Proposed response template on written submissions prior to INC-3 (part a)

At its second session, the intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC) requested the secretariat to invite written submissions on:

- Elements not discussed at INC-2, such as principles and scope of the instrument

INC-2 further requested the secretariat to post any submissions received on the INC website and to prepare a synthesis report of the submissions.

The template below was prepared by the secretariat, in consultation with the Chair, and is meant as a guide to assist Members and Observers in preparing their written submissions.

A number of documents prepared by the secretariat for INC-1 and INC-2 are of relevance to this submission, including:

**UNEA resolution 5/14** on ‘End plastic pollution: towards an international legally binding instrument’

**UNEP/PP/INC.1/5** on ‘Potential elements, based on provisions in paragraphs 3 and 4 of United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/14, including key concepts, procedures and mechanisms of legally binding multilateral agreements that may be relevant to furthering implementation and compliance under the future international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment’

**UNEP/PP/INC.1/6** on ‘Glossary of key terms’

**UNEP/PP/INC.1/8** on ‘Description of standard articles on final provisions that are typically included in multilateral environmental agreements’

**UNEP/PP/INC.2/4** on ‘Potential options for elements towards an international legally binding instrument, based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastics as called for by United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/14’

**UNEP/PP/INC.2/INF/4** on ‘Additional information linked to the options for the potential elements towards an internationally legally binding instrument’

**UNEP/PP/INC.2/INF/7/REV.1** on ‘Information submitted by the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions’

All written submissions must be sent to unep-incplastic.secretariat@un.org. As detailed in the mandate, the submissions received will be made available on the INC webpage, a synthesis report of the submissions will also be developed in advance of INC-3.

Please note that not all fields in the template need to be answered in the submission.

**Deadline for submissions:**

I. By 15 August 2023 for written submissions from observer organizations.

II. By 15 September 2023 for written submissions from Members of the Committee.
Elements not discussed at INC-2

1. Scope

*What is the proposed scope for the future instrument?*

*Which types of substances, materials, products and behaviors should be covered by the future instrument?*

Proposed scope:

The scope of the new instrument should be based on the mandate of UNEA Resolution 5/14 and he UNEA resolution 5/14 provided the scope of the future instrument on plastic pollution that is:

- To be an International legally binding instrument;
- Should be based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle plastic pollution in all sectors (lands, lake, river), including in the marine environment.
- The full life cycle should include chemicals used in the production of plastics.

Hence the scope of the new instrument should be aimed at protecting human health and the environment from plastic pollution via focusing problematic plastic in all level (Upper, middle and downstream) be based on relevant scientific knowledge.

Explanatory Text:

2. Principles

*What principles could be set out in the future instrument to guide its implementation?*
Proposed principles:

UNEA 5/14 resolution affirmed that the principles of Rio Declaration on environment and development be taken into consideration while discussing the treaty.

The RIO Principles such as
- Precautionary principles
- Prevention principle
- Participation principale

Similarly,
- Common but Differentiated Responsibilities,
- Sustainable production and consummation of plastic /Where feasible alternatives are not available Country driven approaches of implementation
- Transparency in case of report and contributions of members states requires
- Science and research based decision
- Human right
- could be used as principles of the new instrument

Explanatory Text:

3. Additional considerations

Provide any other relevant inputs, proposals or priorities here that have not been discussed at INC-2 (e.g. preamble; institutional arrangements, including governing body, subsidiary bodies, scientific and technical cooperation and coordination, and secretariat; final provisions including dispute settlements; and if appropriate annexes).

Proposed inputs:

Conference of Parties of the future instrument should be the main decision body. The COP will establish Scientific body by consideration of geographical representation as well as considering the representation of developing countries.

The scientific body will provide scientific assessment on level plastic pollution and recommendation of possible actions based on scientific data
The scientific body will also taking care of evaluation of effectiveness of the instrument itself and the actions taken by member’s states for the reduction of plastic impacts on all its forms.

Social and Economic impacts of the initiatives proposed by the COP should also evaluated and recommended by this scientific body