• Tout d’abord, on voudrait remercier la France et UNESCO pour nous accueillir pour cette réunion si importante
• As some of you might know, we have a new government in Brazil, which is fully committed to the environment. Half of legislative acts on the first day of government were on the protection of the environment. 19 Ministries have sustainability and climate change units in their structure. Marina Silva, the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, is a world activist leader for the environment and her long-standing call for the environment to be a cross-cutting issue in government found a positive response in this new ministerial structure. We also finally have a Ministry for the Indigenous Peoples, which is staffed with Indigenous peoples’ representatives
• There is no question to our commitment to the environment, from which stems our commitment to an ambitious legally binding instrument, with equally ambitious means of implementation
• This new agreement is of wider importance and range than anticipated by many: it’s not only on the environment, but on sustainable development, and its environmental, social and economic pillars. Why? The issues we are dealing with are very interconnected. For example, when waste pickers lose their jobs because they don’t have access to recyclable materials, the environment suffers; when we ensure their income and their jobs, they contribute to the protection of the environment. Their environmental services, by the way, should be recognized and economically valued, so they are empowered as an active actor in the recycle chain of materials in our countries. We need to work for their socioeconomic inclusion. When we aim at a just transition to a plastic pollution-free economy, we need to achieve not only a clean and healthy environment, but also prosperity for all.
• We have been conducting ample internal consultations among government, civil society, waste pickers, industry and researchers to present bold proposals to this Committee.
• It is imperative to end plastic pollution, with a view to protecting the environment and human health, in particular that of vulnerable workers and communities. And if we are to do it, we need to hear everybody.
• Every measure presented to the INC needs to be very carefully considered. We cannot take automatic decisions we cannot implement. Again, I raise the issue of means of implementation, which may sound theoretical or even rhetorical for many, but is a serious need for developing countries, who are here to negotiate and adopt a treaty they want to implement.
• As H E the President of France affirmed, this is an agreement that everyone needs to agree on. We need to adopt this treaty by consensus, because we need global collective action to respond to this ambitious objective to end plastic pollution.
• On our negotiations, we need to further debate:
  a) problematic and unnecessary plastics in light of their applications;
  b) transparency regarding chemical additives in plastics;
  c) measures for microplastics that are intentionally added to products;
d) definitions, criteria and methodologies to discuss banning, phasing out and restrictions, in order to make well-informed decisions.

e) we need to address existing plastic pollution, in particular that of transboundary nature, in a cooperative manner.

f) Ending plastic pollution will require economic, technical and technological changes that should leave no one behind.