First meeting of the Working Group 3 on 14th November 2023 from 15:00-18:00h. INC-3 Plastics. Intervention by the delegation of the Republic of Costa Rica.

Thank you, dear co-facilitator, for giving me the floor. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank both co-facilitators for your excellent work, good afternoon, colleagues,

Regarding the Scope, my delegation considers we should focus on UNEA Resolution 5/14. We need to ensure we fully comply with its mandate and we don’t reopen any discussions already agreed by consensus.

Regarding the preamble, Costa Rica proposes we use the text from the synthesis report, which would be an excellent starting point to move forward.

On definitions, we can use the existing definitions as a starting point, but we also see value in reviewing the ones which must adequately align with the objective of the instrument. In particular, we agree with the definition of polymer, primary and secondary polymers, but we see missing the definition of bio polymer, for instance.

Also, we agree on the definition of plastic; we consider it adequate, but we can also review it to make sure it contains all the different aspects which will be discussed during the process. We also consider that an expert technical group should negotiate the definitions. We need to make sure that our experts are the ones who define them, while this group can focus on the principles and the preamble.

Finally, the principles are essential to inform the text, but they must also be incorporated and operationalised through the substantive provisions when possible. We don’t have particular examples at this very moment, but we can start identifying places where they might be reflected. However, we should be careful not to list all the principles on each disposition throughout the text.

Thank you,