

# RESOLUTION 17R-16

To request the RI Board to consider supporting ecologically-sustainable initiatives

**Proposer(s):** Rotary Club of Tampere International, District 1390, Finland

**Endorsed by:** District 1390 through a ballot-by-mail, 16 June 2017

1 WHEREAS, local efforts are needed by Rotary leaders and thought-shapers from  
2 all over the world who are able to influence their own communities. Together, we  
3 commit with our actions to the common welfare to ensure sustainable  
4 development, and

5  
6 WHEREAS, human thinking about using resources linearly is not sustainable.  
7 Similar to how nature itself does not produce rubbish or waste but, rather, reuses  
8 resources, humans should strive to reach a level of consumption that does not  
9 expend natural resources, and

10  
11 WHEREAS, “Less is more” design thinking should be encouraged to reduce waste  
12 at all stages of product lifecycles, from initial creation of the product, during use,  
13 and at the end. Recycling and reusing various types of materials throughout the  
14 lifecycle can be increased with ecological product design, and

15  
16 WHEREAS, end-of-life thinking is needed for products and materials to ensure  
17 an ecologically clean process at the end of their useful life, to reuse valuable raw  
18 materials, and to prevent potentially dangerous substances from escaping into  
19 nature. The Pacific Ocean garbage patch is a visible example of the consequence  
20 of plastics being freely released into nature, and

21  
22 WHEREAS, it is necessary to increase public awareness of sustainable solutions  
23 in order to attain the goal of ensuring that the earth’s natural resources will be  
24 sufficient for generations to come, and

25  
26 WHEREAS, by creating a sustainable initiative at the global level in Rotary,  
27 involvement can be expanded to all current clubs, as well as future younger  
28 members, by showing that Rotary cares and wants to support important  
29 initiatives for future generations

30  
31 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary  
32 International consider giving attention and support towards ecologically-  
33 sustainable initiatives and programs, as well as aim to increase investment in  
34 businesses that produce “clean” technology or improve the “circular economy.”

(End of Text)

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

- 1 If implemented, this resolution would result in an increase in expenses for RI
- 2 which cannot be determined at this time. Cost would be dependent on the scope
- 3 and extent of support provided by the RI Board to accomplish this goal.