I. **Substantive elements**

1. **Objective(s)**

   a) *What objective(s) could be set out in the instrument?*

   **Proposed Objective:**

   Preliminary objective is to adopt a legally binding instrument and a common global legal framework for all countries for prohibiting the widespread nuisance of plastic pollution and to adopt preventive measures for reduction of plastic waste in future.

   **Explanatory Text:**
   The afore stated objective highlights the urgent need for arresting the constantly rising plastic pollution across the globe. The ill effect of this nuisance is harming each and every component of biodiversity across all ecosystems. It has contaminated all our land, water and microplastic even has penetrated deeply into our food chain and even into the human systems. Hence, it is absolutely essential to combat plastic pollution with strict legal enforcement mechanisms.

   To develop a common responsibility for re-designing packaging and delivery models to implementing new recycling technologies that help address waste production and management.

   **Explanatory Text:**
   The parties coming together to negotiate a common deal must affirm and upheld a framework where the businesses and the market players are given a shared responsibility for re-designing packaging and recycling the waste through newer technologies. Every government must strengthen their institution to make an obligatory and binding measures in their home state to spread such awareness, educate and promote such measures where collaborative efforts are taken and the plastic pollution is banned as a precautionary principle.
2. Core obligations, control measures and voluntary approaches

a) What core obligations, control measures and voluntary approaches would provide a comprehensive approach to addressing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, throughout the full life cycle in line with the future objective(s) of the instrument?

Preventing accumulation sources of plastic pollutants, 3R’s (Reduce, Recycle – Reuse), awareness and capacity building, and Producer/manufacturer responsibility could act as the rudimentary practical approaches we have been following ever since we are addressing the issue of plastic pollution. But for better results what we need to do is to use the same strategies with suitable modifications according to changing trends in this modern world and ensure the proper implementation of such measures.

• Government introduced a few projects like Project Sneh, Project Sugam, Project Tabeer, Project Qadira, and Project Basera, more initiatives like these should be taken in all the respective states according to the ongoing need and not only for the government but people and organizations taking such initiatives should also be incentivized for more growth and enthusiasm.

• The municipal authority may ask the manufacturers to setting-up plastic waste collection centers, either collectively or individually in line with the principle of Extended Producer’s Responsibility (EPR) to provide the required finance to establish such a collection center.

• Governments, research institutions, and industries should work collaboratively to redesign products, and re-think their use and disposal to reduce microplastic waste from pellets, synthetic textiles, and tyres which accounts for most of the plastic pollution in the marine environment. Consumers and society should also shift to more sustainable consumption patterns. This will require solutions that go beyond waste management and consider the whole lifecycle of plastic products; from design to infrastructure, and household use and will require more funding for research and innovation needed for effective and efficient implementation.

• Identify the sources of such plastic pollution and find the best alternative for each one of them individually and collectively.
II. Implementation elements

1. Implementation measures

   a) *How to ensure implementation of the instrument at the national level (e.g. role national action plans contribute to meeting the objectives and obligations of the instrument?)*

   b) *How to ensure effectiveness of the instrument and have efficient national reporting?*

   c) *Please provide any other relevant proposals or priorities here on implementation measures (for example for scientific and technical cooperation and coordination as well as compliance).*

   - For ensuring national-level implementation, we should ensure state-level and district-level implementation. We should follow the “Bottom-up” approach. The top-down implementation approach is a clear-cut system of command and control—from the government to the project, which concerns the people. For ensuring effective implementation we should start with the concerned objectives from the lower level by forming a committee or tying up with NGOs and organizations and any other thing deems fit and then subsequently move towards the upper level. Different regions and cities and districts should be given accountability and authority to modify the objectives and policies formulated according to their own need and requirement and to take the required steps for effective implementation. And they should also report the progress to the higher levels subsequently.

   - We should also include children, the youth of this country. Government should compulsorily include a specified number of volunteering hours for Schools to raise awareness and that they understand the necessity. For example – As small as 2 hours in a month. Children all over the world devoting 2 hours a month to the environment will be more than enough to generate awareness and curb pollution. This would help the youth to look at things through a lens of environment sensibility.

   - Taxes and Levies – Impose taxes and/or levies on manufacturers, retailers or consumers for use of single-use plastic items to support the transition to reuse systems. This can be achieved when the government and the local institutions join hands to ensure such compliances.

