



AFRICAN GROUP OF NEGOTIATORS

Article 8 - Plastic Waste Management [Delivered by Nigeria 6 August]

Thank you Madame Co-Facilitator, on behalf of the African Group of Negotiators, we agree with the Chair's text as a starting point for negotiations on Article 8 and support the retention of 'shall' in this article as a whole. For Paragraph 2 (a), we suggest the deletion of **"including with energy recovery of plastic waste"** and to replace it with **"in accordance with environmentally sound management and based on the waste hierarchy."** This is our rationale.

We propose keeping this paragraph's language aligned with the Basel Convention by referring to environmentally sound management rather than listing specific disposal methods. This approach gives all Parties the flexibility to manage plastic waste. It also keeps the treaty future-proof, allowing us to adapt to new technologies and solutions without being locked into today's examples. Thank you

1. Each Party shall take measures to ensure that plastic waste is managed in an environmentally sound manner, taking into account relevant guidelines developed under the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal and other relevant agreements and organizations and guidance referred to in paragraph 6.
2. In implementing paragraph 1, each Party shall, taking into account national circumstances and capabilities, take measures, including to:
 - a. Establish appropriate systems and disaster-resilient infrastructure at the national and subnational levels for the safe handling, sorting, collection, transportation, storage, recycling and disposal, **including with energy recovery, of plastic waste;**
 - b. Promote circular economy approaches;
 - c. Set objectives and targets at the national level to increase the collection and recycling rates of plastic waste;
 - d. Prevent littering, and prohibit open dumping, open burning and ocean dumping of plastic waste, taking into account internationally agreed rules;
 - e. Prevent and reduce abandoned, lost, or otherwise discarded plastic fishing gear;

- f. Promote a just transition for plastic waste management workers, especially waste pickers and other informal workers, including women, youth and small and artisanal fishers; or
- g. Promote behavioural changes to prevent and minimize plastic waste, including by raising public awareness.