

## [ARTICLE 7 – RELEASES AND LEAKAGES]

Submission from Bangladesh **(new addition in highlighted)**

1. Each Party [shall][should][may] [endeavor to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction and take [necessary] measures [, as appropriate,][taking into account national circumstances and capabilities,][across the plastics lifecycle] to [assess or identify,] prevent and reduce [, and where [practicable][possible] eliminate,] [releases and] leakages into the environment [of][of [plastics][plastic [waste] [products]], [including microplastics,] [from all sources], [including]:

a. [Unintentional releases and leakages of][Plastic pellets, flakes, and powders, taking into account other relevant international instruments];

b. [Fishing and aquaculture gear][Plastic [pollution][waste] from [fishing [and aquaculture][gear]] [marine][activities][, including but not limited to abandoned, lost and otherwise discarded fishing gear] taking into account other relevant international instruments [and the livelihoods of fishers in small-scale and artisanal fisheries [and aquaculture]]];

c. [Mismanaged plastic waste], including waste that may pollute transboundary aquatic systems;

d. [Plastic particles through flue gas and wastewater during the manufacturing process].

2. Parties should cooperate in researching leakages and releases of plastics into the environment, with particular focus on pathways into aquatic systems, including transboundary aquatic systems, and in developing available, affordable and accessible technologies and measures for preventing such releases and leakages.

3. In implementing paragraphs 1 and 2, each Party shall promote the use of best available and affordable technologies and environmental practices for preventing releases and leakages of plastics into the environment.

4. The Conference of the Parties may adopt guidance and a dedicated program of work to addressing transboundary impacts to support implementation of this Article.

5. In implementation of this Article, Parties may take into account national circumstances and capabilities.

**Justification of the new addition:**

UNEA 5/14 recognizes the transboundary nature of plastic pollution, whether it is intentional, unintentional, or accidental. This acknowledgement highlights the need for an international convention that advocates for coordinated global action. This article suggests measures to assess, prevent, and reduce the release and leakage of plastic waste; however, it unfortunately does not address the issue of transboundary pollution that arises from these actions.

We believe that effectively tackling this problem requires member states to take responsibility for implementing necessary measures within their jurisdictions to avoid causing harm to the environments of other states or to areas beyond their national borders.

In addition, mismanagement of plastic waste can lead to transboundary pollution, so it would be beneficial to address this issue in writing for a better understanding. Nevertheless, the activities outlined in paragraphs 1 and 2 require guidance to assess, monitor, and track progress, as well as a dedicated work program to initially implement these proposals.