

Contact Group 1

Rwanda Intervention on Primary Plastic Polymers Part II.1

Thank you Madam Co-facilitator.

As you just heard, Rwanda and Peru have submitted a CRP, and I would like to share a bit more information about it.

When we all adopted UNEA 5/14, we set the mandate to promote sustainable production and consumption of plastics based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full lifecycle of plastics.

This comprehensive approach has always included measures on primary plastic polymers.

That's why this provision is so important.

We can only end plastic pollution by reducing the amount of plastic we produce to sustainable levels.

Without controlling production, our interventions across the lifecycle won't be effective.

We will not fulfil our responsibilities to safeguard the climate system.

We will continue to harm human health and the environment.

By reducing the production of primary plastic polymers, we can speed up the transition to alternatives and build a vibrant circular economy that fosters innovation and creates jobs

Indeed, the effectiveness of both supply- and demand-side measures will be assessed based on their success in reducing the production of primary plastic polymers to sustainable levels.

Without a global reduction target on primary plastic production, we will struggle to end plastic pollution and hamper early implementation of this treaty since this issue is not going away and must be addressed.

Against this background, the elements we feel are critical to our success here in Ottawa and this provision on primary plastic polymers are:

- First, a transparency framework. We need to understand what we are producing in order to understand the actions we must take. This information is essential for evaluating progress and setting priorities. We can't manage what we don't measure. It is a bare minimum.
- Second, a collective global target for primary plastic polymer production. We have seen the importance of 1.5°C in the Paris Agreement and 30x30 in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. In this context, we could consider something like 40x40 to guide our collective actions.

- Third, start and strengthen. The work we are doing here will span generations, and we need to build the right enabling environment to strengthen controls over time as more information becomes available to ensure this instrument remains relevant into the future.

Sustainable production and consumption can only be achieved by producing less.

This was at the core of the draft resolution to UNEA-5.2. And it must be the core of this treaty.

We hope our CRP inspires ambition and provides clarity about the elements that are required to deliver a successful instrument, and we welcome your feedback.

Thank you.