

The following is an emailed response from The Coca-Cola Company received after Oceana shared a draft version of the report for comment in advance of publication. Oceana is a science-based group and seeks to be factual in our statements and reports. In response to Coca-Cola's comments, Oceana reviewed and, where greater clarity was needed to ensure accuracy, revised the final version of the report.

*In addition to a number of incorrect statements, the report and press release ignores and mischaracterizes the complex challenges related to the plastic waste issue. Real solutions require the implementation of policies, continued investments in infrastructure and collaboration across industries. TCCC has advocated for well-designed policies that aim to support collection and recycling infrastructure, including well-designed Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes and government mandates that require producers of plastic packaging to financially support these systems.*

*Meanwhile, we are taking meaningful steps to limit our use of single-use plastics. As you know we have greatly increased the use of recycled content in our packaging. We also continue to work on and invest in our packaging strategy, focusing on investing in innovations such as lightweighting, and continuing work to support collection and recycling of packaging waste. Along with our bottling partners and suppliers, we have invested in the establishment of many new producers of recycled plastic using empty packages to create new ones, including establishing the first or largest bottle-to-bottle facilities in many markets.*

*As you point out in the report, we also continue to invest in refillable packaging, but you then argue that we are not doing enough in this space. That conclusory view fails to provide context around the challenges associated with refillable implementation (infrastructure, adoption, consumer behavior) and devalues the efforts that The Coca-Cola Company continues to invest in. We know more must be done and we continue to work on and invest in the advancement of our ambitions.*

*In addition to ignoring these important realities, Oceana's report contains numerous inaccuracies. It is irresponsible for Oceana to say that the company's growth is directly correlated to an increase in plastic use (it is not). The cited brand audit utilizes questionable methodology in measuring global waste, relying mostly on beach clean-ups. The Report also makes misleading statements about the health impact of microplastics yet glaringly omits critical information about the largest contributors to microplastics (which studies have shown to be paint, fiber from clothes and tires).*