INC-4 Sub-group 1 – Co-chairs’ technical streamline (Just transition)

26 April 2024

Part II

12. Just transition

Option 1

[Leaving no one behind.] Each Party [could] [should] shall [promote and facilitate] [cooperate to promote], as per national circumstances and capabilities and relevant national regulation, [a] fair, equitable and inclusive transition [a] [pathways] for affected populations [Parties] [for Indigenous Peoples and local communities] [for workers in plastic value chains] [in the context of] [towards] sustainable development, with special consideration [to social and economic impacts] for [affected] developing country Parties [women] [and vulnerable groups, including] [impacted communities] [children and youth] [in line with the International Labour Organization Just Transition guidelines] [according to national social policies and circumstances] [ ], in the implementation of this instrument [*], [including by, inter alia, enhancing institutional arrangements, enabling policies and conditions to improve the opportunities, capabilities and livelihoods of affected communities] [provided that means of implementation are available for developing countries]. Developed country Parties shall provide sufficient finance, technology transfer and capacity building support [with the view to promote and facilitate the just transition of] [to affected] developing country Parties. This may include [ ], according to national circumstances:

**OP1 Alt.** In the implementation of this instrument [*], each Party shall promote an equitable and inclusive transition for affected populations, with particular consideration for workers and [persons] [people] in vulnerable situations, within [its national jurisdiction; This may include:]

a. Designating a national coordinating [body] [mechanism] for engagement [and collaboration] with relevant stakeholders, including public authorities, [trade unions,, workers association] [waste pickers, non-governmental organizations, Indigenous Peoples] and [local communities] and affected populations [according to national regulations] [with the aim of data collection, monitoring, evaluation and national reporting on progress of just transition];

b. Enabling policies [and conditions] [that integrate] [to ensure and improve] [as appropriate] income, opportunities and livelihoods for [waste pickers and other workers in plastic value chains and] [impact] [affected workers and communities, including workforce training, [development and social programmes, enhancement of occupational health and safety measures] [according] [considering] [to their needs and priorities];

c. Incentivizing the development of skills and job opportunities across the plastic value chain, including for the development of reuse, repair, waste collection and sorting;

d. Promoting a [clean, healthy and sustainable] [safe working] environment [and a strong social safety net] [for communities and workers] across [the value chain, including [workers] in the waste management sector] [the full lifecycle in respect of the promotion of fundamental human rights];

e. [Improving working conditions] [development and social protection] for [waste pickers and] workers in the waste management sector, including by providing legal protection to [waste pickers and other] [workers and waste pickers] in informal and cooperative settings and facilitating the formalization of their associations and cooperatives [integrating
f. [Integrating [waste pickers and other] workers in informal and cooperative settings into [a safe] plastics value chain, [including by requiring plastic product producers, recycling and waste management companies to integrate plastics collected and sorted by them into their operation schemes]]; and

g. [Requiring] [Encouraging] a portion of the fees collected through EPR schemes to be used to improve infrastructure [and improve the] [livelihoods [, a strong social safety net,] and opportunities for, and develop the skills of, workers in the waste sector, including waste [pickers and other] workers in informal and cooperative settings.]

2. [The measures taken to implement this provision shall [might] be reflected in the national plan [communicated pursuant to [Part IV.1 on national plans]].]

**OP2 bis** Each Party should support policies to improve income, opportunities, and livelihoods for affected workers and communities in the transition to more circular economies for plastics, considering the needs and priorities of affected workers and communities.

**OP2 ter** Within its jurisdiction, each Party shall encourage the consideration of socio-economic factors in determining the location, design, and construction of solid waste management facilities that manage plastic waste, with an aim of avoiding disproportionate and adverse impacts on [persons] [people] in vulnerable situations.

**OP2 quater** Each Party shall, in accordance with its domestic procedures, provide opportunities for members of the public to provide input on government plastic waste management decisions or measures.

3. Each Party [could][shall] promote and facilitate a fair, equitable and inclusive transitions [pathways for affected populations] [[for [Indigenous Peoples] and [local communities] [waste pickers and other workers in [plastics] [waste] value chains]] [with special consideration for] [women] and [vulnerable groups, including] [impacted communities] [children and youth, in the implementation of this instrument* including by, inter alia, enhancing institutional arrangements, enabling policies and conditions to improve the opportunities, capabilities and livelihoods of affected communities.]

4. [The measures taken to implement this provision might be reflected in the national plan.]

*The term “Indigenous Peoples” refers to those communities, groups and individuals who have a historical and cultural continuity with pre-existing communities in the territory and countries to which they belong, who maintain their distinct social, cultural, and economic way of life and their own legal systems, and who occupy and manage the lands, territories and natural resources that they consider vital to their survival and development.

*The term “vulnerable groups” refers to those persons or groups of persons who are exposed to risks or hazards, and who, owing to their situation, lack the capacity to prevent or respond to such risks or hazards, and who are, or are at risk of becoming, vulnerable to being affected by such risks or hazards. This includes children and youth, women, persons with disabilities, and older persons.