Submission by Samoa, on behalf of the small island developing states at the Fourth Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment

Part 1

4 Principles

1. Explanatory text

For this section, Small Islands Developing States feel it would be more accurate for it to encompass principles and approaches and we would suggest that text be amended to reflect this idea.

Additionally, we note that there are some principles or approaches which are key for our group, a number of which we previously highlighted at INC3 but are missing or could be better reflected. These include:

- Special Circumstances of SIDS;
- Public participation in environmental decision-making, including full and effective participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities;
- The use of best available science, data, and information, and traditional knowledge, knowledge of Indigenous Peoples, and local knowledge systems, in accordance with the rights of the holders of such knowledge, including as reflected in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and international human rights law;
- Intergenerational equity;
- Transparency; and
- Access to information/justice and participation in decision making.

2. Proposed text/edits

- Special Circumstances of SIDS;
- Public participation in environmental decision-making, including full and effective participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities;
- The use of best available science, data, and information, and traditional knowledge, knowledge of Indigenous Peoples, and local knowledge systems, in accordance with the rights of the holders of such knowledge, including as reflected in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and international human rights law;
- Intergenerational equity;
- Transparency; and
- Access to information/justice and participation in decision making.