Mister Chairman,

Your Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

My name is Raelene Martin and it’s my honor to address you on behalf of the International Chamber of Commerce.

I would like to start by extending our gratitude to you, Mr. Chair, to the INC Secretariat and to all the Parties present here, for a committed, collaborative and constructive engagement over the past 5 days.

If there is one message, we would like to convey at the closing session of this second INC meeting -- is to reaffirm the deep commitment of the global business community to support efforts to secure an ambitious, workable and effective international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution by 2024.

We particularly appreciate the recognition of the critical role of business and industry in achieving a successful outcome. We stand ready to accelerate our efforts and inform and engage actively in forthcoming sessions by providing experience, expertise, and solutions.

But we can only go so far on our own.

We recognise the progress made this week on the substantive elements of the options for the future instrument and welcome the mandate for a zero draft of the instrument for consideration at INC3.

We now look to Parties to build on the foundations set this week for an ambitious instrument that can help guide business actions and investments at the required scale and speed, and across the entire value chains, and enable business to become positive drivers of a circular economy for plastics.
We concur that a fully circular approach – with principles and practices for circularity engrafted at the core of the instrument – will be critical in ensuring the systems change needed to support the necessary shift in the design, use and reuse of plastic. Establishing consistent global rules, with enabling frameworks and policies, taking into account national circumstances and approaches for their effective implementation, will be equally important.

Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,
We acknowledge that much work still remains to be done to deliver on the imperative charge and task that lies ahead.

Let us build on the achievements made at this meeting, the partnerships and collaborations created and together speed up and advance the critical work towards an ambitious treaty to end plastic pollution. We look forward to the fruitful discussions at INC3 in Nairobi.

Thank you.