

13th August 2025

The International Alliance of Waste Pickers acknowledges the Chair’s text released on the 13th of August 2025. We welcome the reference to waste pickers in the preambular section of the Chair’s text, as it aligns with the UNEA resolution 5/14 and acknowledges the contribution of waste pickers in reducing plastic pollution.

However, we continue to have significant concerns regarding Article 9: Just Transition, within the operative section of the text. At this stage in the process, and in the spirit of consensus, the IAWP does not seek to add new text but to strengthen the existing language.

Article No.	Revised text	Rationale
9	<p>1. In implementing this Convention, each Party should shall, as appropriate and taking into account national circumstances and capabilities, promote and facilitate a just transition, in particular for those disproportionately impacted, with a view to promoting decent work, opportunities and livelihoods and enhancing social protection.</p>	<p>More than 40 million waste pickers are looking to member states to ensure a legally binding commitment to a just transition. Over 114 countries have requested a mandatory just transition provision in the Contact Group, either individually or collectively, highlighting the global consensus on the importance of this Article. Therefore, IAWP continues to strongly advocate for a mandatory Just Transition.</p>



	<p>2. In taking measures to implement paragraph 1 of this Article, each Party should shall take into account, as appropriate, the situation of and engage Indigenous Peoples, workers in the formal and informal sectors, including workers in the plastic industry, waste pickers, artisanal and small-scale fishers, and those whose livelihoods depend on small-scale and artisanal fisheries, as well as disproportionately affected communities and groups.</p>	
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