the life of clothing through:

- a. Granting funds to local businesses and co-ops that offer repair services
 - b. Organizing workshops on clothing care and repair techniques
 - c. Free donation spots to both drop off and collect clothes;
4. Calls for the implementation of zero-waste design courses in fashion schools by:
- a. Including sustainability and waste reduction as core elements in fashion education curricula
 - b. Awarding accreditation to institutions that prioritize eco-conscious design practices;
5. Advocates for the integration of smart technology in textiles to monitor and promote sustainability by:
- a. Encouraging research into textiles that can change color or pattern to reduce the need for multiple garments
 - b. Funding innovations in fabric technology that communicates the end of lifecycle to consumers for proper disposal;
6. Encourages the use of gamification to incentivize recycling and conscious consumption through:
- a. Developing apps that reward users for sustainable fashion choices
 - b. Partnering with brands to offer discounts and benefits for environmentally friendly behaviors;
7. Supports the establishment of a global textile innovation fund to finance sustainable fabric research and combat existing greenhouse gasses that were produced as a result of textile waste, including:
- a. Crowdfunding platforms dedicated to eco-friendly textile projects
 - b. Offering financial incentives for breakthroughs in biodegradable and recycled fibers
 - C. Financially supporting methods such as carbon capture to get rid of and reverse the current negative effects on the environment;
8. Proposes the development of a fashion library system to share garments within communities by:
- a. Creating a network of clothing libraries where individuals can borrow items
 - b. Providing government support for community-run fashion sharing initiatives;
9. Suggests implementing an international standard for the recyclability of textiles by:
- a. Developing a grading system for the environmental impact of clothing materials
 - b. Encouraging brands to adopt the standard for increased transparency and consumer education
 - c. Enforcing fines for member nations that abuse the regulations and standards put in place;

10. Champions the promotion of upcycling programs at a commercial level through:
 - a. Showcasing upcycled fashion at industry events and in mainstream media
 - b. Establishing partnerships between large retailers and local upcycling artists or companies.
11. Support the purchase of clothing from and donation to thrift stores by reducing or eliminating sales tax or making purchases a tax write off.