Co-Chair

The assessment and subsequent control of emissions and releases is particularly important in preserving human and environmental health. Additionally, the monitoring of these emissions and releases provides an avenue for the quantitative assessment of hazard and perhaps risk through the generation of data that may be utilised towards effectiveness evaluation.

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda supports the inclusion of environmental monitoring as a means of providing needed data for spatial and temporal analysis by an expert grouping or subsidiary body that we anticipate would be established by the new instrument.

In relation to 8.2 and the reference to the International Maritime Organisation and hence reference to the MARPOL Convention, due consideration should be given to provisions as set out within other agreements such as the Cartagena, London, and OSPAR Conventions. We must recognise that plastic pollution generated from land-based and marine-based activities that lead to the generation of unintentional microplastics that enter the atmosphere and the marine environment.

The concept of unintentional microplastics is not recognised as a term within the zero draft, and my delegation wishes to propose the recognition of this term in the instrument and is willing to propose a definition of the same.