SUBGROUP 1.2

PART II 5 – Product design, composition and performance

On 5 on Product Design, we thank the co-facilitators for working for eleven hours to streamline this text.

It’s an improvement and provides clearer options according to the nature of the obligations.

We recognize the complexity of this article and would benefit from further streamlining.

We believe Option 1 provides the best option to achieve the goals of the international legally binding instrument.

We agree in the importance of the waste hierarchy.

We also believe in the importance of minimum design and performance criteria taking into account relevant international standards and guidelines.

We agree to move recycling as it is not related to product design, composition and performance except in the case of recycled content.

We agree that alternative plastics are still plastics and need to be assessed under the same criteria of safety, sustainability, essentiality and transparency based on a life cycle analysis for all plastics.

We agree with the need for a formal intersessional work program on product design, composition and performance.

In general, we could work on language that incentivizes product design and manufacturing processes that

- Limit the use of plastics as far as practicable
- Employ non-plastic replacement materials for existing products
- Employ manufacturing techniques and product design that enables repair, reuse and recycling

The assessment of product design and manufacturing shall also include and assessment of environmental impact of the product as a result of wear and tear, or leakage, and of the manufacturing process itself.

A certification scheme regulating minimum design criteria to enable and ensure that goals of this instrument are met should be developed.

The governing body could standardize those certification schemes and ensure compatibility in order to avoid unintentional trade barriers.
We note the need to proceed in a logical way in this exercise of structuring and streamlining, and note that the provisions on reuse and recycling should be approached as part of the entire life cycle, and linked to discussions in earlier articles.

#END