STATEMENT BY THE KINGDOM OF ESWATINI AT THE THIRD MEETING OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE (INC-3) TO DEVELOP AN INTERNATIONAL LEGALLY BINDING INSTRUMENT ON PLASTIC POLLUTION, INCLUDING IN THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT NAIROBI 13TH TO 19TH NOVEMBER 2023

MR. PRESIDENT

Let me start by passing our sincere gratitude to the Government and the people of Kenya for their warm welcome to this green city of Nairobi.

The Delegation of the Kingdom of Eswatini would like to align itself with the African position as presented by Republic of Ghana. In this regard we are encouraged by the call from the African Ministerial conference (AMCEN) for this committee to deliver an agreement capable of reducing and eventually eliminating all impacts of plastic pollution on human health, and the environment without delay.

The Kingdom of Eswatini express our gratitude to the INC Chair and Secretariat for developing the zero-draft text of the instrument. The Chair’s zero draft was based on all inputs from member states and reflects the desire of the global majority for a strong treaty with binding global measures, including elimination of high-risk plastic categories.

The Kingdom of Eswatini, supports the call for dedicated Multilateral Fund to provide the necessary financial resources to eligible developing countries in order to meet their commitments under the instrument. We further request the developed countries parties to provide adequate and predictable finance and environmentally sound technology transfer to eligible developing countries.

Our delegation further expresses the need to move swiftly through the opening segment, onto substantive discussions to review the provisions of the Chair’s Zero Draft in the three Contact Groups, as proposed by the Chair. We call on the Committee to engage in constructive discussions leading to the first version
of the text of the instrument, to be considered at the fourth session of the Committee.

We further call upon all our private sector, business, labor, and civil society stakeholders to move ahead and prepare for a world and a future economy devoid of plastic pollution.

We look forward to the adoption of clear mandates and timetables for the necessary intersessional work at the fourth and fifth sessions where a first list of chemicals of concern, including monomers and polymers, will be included in the treaty annexes, bringing us closer to the ambitious goal of a global legally binding instrument to stop plastic pollution.

Finally, the Eswatini supports the proposal by the Republic of Kenya for the hosting of the secretariat of this treaty at the Headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme here in Nairobi.

I Thank you.