



Women's Working Group on Ending Plastic Pollution

Distinguished Delegates,

Four days into the final Global Plastics Treaty negotiations, we are not on track to deliver a treaty that will protect people and nature. Enough is enough; something must change. We are joining the voices of waste pickers, frontline communities, scientists, healthcare professionals, children and youth, women, businesses, and non-governmental organisations around the world, calling on governments to step up. Fix the process, keep your promise, and finalise a meaningful treaty to end plastic pollution.

We now know that microplastics have been detected in human placentas. This means that exposure to plastic particles can occur in utero, with unknown but likely serious implications for fetal development, immune programming, and long-term health.

This is why the Women's Major Group advocates for:

- A human rights-based approach.
- Explicit measures within the treaty text to limit plastic production, and toxic additives to safeguard health.
- Ban endocrine-disrupting chemicals and polymers of concern.
- Ban intentionally added microbeads and microplastics (e.g. in cosmetics).
- Establish a Legally binding globally harmonized requirement on transparency and traceability of chemicals in plastic products and materials throughout their entire lifecycle.

We must move forward. Humanity is watching. Women around the world continue to bear the burden of daily exposure to plastic-related chemicals that poison their bodies and their environments. We cannot fail them. We cannot fail the children yet to be born. We cannot fail the planet.

A robust, ambitious treaty is not optional, it is a moral, environmental, and intergenerational imperative. We need a treaty that stops plastic pollution at the source, holds polluters accountable, and places human and planetary health at its core.

We need real commitments and actions now. Humanity can't wait.