

## **STATEMENT BY UGANDA IN CLOSING PLENARY**

Thank you Chair for your unwavering efforts to finding us convergence zones despite the lack of agreement on both your proposal<sup>1</sup> and 2 at this session.

Despite your attempts and all efforts of our collective work, its clear that your latest iteration has not been adopted by the Committee because of many controversial elements it contains most importantly veering off the INC mandate and more sadly having no Means of Implementation.

We are rather disappointed and frustrated, but our ambition to deliver a Treaty that effectively addresses plastic pollution remains our utmost goal.

We call upon the members that continue to divert our collective path to end plastic pollution with controversial issues outside the mandate of INC, to reflect on their actions that continue to deliberately hinder us from achieving our ambitious goal of ending plastic pollution including in the marine environment.

As we leave Geneve with dissatisfaction and sadness of not having agreement on a much needed and awaited Treaty, we remain optimistic that another session will be organised to continue our collective efforts to agree on a Treaty to end plastic pollution. If such a session is convened, its our understanding that we shall start from the last stage of negotiations at this session and that is the work of the Contact Groups as submitted to plenary with ability by Members to add or remove text.

We associate with the statement made by the distinguished delegate of Kenya that certain articles were not discussed by the working groups and this should be reflected in the Meeting Report.

We remain committed to engage constructively to achieve our collective goal of ending plastic pollution.

## **STATEMENT OF UGANDA AT HODS MEETING**

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to you, Chair, for your tireless efforts in finding common grounds for the INC process. However, we have deep concerns on how transparent the process is currently being managed.

There is absolute lack of openness and transparency and we believe that the process has been hijacked and is no longer under the control of Member States.

Your current text is far from being a version that we can accept, it has several controversial elements some of which are clearly outside the scope of the INC process, not least the very objective and most sadly, has no meaningful means of implementation.

We are therefore unable to accept this latest version as a basis for further negotiation, neither do we accept the process currently being employed. We therefore strongly reject the current text.

We demand that the process to move forward be made based on the outcome of negotiations from the Contact Groups as a basis for further negotiation in a transparent and party driven manner.

As tickets and visas for most delegates will be ending in few hours, it is our considered view that this session terminates and a new session be convened at a later date.

We remain committed to constructive engagement to end plastic pollution.