

Textual proposal of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Non-paper 3 of the Chair of the Committee

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Article 3 PLASTIC PRODUCTS

Kazakhstan highlights the development of a comprehensive, science-based approach that addresses the entire lifecycle of plastic products, while considering the importance of socio-economic conditions of developing countries.

Kazakhstan underlines the need to adapt flexible solutions, acceptable for all, ensuring that developing nations can adapt to new global plastics regulations without compromising economic stability or development goals. We therefore agree with the notion proposed by the Secretariat on the need of sharing similar high ambition, while maintaining flexibility in approaches at the national level.

In regard to chemicals of concern, the identification and applicability of chemical substances is extensively covered under existing Multilateral Environmental Agreements.

We, therefore, find it important to focus on current international legislation regarding chemical substances in the composition of plastic products based on international scientific research. Kazakhstan supports the notion that the necessary regulation should be implemented within the framework of national legislation, in accordance with internationally approved norms and standards.

In this regard we submit the following textual proposal for Article 3 Plastic Products:

1. It is encouraged to consider Parties' unique national circumstances and capabilities, including climate and environmental ambitions priorities, and socio-economic factors, when implementing measures to regulate the production, sale, and distribution of short-lived and single-use plastic products. By adopting tailored approaches that reflect their specific contexts, countries can address plastic waste more effectively. Collaborative efforts among Parties can further amplify these initiatives, fostering a global transition toward reducing plastic waste and promoting sustainable practices.

2. Parties are encouraged to implement measures to regulate the use of problematic and avoidable plastic products, with a particular focus on those with a high risk of environmental leakage, as identified in the guidelines adopted by the governing body. These measures should consider the availability, accessibility, and affordability of sustainable alternatives, especially in developing and landlocked countries while reflecting each country's unique national circumstances and capabilities.

3. Parties are encouraged to adopt national measures to identify plastic products containing intentionally added microplastics, assess the risks of environmental pollution, and adverse effects on human health. Based on these assessments, Parties should implement a science-based, phased reduction of such products, prioritizing their replacement when risks cannot be mitigated and safer, more affordable alternatives are available. Additionally, efforts should be made to facilitate the transition to these alternatives and ensure their accessibility.

4. This provision shall be interpreted and implemented in a manner that does not duplicate and respects relevant legal instruments and frameworks, as well as in the framework of relevant global regional subregional and sectoral bodies, and promotes coherence and coordination with those instruments, frameworks and bodies.

5. Developed countries are encouraged to provide access to technology, financing, and capacity-building resources to support developing nations's ambitions in reducing plastic pollution.