Part II.4 – Exemptions available to a Party upon request

**Comment:** Kazakhstan asking to clarify the phrase “intentionally added microplastics”.

It is proposed to phase out single-use plastic products, taking into account evidence-based research and national priorities. Kazakhstan supports Option 1 with some adjustments. At the same time, not to establish specific timeframes for exemptions, as they will be linked to national priorities and opportunities. It is also proposed not to establish special programs, but to limit them to national plans.

**Option 1**

1. Any Party may register, in accordance with the provisions of [Part II.1, Part II.2 OP1 bis Alt] and [part II.3 on problematic and avoidable plastic products, including short-lived and single-use plastic products and intentionally added microplastics, Option 1 OP1 Alt 2] an exemption¹ from the phase-out dates listed in part II in annex B for specific products, hereafter referred to as an “exemption”, in accordance with the procedure [set out in …] depending on national priorities and capacities, and taking into account scientific research.

¹ **Note:** This proposed text is based on the experience of other multilateral environmental agreements. Members may wish to consider other alternatives as deemed necessary. Adapted from the Minamata Convention, as a possible complement to the control measures on problematic and avoidable plastic products. The specific conditions, timeframes and other details required for the registration of exemptions would need to be elaborated on by members.