Closing Remarks

Thank you, Mr. Chair, for giving me the floor. I am speaking on behalf of ESDO.

We are about to agree with the committee's decision to establish ad hoc intersessional open-ended expert working groups. These groups will address pressing environmental concerns related to plastic pollution and harmful chemicals. We believe that the working groups will play a vital role in developing analyses and proposing criteria necessary for the implementation of the instrument under consideration. To ensure a diverse range of perspectives and expertise, it is imperative that these groups are inclusive and welcome the participation of all Member States and observers in the decision-making process.

As stated in your proposal, the Co-chairs will lead the discussions, encouraging collaboration and consensus-building. The expert groups will start working electronically after the conclusion of INC-4, and in-person meetings will be arranged as resources allow to facilitate effective collaboration. We trust the secretariat to coordinate and support these efforts effectively. The primary focus areas of the groups are to address primary plastic polymers and establish regulations for chemicals and polymers of concern, emphasizing a science- and risk-based approach. We are committed to supporting the expert working groups in achieving tangible outcomes that benefit all Member States and Observers.

Thank you for your attention, Mr. Chair.

Siddika Sultana
Executive Director
ESDO