Viet Nam Proposal for International Cooperation

Part II. 5. International Cooperation
Viet Nam would like to suggest the addition of the phase in bold to para 1:

1. Parties [are encouraged to] [shall] [cooperate][promote cooperation] with [each other [on a global basis and,] as appropriate[, on a regional basis][through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation], particularly those bordering an enclosed or semi-enclosed sea, and with] relevant intergovernmental organizations [and other entities], including relevant scientific organizations and bodies, to support the effective implementation of this instrument* and the achievement of its objective, including addressing plastic pollution in the marine environment, [while avoiding any duplication of efforts][including through strengthening and enhancing cooperation [with and among relevant legal instruments and frameworks, as well as global, regional, subregional and sectoral bodies]].

Rationale: Marine plastic pollution in an enclosed or semi-enclosed sea could be better addressed if States in that region cooperate to coordinate their efforts. The mentioning of States bordering an enclosed or semi-enclosed sea is inspired from Article 123 of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea 1982, entitled “Cooperation of States bordering enclosed or semi-enclosed seas”, which requires States bordering an enclosed or semi-enclosed sea to cooperate to coordinate to protect and preserve the marine environment.