**INC-4 Sub-Group 1.2 and Sub-Group 1.3**

**Co-facilitators’ streamline text (Fishing gear)**

**27 April 2024**

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**XX. Fishing gear**

A decision on placement (or whether this provision should be included at all) is still pending. Different approaches have been proposed by Members of the INC for further consideration, including:

- no dedicated provision on fishing gear
- having no provision on fishing gear and instead have a sectoral programme under current 4.bis of the revised zero draft
- having no provision on fishing gear and instead have to this specific sector in other relevant provisions of the instrument, as needed
- having a standalone provision
- having elements on fishing gear considered under Part II.8
- having elements on fishing gear considered under Part II.9

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**9. Waste management**

**b. [Fishing gear]**

**Option 0**

No provision on this matter.

**Option 1**

**[Overarching obligation]**

1. Each Party [shall] [should] [cooperate] [is encouraged to], including through the cooperation mechanism referred to in [Part III, article number yet to be defined], [and] take [any] effective [measures] [actions] to tackle fishing gear, [across the whole lifecycle of fishing and aquaculture gear] to prevent fishing gear composed of plastic from becoming abandoned, lost, or otherwise discarded in the marine environment, taking into account, as appropriate, internationally agreed rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures.

[Particular measures]

[!, as appropriate], [including [as appropriate]]

a. [to enhance the] [on design] of fishing and aquaculture gear, [with a view to increasing durability, reusability, repairability and refurbishability and their capacity to be repurposed, recycled and disposed of in a safe and environmentally sound manner at end-of-life, and minimizing releases and emissions of or from fishing and aquaculture gears, including microplastics, to the environment;]

b. [to implement effective] [on marking] [tracking] [retrieval] [and] [and require reporting] [of lost gears, in accordance with] [taking into account] other relevant regional and international regulations, including MARPOL Annex VI, [and recovery] requirements, to [prevent, reduce and eliminate, abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded][tackle] fishing gear
[containing plastic], taking into account internationally agreed rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures.]

c. [[promote][facilitate] the collection and environmentally sound disposal or recycling of end-of-life waste management of] [fishing] gear, [including any recovered gear.] [Improve the management of gear at the end of its usable life. [Including the reuse, repair and recycling of gear.]] [The measures taken to implement this provision shall be reflected in the national plan [communicated pursuant to [Part IV.1 on national plans]].]] and]

[Other actions]

2. [Each Party][Parties] should take actions to:

a. [promote education and raise awareness] [and facilitate training,] [education and awareness raising] [with fishing industries and practitioners on best practices and methods to reduce the risk of losing fishing gear and other plastics during fishing operations, and for the environmentally sound disposal of end-of-life gear; and]

b. promote collaboration between Parties and relevant industry sectors and stakeholders, including fisheries, port reception facilities, waste management, and recycling.

c. promote investment, mobilize resources and facilitate knowledge exchange to enhance the recyclability and recycling rates of end-of-life and recovered fishing gear.

[Relevant initiatives and organizations]

3. Parties [shall][are encouraged to] promote [synergy and complementarity with relevant initiatives and organizations, and regional and international authorities] in their respective actions towards [safe disposal of] the prevention of plastic pollution from [fishing gear] cooperation, coordination, and exchange of information, including the sharing of best practices, as appropriate, on enhancing the environmentally sound collection, [safe] disposal, and recycling of fishing [and aquaculture] gear, including with relevant initiatives and organizations.

[Means and measures of implementation]

4. The measures taken to implement the provisions of this article shall be reflected in the national plan communicated pursuant to [Part IV.1 on national plans].

5. There shall be an assessment of the need as well as mobilization of financial resources and technology transfer for each country in order to meet the commitments under this provision.

Option 2. Alternative placement suggested as Section 8 bis instead of 9b. [Additional elements in other provision]

Furthermore remediation of abandoned, lost and discarded fishing gear is important to protect the marine environment, the provision [in Part II.11] on existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, should provide the obligation on parties to take measures to remediate Abandoned, Lost and Discarded Fishing Gear, in an environmentally sound manner and in accordance with scientific and evidence-based social, economic and environmental impact assessments, using the best available techniques and environmental practices to avoid exacerbating environmental harm.

Option 3


Option 4

Alternative placement suggested: under element 11 instead of 9b.
8. Emissions and releases of plastic throughout its life cycle

*Alt title:* [Emissions and][Leakage and] releases of plastic [products and products waste][waste and microplastics] [throughout [the entire] [its] life cycle [of plastics]]

**Option 1**

*OP2 ter.* Each Party shall take actions to prevent fishing gear composed of plastic from becoming abandoned, lost, or otherwise discarded in the marine environment, taking into account, as appropriate, internationally agreed rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures.

*OP2 quart.* Each Party shall cooperate and take effective measures across the whole lifecycle of fishing and aquaculture gear to prevent, reduce and eliminate, abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing and aquaculture gear and promote circularity, taking into account internationally agreed rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures. In particular, Parties shall take measures to:

- **a.** Enhance the design of fishing and aquaculture gear, with a view to increasing durability, reusability, repairability and refurbishability and their capacity to be repurposed, recycled, and disposed of in a safe and environmentally sound manner at end-of-life, and minimizing releases and emissions of or from fishing and aquaculture gears, including microplastics, to the environment;

- **b.** Implement effective marking of gears and require reporting of lost gears, taking into account other relevant regional and international regulations, including MARPOL Annex V;

- **c.** Facilitate the collection and environmentally sound waste management of gear, including the reuse, repair and recycling of gear; and

- **d.** Promote and facilitate training, education and awareness-raising.

**Commented [A8]:** Integrated into option 1 para 1

**Commented [A9]:** Integrated into option 1 para 1

**Commented [A10]:** Integrated into option 1 subpara 1a

**Commented [A11]:** Integrated into option 1 subpara 1b

**Commented [A12]:** Integrated into option 1 subpara 1c

**Commented [A13]:** Covered by option 1 subpara 2a