

Countries worldwide could soon sign a treaty to limit how much plastic pollution we create. Representatives from 175 nations have been meeting in South Korea to talk about the problem of plastic waste. The United Nations Environment Program said the treaty is necessary to help protect the future of the planet. U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres spoke about how serious the problem is. He said: "Our world is drowning in plastic pollution. Every year, we produce 460 million tons of plastic, much of which is quickly thrown away." The U.N. said a treaty is, "an insurance policy for this generation and future ones, so they may live with plastic and not be doomed by it".

Antonio Guterres gave a warning of what might happen in the future if we do not act now. He said: "By 2050, there could be more plastic than fish in the ocean. Microplastics in our bloodstreams are creating health problems that we're only just beginning to understand." The president of South Korea echoed Mr Guterres' comments. He asked governments to agree on a path to zero plastic pollution. He said we have relied too much on plastic because it is so convenient. He added: "The waste accumulated in our oceans and rivers now jeopardizes the lives of future generations." He asked governments, "to open a new historic chapter by finalizing a treaty on plastic pollution".

What do you think of these types of pollution?

	What I Think	Reducing It
Plastic		
River		
Noise		
Light		
Ocean		
Air		

### Paragraph 1

1 treaty	a.	People chosen to speak or act for others.
2 limit	b.	A plan that gives money or help if something bad happens.
3 representatives	c.	A formal agreement between two or more countries.
4 waste (noun)	d.	To stop something from being too much.
5 drowning	e.	Things we throw away because we don't need them anymore.
6 insurance	f.	Not being able to work or manage because there is too much of something.
7 doomed	g.	Sure or certain to have something bad happen, like failure or trouble.

### Paragraph 2

8 warning	h.	To depend on something or someone.
9 act	i.	Something that tells you to be careful about danger.
10 bloodstream	j.	To repeat or say something again; to repeat and agree with the words of another person.
11 echoed	k.	To put something in danger.
12 relied	l.	To do something.
13 jeopardize	m.	A group of people born around the same time.
14 generation	n.	The blood that flows inside your body.