The Pan-African Multi-Stakeholder Alliance on Plastic Pollution is an initiative of Co-Habiter International.

The Alliance develops transversal actions in partnership with public authorities and the parties involve to put an end to plastic pollution in Africa. The network currently has more than 34 nonprofit organizations and businesses across Africa and the diaspora.

The Alliance aims to cover as many countries as possible in Africa. Our network has been participating in the INC negotiations from the beginning and has already submitted three declarations.

Our present contribution is a follow-up to the previous ones and is summarized in the following main points:

Gratitude

We extend our sincere thanks to the host country Canada for the excellent welcome, as well as to the Secretariat for the brilliant coordination of the conference.

Consensus

During INC-1, our network introduced consensus into discussions and is honored that the term is fully integrated into the culture of the negotiations. Consensus is, in our view, the key to the success of the Binding Treaty insofar as the interests that are at stake are multiple, diverse, and diversified and that we are currently at a critical stage of the negotiations, INC-4.

After Ottawa, South Korea will be the last step to reach an agreement together. Therefore, we urge States and all stakeholders to continue to favor consensus in order to reach an agreement by the deadline. As the President stated so well in her opening speech of INC-4 “Together, we are strong (...) The world is counting on us for the adoption of a Treaty. Let's not disappoint him.”

Transparency

Transparency is the fundamental condition for a consensual process that leads to a lasting and profitable agreement for individual states and fundamentally to the entire planet. We call for transparency particularly in positions taken by each and everyone in the protection of their interests, but also in formal and informal exchanges.

In an article published on April 23, 2024, on the INC-4, Reuters speaks of countries that are more divided than never in negotiations. In our capacity as actor-participant, we were able to observe the situation described in the newspaper in different regional groups.
This division is, in our humble opinion, not only the expression of the variety of constructive opinions, but also the sign of hidden interests which are not put on the table, discussed, confronted with the desire to move towards convergence. We therefore support the call from the Executive Director of the United Nations Program for Environment for more transparency during the sessions so that we do not disappoint the world.

**Inclusion**

Stakeholders, particularly in the civil society, are catalysts of change. Their knowledge and ideas are needed to fuel the discussions. They are above all, agents of change at the grassroots level and the connectors to leaders at the state level. This is why we are asking for the name "Observer" to be changed to "Stakeholder".

We also demand an extended speaking time for stakeholders particularly during plenaries and the work session of the Regional Groups.

We are calling for the institutionalization of a “Day of States and Stakeholders”, which will be a permanent exchange framework between the official delegations and the nonprofit organizations representatives.

**Transition**

Any complex process requires an appropriate transition. This is why our Alliance supports the point on transition which is included in the basic document.

In the same vein, we call for the establishment of transitional accounting. The introduction of this transitional accounting clause will provide safeguards against extensions of the period transient.

Our sincere thanks, Mr. President.

**Contact**

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