Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is Laurianne Trimoulla and I represent the Gallifrey Foundation, based in Switzerland.

The UNEP has formally and officially invited everyone at the table of the negotiations of the Second session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment. But the fact is that, because of access restrictions to the building where the discussions are taking place, stakeholders (such as scientists, civil society, waste pickers) are just left with the crumbs of a feast that lobbies and organisations who have no interest in drastically reducing plastic production and consumption are enjoying.

And yet, there is now overwhelming research and data on environmental, social justice and human health impacts of plastics.

We now know enough to know that any agreement must address the negative health impacts of both chemicals and plastics.

This comprises

- the toxic impacts in the air and water killing marine mega and microfauna;
- exporting plastic waste from developed countries to the global south exacerbating poverty and social inequity and health;
- recycling or incineration plastic thus adding more microplastics, greenhouse gases and toxins to the environment;
- capping the production of virgin plastics.

Above all, we cannot ignore the impacts of both chemicals and plasticizers on human health, dramatically reducing male sperm count and causing illnesses such as breast cancer, and increasing toxicity to soil, air, water and all living creatures via many vectors. Microplastics are now found in every corner of the planet.

When addressing this agreement, all three boxes: health, environment and social justice, must be ticked before proceeding further.

Ticking only one box does not solve the problem.

In addition, false or regrettable solutions must be phased out urgently, such as bioplastics or petrochemicals that create the same social, environmental and health problems as plastic.

The burden of proof must now lie with those who wish to make a profit from these systems and solutions.

We urge governments to consider they are mortgaging the health and the future of not only our children and their planet, but also of every single person already living on it. What type of future do they want for their grandchildren?

Thank you for your attention.