Proposed response template on written submissions prior to INC-3 (part a)

At its second session, the intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC) requested the secretariat to invite written submissions on:

- Elements not discussed at INC-2, such as principles and scope of the instrument

INC-2 further requested the secretariat to post any submissions received on the INC website and to prepare a synthesis report of the submissions.

The template below was prepared by the secretariat, in consultation with the Chair, and is meant as a guide to assist Members and Observers in preparing their written submissions.

A number of documents prepared by the secretariat for INC-1 and INC-2 are of relevance to this submission, including:

**UNEA resolution 5/14** on ‘End plastic pollution: towards an international legally binding instrument’

**UNEP/PP/INC.1/5** on ‘Potential elements, based on provisions in paragraphs 3 and 4 of United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/14, including key concepts, procedures and mechanisms of legally binding multilateral agreements that may be relevant to furthering implementation and compliance under the future international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment’

**UNEP/PP/INC.1/6** on ‘Glossary of key terms’

**UNEP/PP/INC.1/8** on ‘Description of standard articles on final provisions that are typically included in multilateral environmental agreements’

**UNEP/PP/INC.2/4** on ‘Potential options for elements towards an international legally binding instrument, based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastics as called for by United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/14’

**UNEP/PP/INC.2/INF/4** on ‘Additional information linked to the options for the potential elements towards an international legally binding instrument’

**UNEP/PP/INC.2/INF/7/REV.1** on ‘Information submitted by the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions’

All written submissions must be sent to unep-incplastic.secretariat@un.org. As detailed in the mandate, the submissions received will be made available on the INC webpage, a synthesis report of the submissions will also be developed in advance of INC-3.

Please note that not all fields in the template need to be answered in the submission.

**Deadline for submissions:**

I. **By 15 August 2023** for written submissions from **observer** organizations.
II. **By 15 September 2023** for written submissions from **Members** of the Committee.
Elements not discussed at INC-2

1. Scope

What is the proposed scope for the future instrument?

Which types of substances, materials, products and behaviors should be covered by the future instrument?

Proposed scope:
The scope of the instrument should be based on the mandate of UNEA resolution 5/14 and should cover the following scope:

- plastic polymers, plastics and plastic products used throughout the life cycle of plastics should be included
- Protecting the environment and human health at all stages (upstream, midstream and downstream) throughout the life cycle of plastics, and preventing plastic pollution, including the marine environment
- To be an international legally binding instrument

Explanatory Text:

2. Principles

What principles could be set out in the future instrument to guide its implementation?

Proposed principles:
- Considering the principles of Rio de Janeiro.
- Waste hierarchy principle (prevention, reuse, recycling, energy recovery, disposal).
• Availability of advanced technologies
• Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism
• Decision that based on science and research

Taking into account the Rio principles can contribute to more sustainable management by preventing plastic pollution on a global scale.

The principle of waste hierarchy creates opportunities such as less use of fossil fuels, creating of additional jobs, energy saving, prevention of greenhouse gases, less land use by reducing dependence on landfills.

Access to advanced technologies in low- and middle-income countries can scale up the fight against plastic pollution and reduce harmful impacts on the environment and human health.

3. Additional considerations
Provide any other relevant inputs, proposals or priorities here that have not been discussed at INC-2 (e.g. preamble; institutional arrangements, including governing body, subsidiary bodies, scientific and technical cooperation and coordination, and secretariat; final provisions including dispute settlements; and if appropriate annexes).

Proposed inputs:
**Preamble:** Elements that were not discussed in INC 2 including principle, scope, preamble, governing body etc. should be prioritized in INC 3

**institutional arrangements, including governing body, subsidiary bodies, scientific and technical cooperation and coordination:** Provision of financial and technical assistance, including transfer of technology and opportunities for scientific cooperation between the Parties

**Disputes settlements:** Disputes between the parties must be resolved fairly and without discrimination

**Annex:** An annex with a list of chemicals that are prohibited or severely restricted in the upstream phase/list of plastics prohibited for production, export and sale.

Explanatory Text: