Written statement of the Republic of Armenia
at the fourth session of Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (INC-4)

Our sincere appreciation to the Government of Canada for hosting INC-4 and to the INC Chair and Secretariat for the preparation of supportive documents for the effective implementation of INC 4.

We welcome the opportunity to provide general comments on the revised draft text of the international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment.

We believe that through effective activities of established groups and their subgroups, it will be possible to consolidate and streamline the draft text in order to have a comprehensive and summary document that will serve as a basis for intersessional work and effective finalization of the drafting of the Future Treaty.

First of all, as a HAC member, Armenia strongly supports a scope based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastics, as outlined in UNEA Resolution 5/14. Armenia also stresses that ending plastic pollution will require common legally binding global rules and control measures, based on the best available science, to eliminate and restrict unnecessary, avoidable, and problematic plastic products as well as plastic polymers and chemicals of environmental or health concern.

The treaty should incentivize countries to launch and improve EPR schemes, fit to national circumstances. The remediation of existing plastic pollution is an important component of a comprehensive approach and will require dedicated provisions in the treaty.

Legally binding obligations are needed that require Parties to take effective measures to collect, sort, manage and, if necessary, dispose of plastic waste in an environmentally sound and safe manner.

The treaty should provide equitable access to capacity-building activities, technology transfer, and financing for countries with transitioning economies. It should also encourage scientific and technological innovations across all environmental components.