

Textual proposal of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Non-paper 3 of the Chair of the Committee

Day 2, November 26th, 2024

Article 5 PLASTIC PRODUCT DESIGN

Kazakhstan recognizes the importance of addressing plastic pollution through environmentally sound management, acknowledging its significant impacts on ecosystems, including the marine environment. We support global efforts to develop a comprehensive, science-based international legally binding instrument that addresses the entire lifecycle of plastic products.

We highlight the importance of considering socio-economic conditions of developing countries, which are heavily reliant on the development of various sectors of economy, which involves the use of primary polymers, particularly in healthcare, construction, petrochemistry, mining and others.

In this regard, we emphasize that Kazakhstan considers primary polymers to fall outside the scope of the proposed Convention.

At this time, we face difficulties in defining key terms and are likely to continue facing this issue throughout the text.

In item 1 of Article 5, we suggest removing the words “primary plastic polymers” and substituting them with “plastic products”, which include materials consisting of one or more polymers combined with additives (such as fillers, plasticizers, stabilizers, and colorants) to impart specific properties, such as flexibility, strength, color, and durability.

Additionally, we consider the article addressing plastic product design essential for the Convention as a whole. We propose elaborating on concepts of promoting resource-efficient design of plastic product, circular economy practices and efficient waste management practices, while introducing sound finance and technology-transfer mechanisms to further enhance plastic product design.