Call for papers to special issue “Chemical Pollution associated with Plastics” for Environmental Monitoring and Contaminants Research (EMCR)

Recent studies have demonstrated that plastic debris and micro- and nano-plastics are dispersed throughout the earth surface including urban centers and agricultural fields, open sea, remote islands, deep seafloor, and even mountain air. They also contaminate a wide-range of organisms including digestive tracts of marine mammals and the blood of humans and animals and can trigger biological effects. A particular concern is hazardous chemicals associated with plastics, including monomers, additives, processing aids, and non-intentionally added substances (NIAS) as well as adsorbed chemicals. However, their evidences have been incomplete and more data should be published.

The followings are anticipated topics for the special issue “Chemical Pollution associated with Plastics“.

- Concentrations and occurrence patterns of monomers, additives, processing aids and NIAS as well as adsorbed chemicals in virgin and recycled plastic pellets, plastic products, and environmental plastics.
- Distribution of plastic debris and micro-/nano-plastics in various environmental matrix and biota including digestive tracts, tissue, and circulatory systems of organisms, including human.
- Bioaccumulation and related processes (leaching and desorption) of plastic-associated chemicals in biological tissue/organisms.
- Adverse effects of plastic-associated chemicals on organisms including humans through in-vitro, in-vivo, and cohort approaches.

Papers that provide information to facilitate regulation of plastics and chemicals by national, regional, and international framework such as Stockholm Convention and the upcoming Plastic Treaty are welcome.

Open Access without publication charge: The papers will be published with open access under a Creative Commons License and authors retain copyright. The Article Publication Charge (APC) is waived for submissions in 2024, because of the support from the Japan Society of Environmental Chemistry (JEC).

Submission : Manuscripts for the special issue will be submitted through normal Scholar One Submission (S1M) system and the authors should select “special issue (plastics)” instead of “regular submission” on the selection of “submission” in Step 3 of S1M. The manuscripts will be handled by appropriate associated editors including guest editors (Dr. Roland Weber and Dr. Natsuko Kajiwara) and will be subjected to normal peer review process. No special disposition will be made with the manuscripts for the special issue.

Production : Accepted papers will be copy-edited and formatted as usual and appear both on normal issue page and specially-designed webpage together with selected plastic-related articles which were already published in EMCR. The page “special issue and article selection” for “Chemical Pollution associated with Plastics” will appear on the EMCR website by end of January 2024. The call for the special issue will be open until at least the end of 2024. We, editorial board members, are looking forward to your contributions to the special issue to end plastic pollution.