

**NATIONAL STATEMENT
INDIA
PLENARY, INC 5.2
09.08.2025**

Thank you Chair,

As we are nearing completion of first week of negotiations at INC 5.2, India would like to thank the People and Government of Switzerland for being such gracious hosts, and the Chair, Co-chairs, Co-facilitators and Secretariat for all the efforts made to facilitate negotiations.

We align ourselves with the statement made by Kuwait on behalf of Like Minded Developing Countries.

Chair, we are at a very important juncture in our negotiations.

In order to move forward in a meaningful manner, we need to address issues with mutual understanding and trust in a fair, transparent and inclusive manner by understanding circumstances and needs of all member states.

While we come together, we would like to emphasise that the actions on preventing plastic pollution are nationally driven as per the respective national circumstances. It is also important to recognise the historical contributions to the plastic pollution and in this light, as well as the respective capabilities of the nations, we emphasise that implementation of the treaty will be contingent on finance and means of implementation provided by the developed countries.

Chair, India has always been committed to the principle of consensus in decision making in respect of multilateral environmental agreements as this reiterates collective decision-making and reflects shared responsibilities and commitment.

Our delegation would like to reiterate that all the decisions shall be taken by consensus

and that Rule 38 (1) shall not be invoked till the final adoption of Rules of procedure by INC.

This will ensure collective ownership of the instrument we develop.

Chair, we also need to ensure that we focus on addressing plastic pollution, only, as mandated by UNEA 5/14 resolution.

Since now time is short we suggest:

- The scope of the instrument should focus on addressing plastic pollution only without overlapping with the mandate of other multilateral environmental agreements and other relevant instruments and bodies especially WTO and WHO.
- The instrument needs to have clearly defined scope.
- Separate article on supply or any measures to regulate the production of primary plastic polymers has larger implications in respect of the right to development of Member States. Such approaches should be avoided.
- Similarly inclusion of any global list with phase out dates under the Article on Plastic Products should be avoided.
- We also notice that there are overlaps among different articles of the draft text itself, which should be avoided.
- Taking into account that the instrument has to be implemented by Member States, in a nationally driven manner, due consideration to national circumstances and capabilities should be given.
- Provision, of technical and financial assistance including technology transfer to developing countries in preventing and reducing plastic pollution, is the key for effective implementation of the new instrument. Therefore, a stand-alone dedicated multilateral fund providing financial resources to developing countries for meeting costs for their compliance obligations is required.
- Inclusion of an article on Reservations on Annexures, as the shape and form of some articles can have trade implications, may be considered.

While, we acknowledge the work carried out, there is a need that co-chairs and co-facilitators follow a consistent, stable process for facilitating negotiations, which is fair, transparent and inclusive.

In this context, India extends its full support to you chair to achieve our common collective goal to address plastic pollution.

I thank you Chair.