#Statement on: International cooperation

The African Group strongly advocates for the inclusion of a robust international cooperation provision within the instrument. We believe this is essential to ensure effective and equitable implementation, particularly for developing countries.

While we commend the efforts reflected in proposed paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, drawing from successful models like the Minamata and Stockholm Conventions, we believe this section can be further strengthened through refinements. We are ready to actively engage in discussions to achieve this goal.

Specifically, the African Group calls for consideration of the following enhancements:

- **Focus on Technology Transfer and Capacity Building**: The provision should explicitly emphasize support for technology transfer and capacity building initiatives. This is critical for developing countries to acquire the knowledge and tools necessary for successful implementation.
- **Financial Assistance Mechanisms**: Clear mechanisms for financial assistance should be outlined to support developing countries in meeting their obligations under the instrument.
- **Addressing Specific Needs**: The provision should acknowledge and address the specific challenges faced by developing countries, particularly those related to access to financing and technology.

The African Group is confident that through collaborative efforts, we can refine this provision to ensure it effectively promotes international cooperation and fosters a level playing field for all parties.