Thank you Madam Facilitator for giving me the floor.

As it is the first time my delegation takes the floor since the meeting started, let me express my support to you and your colleague for this challenging task of facilitation. We would like also to extend our congratulations to the Chair and the INC Secretariat for the hard work carried during the intersession to make available the synthesis report. It provides a good basis for our discussions.

On our national capacity we would like to see in the preamble the reference to the UN Convention on the law of the seas (UNCLOS), because the treaty to be developed deals also with the marine environment. Therefore the main international legal instrument that lays the foundation of the protection of the marine environment is UNCLOS. Let us not behave like we are working exclusively on land-based plastic pollution.

We would also like to see the reference to some principles in the preamble, but a special provision shall be dedicated to the principles in the operative text. In this regard we would see value in including the principles governing the prevention and the fight against marine pollution including marine plastic pollution as well as the extended producer responsibility for sea merchants, the principle of non-transfer, directly or indirectly, of damages or hazards from one area to another and the non-transformation of one type of pollution into another in taking measures to prevent, reduce and control plastic pollution.

Thank you