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

Potential Areas Identified by the Contact Groups

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

- Any potential areas for intersessional work compiled by the co-facilitators of the two contact groups\(^1\), to inform the work of INC-3.

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.

All written submissions must be sent to unep-incplastic.secretariat@un.org. The submissions received will be made available on the INC webpage.

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.

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\(^1\) Contact Group 1 focused on Section A: Objective(s). Section B: Substantive Obligations; Contact Group 2 focused on Sections C: Means of Implementation. D: Implementation measures. E: Additional matters as contained in part II of the Annex to document UNEP/PP/INC.2/4.
TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of country (for Members of the committee)</th>
<th>Bosnia and Herzegovina</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of organization (for observers to the committee)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact person and contact information for the submission</td>
<td>Mehmed Cero <a href="mailto:mehmed.cero@fmoit.gov.ba">mehmed.cero@fmoit.gov.ba</a> Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date of submission</td>
<td>09.10.2023.</td>
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Input on the potential areas of intersessional work to inform the work of INC-3 (following the lists compiled by the co-facilitators of the two contact groups)

Potential areas for intersessional work

The list of potential areas for possible intersessional work compiled by the co-facilitators of the two contact groups at INC-2 is set out below. Members and observers may wish to provide input on one or more of these areas.

Contact group 1:

1. Information on definitions of, e.g. plastics, microplastics, circularity
2. Information on criteria, also considering different applications and sectoral requirements, including:
   a. Chemical substances of concern in plastics,
   b. Problematic and avoidable plastic polymers and products and related applications
   c. Design e.g. for circularity, reuse
   d. Substitutes and alternatives to plastic polymers and products
3. Potential substances of concern in plastics, problematic and avoidable plastic polymers and products
4. Potential sources of release of microplastics (applications and sectors).

(Please note: A longer list is included in the co-facilitators report on discussions in contact group 1. Submissions may also include input on any of the items in that longer list, such as, amongst others, the development of criteria to prioritise problematic and avoidable plastics; the development of targets for the reduction, reuse and repair of problematic and avoidable plastic products; or the guidelines on EPR)

2 The report can be accessed here: [https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/42621/CG1.pdf](https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/42621/CG1.pdf)
Contact Group 2:

1. To consider the potential role, responsibilities and composition of a science and technical body [to support negotiation and/or implementation of the agreement]
2. To consider potential scope of and guidance for National Action Plans [including optional and/or suggested elements]
3. To identify current provisions within existing MEAs [and other instruments] on cooperation and coordination that could be considered
4. To consider how other MEAs provide for monitoring, and suggest best practice
5. To consider options to define ‘technology transfer on mutually agreed terms’
6. To further consider how a potential financing mechanism could work [including a new standalone mechanism, a hybrid mechanism, or an existing mechanism]
7. To identify options to mobilise and align private and innovative finance (including in relation to matters at 24(e) and the proposed Global Plastic Pollution Fee (GPPF))
8. To map current funding and finance available [to address plastic pollution] and determine the need for financial support for each Member
9. To identify capacity building and training needs for each Member.

Inputs relating to potential areas for intersessional work. Please identify clearly which area your input relates to.

According to UNEA resolution 5/14, the intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC) has complete activities in short time, by the end of 2024., and it has to develop further intersessional work. We would like to provide following potential areas for intersessional work in order to develop legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution:

Contact group 1:

1.1 Information on definitions:

It is important to define clear definitions under the future treaty in order to avoid the misunderstandings. We support to develop and provide relevent defitinitons that should be harmonized, taking in considaration the existis terms. However, the list od required definition will depend on the future instrument.

1.2 Information on criteria, also considering different applications and sectoral requirements

In these aspects and according to the UNEA Resolution 5/14 the new instrument should be cooperated with relevant regional and international conventions and instruments harmonizing and avoiding the duplication of actions.
In addressing the chemical substances it is important to have science-based data, weather and how these chemical affects environment and human health. Taking into account the mentioned science-based information and the impact of the plastic polymers, chemical substances and plastic products on the environment and human health, same should be restricted, if not eliminated.

We would like to express concerns about difficulties to create global design standards and criteria for plastic polymers, chemical substances and plastic products, for all countries.

1.3 Potential substances of concern in plastics, problematic, avoidable plastic polymers and products

Reduce high-risk plastic production by banning the single use plastic and using the biobased, biodegradable and compostable plastics as alternatives to currently dominant, conventional plastics. Thus, we should follow the 3R principle (reduce, reuse and recycle) in the future legally binding instrument alternatives and substitutes might be considered under certain conditions including of strict sustainable criteria that will contribute and support environmental, economic and social aspects, and that will consider the one health perspective and its contribution on animal, human and environmental health.

1.4. Potential sources of release of microplastics

Microplastics is considers problematic due to its contents and it can be found in many products, such as hygiene, materials etc. This should be avoided by creating the better regulation of microplastics, and undertaking the proper monitoring on plastic production, consumption and use. It should develop criteria and identification of potentially problematic and avoidable plastic products, including microplastics. It is important to include mandatory labels on packaging for products containing micro plastics.

Contact Group 2:

2. To consider potential scope of and guidance for National Action Plans

National Action Plans should support 3R principle (reduce, reuse and recycle), which should improve national capacity. The minimum requirements for NAPs should be take into consideration, develop and agreed. However, in order to implement it globally, it is important to allow and provide financial support for developing countries and countries with economy in transition for successful national action plan implementation.

9. To identify capacity building and training needs for each Member

Plastic pollution is global concern that require action in all countries. However, not all countries are developed to provide effectiveness of all key elements (capacity-building, technical
assistance) with their current capacities. Bare in mind the need of capacity building and technical support we would like to suggest following actions:
Parties should corporate and provide proper and needed capacity-building and technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
Implement capacity building activities on reporting, practice and management of plastic pollution issues;
Strength cooperation and coordination on national, regional and international level; Engaging all stakeholders from the sector, establishing joint cooperation at the state level (government agencies, businesses, industries, civil society organizations, communities).