Statement on behalf of Group of Organization re Agenda Item 4  
Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Thank you, Mr. Chair, esteemed delegates, and distinguished colleagues.


We stand in courage with the Chair and all Members and Observers to deliver a rapid response to end plastic pollution.

We recognize the challenges ahead to streamline the Revised Zero Draft and wish to briefly reflect on two overarching issues for your consideration.

First, we call upon negotiators to incorporate robust protections for human rights, including Indigenous Rights, throughout the text. This represents a crucial missing element that cannot be overlooked.

Second, we urge Member States to prioritize justice, retain and reinforce binding provisions, and address the disproportionate impacts of the full plastic lifecycle on marginalized communities, including: Indigenous Peoples, the Global South, waste pickers, Least Developed Countries, Small Island Developing States, women, and youth. Plastics represent a pressing social and environmental justice issue that must be addressed directly.

Throughout these negotiations, we encourage a thorough examination of each provision: does it enhance human rights protections? Does it address injustices? Does it safeguard the environment, particularly the ocean?

Wherever ambition may falter, we urge Members to be bold and ensure our commitments are responsive to the threats posed by the plastic lifecycle to our climate, ocean health, and human rights.

Thank you.