---As for sub-group 1.1
The Co-chair pointed out that discussions on the issues covered in this group are more advanced than those in other sub-groups, and I agree in general that the number of options in this part is limited compared to other sections of the text. At the same time, I agree with the intervention that some of the elements in Part 1 can only be negotiated when the discussions on substantial elements in the other parts of the treaty have advanced. These include definition and the scope.

On 13bis, the Overarching Provision, as Japan is a proponent of this provision. I thank the co-chair for explaining to us at the outset that the sub-group 1.2 may discuss this provision if necessary as well as the possibility of a joint meeting of two sub-groups if needed. I am sure that the contact group can oversee the discussions on this provision in accordance with the co-chair's guidance. I would just like to point out that this provision relates to all measures in Part 2, and it is a governing provision. For this reason we think 13bis should be placed at the beginning of Part II, not at the end as it currently is.

--As for sub-group 1.2
I would like to put forward a few suggestions for streamlining. For 9b, fishing gear, we think this can be combined with 4bis, dedicated programmes of work. There is also room for possible technical work of sequencing para 4bis and para 5, and making clear the correlation between these two paragraphs. Paragraph 5 on product design has sub-paragraphs a,b,c,d. We think these sub-paragraphs can be streamlined, together with para 6 on non-plastic substitutes. As to chemicals of concern and problematic and avoidable products in paragraphs 2 and 3, negotiations can be facilitated through identifying different approaches such as uniform regulation at a global level versus regulation at a national level, and through identifying measures to be taken under each approach.

--- As to sub-group 1.3
We see that many issues taken up in this sub-group are interlinked. For example, EPR cannot be operationalised unless used plastics are properly collected. Different national circumstances also have a bearing on what measures each country can take. We hope that the streamlining will make clear what obligations parties will have under each option.