

Submission by Norway on Art. 14, 15 and 16

Norway submits the following suggestions for amendments for Articles 14-16 for further consideration in contact group 4. The submissions reflect the interventions Norway was intended to make in the contact group on Friday 8. August.

Art. 14 National Plans

- We view national plans as an important element of this instrument and support that these should be mandatory and hence the use of the wording "shall" for this provision.
- In our view a national plan would include measures related to the all the substantive Articles, but also additional measures taken to address plastic pollution and to achieve the objective of the treaty.
- Therefore, in the first para the first sentence after "implement this Convention" we would like to add: "**and achieve its objectives**".
- We also propose that the national plans include possible national targets a party may choose to set on e.g. consumption (including reuse and refill), recycling, collection, and production etc. In line with this we suggest that we in first sentence of paragraph 1 after "a national plan that contains actions to insert "**targets**".
- It is also important that national plans are updated at regular intervals. In para 2 after: "Each Party shall update its national plan" we would therefore like to insert: "**at least every five years and represent a progression reflecting its highest possible ambition**".
- The Norwegian delegation would like to underline that although the article text could be acceptable with these changes we may at a later stage see the need to further specify and list the elements that must be included in the national plans.

Art. 15 National Reporting

- Norway could accept the Chair's text with some smaller changes
- In para 1 we suggest including "**and on the effectiveness of such measures in meeting the objectives of the Convention.**" at the end of the sentence.
- Further, we also note that we have a preference that this article aligns with the approach taken in other MEAs where reporting is referenced both in substantive articles and in the reporting obligation.
- While this may seem duplicative, it provides clarity and could be designed such that the provisions are mutually supportive. We also see value in taking such an approach as discussions on reporting obligations are currently taking place in several contact groups
- In line with such an approach and because reporting is so important we have already proposed text on reporting obligations in substantive articles.
- Additionally, we may want to see such obligations reflected in paragraph 2, pending the outcome of the discussions that are ongoing in other contact groups and reserve the right to come back to this at a later stage during these negotiations if necessary.

Art. 16 Effectiveness

- We would want to include a new 2 a bis to include National Plans as an element to be included in the effectiveness evaluation. The new para 2 a bis we are proposing would read "National Plans referred to in Article 14"
- We see monitoring as an essential element of the effectiveness evaluation. We would therefore like to include a new 3 bis to ensure and establish a provision on Monitoring under this Article, to ensure that such data are generated. The new para 3 bis would read: "In order to facilitate such evaluation as set out in paragraphs 1-3 above, the Conference of the Parties shall, at its first meeting, initiate the establishment of arrangements to provide itself with comparable monitoring data."
- To further reflect such a provision within this Article we would also want to include language at the end of paragraph 3 on the establishment of arrangements for such monitoring as well as a new 2 (b) bis to include monitoring as an element of the effectiveness evaluation. More specifically:
 - In para 3 we would at the end of the sentence add, "including guidelines for best available practices and harmonised monitoring methodologies".
 - The new 2 b bis would read "(b) bis Monitoring data, including data from environmental monitoring to be provided by Parties within their capabilities".