PLENARY – On intersessional work

Thank you Chair.

We appreciate this opportunity to share our views on the work thus far of the INC.

We thank the Co-Chairs of the Contact Groups and the Co-Facilitators of the subgroups and all the distinguished delegates who have shared their views and worked hard the past days.

The Philippines strongly believes that this international legally binding instrument must be guided by science while remaining cognizant of traditional knowledge.

Based on our discussions, we need to have more time to delve into pending proposals, including the transparency assessment criteria for plastic chemicals, polymers, products, technologies, and systems and services across the full lifecycle of plastics.

Thus, we align with delegations in supporting the intersessional meetings as proposed by the Chair, on chemicals of concern, as we prepare for INC5.

We believe that we should also consider including, as suggested by many delegations, expanding the mandate to also include: primary plastic polymers.

We would also appreciate if the intersessional work could also tackle issues related to plastic pollution such as biodiversity and disasters.

We also support an open-ended legal drafting group with a clear terms of reference and we are ready to work with others to move this forward.

Further, Mr Co Chair, we recommend that we consider financing, including the financial mechanism and its interlinkages with other means of implementation, as part of the intersessional work. The effective implementation of this treaty rests on robust financing.

#END