

Statement of the Delegation of Ukraine during

INC-5.2

**Mr. Chair,
Excellencies,
Dear colleagues,**

First of all, let me express our deep gratitude to the UNEP Secretariat for their efforts, aimed at preparing this session of the INC as well as to the Government of Switzerland for their hospitality and readiness to welcome us in beautiful Geneva

For almost two weeks at this session and three years since the start of the process, more than 180 states have been discussing a future legally binding instrument to combat plastic pollution, which should address both the consequences and the causes of this global crisis.

We are here to solve the global plastic pollution crisis. But the state of the negotiations is worrying: the new draft text lacks binding limits on the production of plastic products and the regulation of chemicals of concern. More than 1,500 proposals in brackets put the ambitious outcome at risk. This has raised serious concerns among many states and civil society.

We see that a deep divide remains between states that seek mandatory restrictions and those that insist solely on waste recycling measures.

Instead of finding compromise solutions and taking into account at least some of the ambitious requirements, this text only reflects the views of a few countries.

In the face of full-scale armed aggression of Russian Federation, when Ukrainian fields are covered with hundreds of kilometers of plastic fiber optic for drones, thousands of square kilometers of soil are contaminated with plastic fragments of anti-personnel mines, single-use plastic and packaging in trenches, Ukraine's position is clear.

We cannot support the weakening of the requirements in the document against the background of the previous Chairman's text, as there are no measures to eliminate the root causes of plastic pollution. This is not in line with the proper implementation of UNEA resolution 5/14.

Ukraine is committed to the principles of environmental justice, international responsibility and protection of people's health. We are ready to work with all partners to create a truly effective mechanism that will stop the global plastic pollution crisis.

Let this treaty not be an imitation of a compromise, but a real victory for all of us.

Thank you for your attention!