   - Establishment of collective municipal unions with neighboring municipalities to pool resources and increase capacity for collection and processing, as well as communal interventions in shared waterways, such as trash booms and racks in rivers and storm drain.

   - Involvement of State Pollution Control Boards (SPCB): We are aware that the SPCBs are the principal bodies to report, sanction and tackle the menace of basic forms of pollution like air,
water, land etc. However, if these statutory bodies through some regulations and powers conferred upon them through state governments are allowed to keep a check on the use and disposal of plastic wastes, it would in a similar fashion and legal measures be able to account for the action for creating any pollution related to the plastic within their jurisdictions.

- Every national jurisdiction has gone ahead to establish a green court. For example: National green tribunal in India. There can be a fast-track mechanism of reporting, listing and hearing of such cases with respect to plastic pollution, the consumers found to be using the plastic, deciding upon their liability etc. Since the judiciary is over-loaded with endless litigations and dispute hearings, an exclusive bench/division accorded to plastic and waste pollution can lead us to the notion of environmental justice and further strengthening of our institutions.

2. Means of Implementation

With respect to means of implementation, document UNEP/PP/INC.1/5 covers the following elements: capacity-building, technical assistance, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and financial assistance.

a) What measures will be required to support the implementation of the instrument?

A proper and transparent implementation is only possible once we strengthen our legal institutions with the help of tighter policies, regulations and above all-the penal measures. In light of the polluter pays principal, a special set of capacity-building workshops needs to be conducted at the national as well as district level so as to acquaint and make them aware of the adverse effects of plastic pollution.

Few of the possible measures are:

(i) Aimi to build a community of innovators working to eradicate plastic pollution. This may start from the very early level of manufacturers and retailers who can help through their strategic management tool in making the citizenry aware of the same.

(ii) Capacity building programs, workshops, boot-camps by NGOs, center for environmental studies under various institutions/universities to conduct such campaigns and programs to sensitize and bring change in the society’s outlook towards plastic. Avoiding plastic bags, plastic straws/cutlery should also be sensitized as the greater number of collections that shall be done and reported under an inventory to be maintained by the state governments, it shall accelerate in public participation.
(iii) Public-Private Partnerships are the new dawn in the government’s strategy and policy making – Establish strategic partnerships that encourage businesses to make firm commitments on plastic towards transformative business models.

(iv) The already existing and binding international instruments like MARPOL, Civil Liability convention must strengthen their implementation and penal mechanism so that all the acts and omissions on plastic pollution can be reported and penalized to the secretariat.

(v) Taking ahead of the carbon-credit system as established under the UNFCCC, a Plastic Credit Systems (PCS) must be established that requires producers to meet specified obligations and purchase recycling certificates based on the amount of plastic waste recycled. Here, there can be joint implementation projects between the developed and the developing countries to give way to shared responsibility and creation of a pool for plastic-ban as far as possible.
III. Additional input

Please provide any other relevant proposals or priorities here (for example introductory elements; awareness-raising, education and exchange of information; research; stakeholder engagement; institutional arrangements and final provisions).

1. Adopt a plan and policy for phase wise manner targeting the short term and long-term goals for achieving the Plastic neutral society for a sustainable future.

2. To ensure that every state nation legislates strict legal framework in their respective domestic and municipal jurisdictions.

3. To create real time monitoring of international tracking of illegal movement of transboundary plastic waste, especially from developed countries towards the developing countries.

4. To create a of carbon emission trading system, in case of any plastic waste recycling is done by any country on behalf of the waste generating country.

5. The generation and sources of plastic needs to be mapped locally and globally sector wise, and Extended producer liability and polluter pays principle and life cycle assessment is to be applied strictly at the sources of generation and generators.

6. To share and disseminate knowledge and technology to replace the plastic as a raw material producing several day to day commodities and packaging options from various sectors.

7. To encourage use of alternative eco-friendly materials in lieu of plastic and give wide spread policy support for its use and adoption for reducing plastic use and dependency.

8. To focus on cultural, behavioral practices to each society to generate awareness towards reduction of plastic use and its safe disposals.

9. Law shall not be successful without active participation from citizens, future generations need to be sensitized on this issue. Inclusion of this issue in school and college curriculum will be necessary.

10. Avoid incineration and find eco-friendly alternatives.