The Government of Antigua and Barbuda aligns itself with the SIDS position and supports the development of an instrument that includes provisions to enable the acceleration of the collection, sorting, recycling and sound disposal of plastic waste.

The development of guidance alluded to in Option 1 part 2 must include measures for the design of facilities that ensure the safe and environmentally sound management of waste.

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda deems it necessary to facilitate the transition from unsound waste management practices that may lead to the emissions and releases of hazardous substances to more environmentally sound solutions. Such practices must be based on sound scientific evidence and facilitative of a just transition.

This delegation recognises the importance of enhancing national and regional recycling programmes in the life cycle approach to plastic waste management.

To this end, there must be strong, ambitious binding obligations, coupled with effective provisions on means of implementation for SIDS, including priority access, and access to technology for waste management and recycling. Further, provisions for capacity building, technology transfer and technical assistance are important considerations that should be intrinsic to the instrument, to allow for the institutionalisation of measures to address the growing problem of effective waste management and to provide a means of building capacity towards the sound management of chemicals and waste associated with plastics.