

## **Iran's Statement and Points of Concern**

### **INC Plenary Stocktaking**

**9 August 2025**

At the outset, we wish to fully associate ourselves with the statement by Kuwait on behalf of the LMC Group, Malaysia, and Saudi Arabia.

First, I wish to discuss the Assembled text and then on our assessment of the process.

**On the Note dated 8 August by the secretariat which includes the assembled texts resulting from our tasks during the first week of the INC 5.2,**

The Note expresses that Contact groups considered articles within their respective mandates including articles 2 to 6, and scope). This is while we neither substantially discussed nor achieved a text on Scope and Article 4 on Exemptions and Article 6 on Supply.

Accordingly, we wish to clarify that that we maintain our position of having no such standalone texts regarding these two Articles. Therefore, the texts of Articles 4 and 6 proposed in assembled document should not be considered as a basis for our negotiations.

**On the issue of human health referred to under the title of *Framing of the Objective under Article 1*:**

We believe that all the 3 options proposed in an imbalanced manner are putting more emphasis on human health than protection of environment and this is contrary to our main intention keeping in mind that all the health-related issues should be covered and dealt with by WHO and not by the future instrument on plastic pollution.

**On the issue of Scope,**

We are also deeply concerned that, during the past five days of negotiations, Scope has not been given an equal and fair chance for discussion—not even in informal sessions—while other articles continue to receive repeated opportunities for debate, despite the lack of evidence for the relevance of those articles to our mandate.

**On para 2 of the text proposed for Article 7 by CG 2, and the foot note in the text:**

We wish to emphasize that this text is not an agreed text, However, as a compromise and to facilitate further work, we joined others to put forward this text to the INC Chair. Therefore, it does not prejudice the right of any Member to propose additions, deletions, or modifications in the next round of negotiations after stocktaking in the Plenary.

So, the brackets surrounding the entire paragraph indicate that some Members do not wish to have any text for this paragraph and would instead prefer to merge the whole Article 7 and this paragraph into Articles 5 and/or 8. So, we expect that further consultations on this Article will occur after the stocktake plenary.

**On Article 19 and the proposed text regarding Health,**

We are witnessing that the LMC group position of no standalone article has been omitted from the assembled text and we suggest that as it was agreed, in both the Contact Group and the informal sessions to retain and maintain the option of no standalone article.

Dear Colleagues

It's only 6 days ahead of us to a great success or facing another unfinished business if not a failure. Unfortunately, the time is not with us and this requires us of being wise and following an efficient time management and sincere efforts based focusing only on the convergent areas.

By keeping discussions on disputed areas which we are unable to resolve at this stage, certainly we will lose our precious time and opportunity for developing an effective document which could globally mobilize and regulate our efforts to tackle plastic pollution and protect our environment in an efficient manner.

We also wish and urge the Esteemed Chair and Cochairs to undertake utmost balance, transparency and responsiveness to all suggestions and interventions by parties and regional groups.

We also expect that all the issue in particular the Scope to be given ample and equal time for consideration and discussions during the remaining days with the hope to reach and adopt a consensus-based Instrument at the end of this INC.

We also wish to insist that our negotiation and this conference on 14 August as the last day of INC, shall not go beyond a specific time at night or to be extended to the early hours of the mornings of 15 August, since many of us would probably leave Geneva for their homelands and will not be here to continue negotiations and finalize the text in those critical hours.

At the end, my delegation wishes to re-emphasize once again on the importance and sensitivity of reaching a legally binding instrument only through consensus and to express our full support and readiness for sincerely engaging in fruitful and constructive negotiations with other parties in the coming days.

Thanks Mr. Chairman