Conference Room Paper (CRP) by Kuwait – 5 August 2025 – On Definitions and Scope

Scope As per Kuwait's proposal

Definitions		
Item	Chair's Text Dated 01 Dec 2024	Kuwait's Proposal
Plastic	Material(s) made wholly or partly of synthetic or semi-synthetic polymers, including additives or other substances, that can be shaped during processing and serve as structural components of products.	Material which contains as an essential ingredient a high polymer and which, at some stage in its processing into finished products, can be shaped by flow. Reference ISO:472:2013
Plastic Product	A product which contains or is partly or entirely made of any form of plastic	Any finished article made of plastics

- 1. The Convention [Instrument] applies to plastic pollution, in particular the collection, transport and disposal of plastic waste in an economically and environmentally sound manner.
- 2. The Convention [Instrument] does not apply to:
- (a) Intermediate products, such as virgin polymers, which have to be further processed for serving end uses, and any dual-use items
- (b) Raw materials, such as hydrocarbons and their derivatives

Basis of excluding polymers from the Scope:

- 1- Plastics are a specific type of polymer, while polymers encompass a broader range of materials. Essentially, all plastics are polymers, but not all polymers are plastics.
- 2- Polymers can be natural (i.e. proteins and cellulose) or synthetic.
- 3- The leak of polymers into the environment is **accidental** (negligible → one case in two years)
- 4- Synthetic polymers **might not** lead to plastic products:
 - a. PET is a polymer which is used to produce fibers (clothing).
 - b. PP is a polymer which is used to produce carpets, masks, or aprons.
 - c. Urea-formaldehyde resin which is used in decorative laminates, textiles, paper, and as a coating for electrical appliances.