Part II
Numbers 2 and 3 a) and b)

Cuba’s Proposal:

Obligations about Chemicals and polymers of concerns and Problematic and avoidable plastic products shall be together into one Article named “Sustainable Plastic Consumption and Production”, with the following provisions:

1. Parties shall decide at the Conference of the Parties on chemicals of concern used in the plastics industry, based on criteria defined in annex A, that should be regulated by Stockholm or Rotterdam Conventions, according to their objectives. This making-decision process can be repeated in any moment when it would be necessary and decided by the Conference of the Parties.

2. Parties are encouraged to take measures to regulate polymers with potential adverse impacts on human health or the environment, based on criteria contained in annex A, which shall include the uses of the best scientific evidences.

3. Parties are encouraged to take measures to gradually reduce the use of problematic and avoidable plastic products, identified on the basis of relevant parameters, and based on the availability, accessibility and affordability of sustainable alternatives, in particular to developing countries, taking into account their national circumstances and capability.

4. Each Party shall take the necessary measures to regulate the use of plastic products containing intentionally added microplastics, except where an exception is specified in part IV of annex B.

Arguments for the proposal:

For Cuba the best manner of tackle the chemical of concerns is through the increase of synergies and cooperation with Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions. Stockholm includes under their objectives the plastic additives. Currently, there are 34 chemicals listed under this Convention, and 17 of which are closely related to plastics.

As it is explained in the document UNEP/PP/INC3/INF/4 submitted by the Secretariat of Stockholm, Rotterdam and Basel, the process of
reviewing and adding new chemicals categorized as POPs provided in Article 8 of the Convention may be relevant for this new instrument.

The Rotterdam Convention is also relevant for regulating the international trade of hazardous chemicals used in plastics. Currently, there are 55 chemicals listed in Annex III to this Convention and 15 of them are plastic additives.

Cuba considers that it is very important to avoid any duplication of work.