Intervention by the delegation of the Republic of Costa Rica during contact group 1. Tuesday, 14 November 2023.

Thank you, Madam co-facilitator,

Costa Rica supports option 2 and its chapeau. We consider that option 2 takes into consideration the circular economy and the entire life cycle approach, including the upstream, midstream and downstream stages. It also takes into consideration, the realization of the human right to a healthy and sustainable environment, the human right to health, sustainable consumption and production, and many other principles we have repeatedly discussed as essential for the development of this instrument.

We must look forward to the highest level of ambition, it is necessary to reduce global production as much as possible, taking into account the need for substitutes or alternative materials, so any views which do not include the correct understanding that plastic polymers are the primary source of this urgent global problem will not allow us to achieve our common goal. We reiterate that the discussions on primary plastic polymers are indeed within the mandate from UNEA Resolution 5/14. Our delegation considers that option 2 presents a vertical approach, beginning with binding global objectives, framed into national goals, and adopted through binding national plans.

Finally, we do note that we must come to an agreed common language to be able to define what primary plastic polymers are, and we recognized that a good starting point is the definition from the synthesis report prepared by the Secretariat.