### Part I

**1. Preamble**

*Textual proposal*

The preamble of the instrument shall include the following:

- Acknowledge the challenge of plastic pollution and recognize the importance of plastic products in contributing to Sustainable Development Goals.
- Reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development principles, in particular the common but differentiated responsibilities to acknowledge that developed countries, due to their historical contributions to environmental degradation and their greater technological and financial resources, have a greater responsibility to take action.
- Recognizing the fundamental priority of safeguarding energy, health, infrastructure, food and water security, and ending hunger, and Sustainable Development.
- Recognizing the challenges facing developing country parties including, economic structures and resource bases, the need to maintain strong and sustainable economic growth, available technologies and other individual circumstances, as well as the need for equitable and appropriate contributions by each of these Parties to the global effort regarding that objective.
- Recognizing that each country is best positioned to understand is own national circumstances, including its stakeholder activities, related to addressing plastic pollution, including the marine environment.
- Affirming the role of Circular approaches and shifting away from the linear model of consumption to a circular model that minimizes waste and makes the most of resources.
- Affirming the importance of equitable distribution between Means of Implementation and levels of ambition.
- Reaffirming the importance of cooperation, coordination and complementarity among relevant regional and international conventions and instruments, while respecting their respective mandates, to prevent plastic pollution and its related risks to human health and adverse effects on human well-being and the environment.
- Noting with concerns the global challenge of accumulated legacy plastic waste in developing countries due to illegal transboundary movement.
- Taking into account the imperative of a Just Transition, in accordance with nationally defined development priorities.

**3. Definitions**

Definitions are important to MEAs, and the GCC urges the need to focus on substance and from there we can discuss potential definitions, therefore we would suggest pushing the discussion on definitions until more clarity on control measures and scope have been reached.

With regards to some definitions that we have in the Synthesis Report, we must be aware that definitions can evolve over time due to new scientific knowledge or otherwise, and that any agreed definitions included in the instrument might limit the flexibility of the treaty.

We are willing to consider the definitions from other MEAs but not with prejudgment, as we agree with India that the context for the definition matters. GCC is willing to share some definitions to consider but we are waiting on the discussion on the substance.

**Additives**

Chemical compounds added during plastic compounding (the process of mixing or blending polymers and additives in a molten state) to fulfil specific desired functional properties in the production process or in the final plastic product, in which they can be divided into four different categories, namely functional additives, colorants, fillers and reinforcements. For example, plasticizers, flame retardants, thermal and ultraviolet (UV) light stabilizers, antioxidants, antimicrobial agents, biocides, pigments, antistatic and blowing agents, impact modifiers, lubricants, etc.

**Circularity Approach**

Circularity approach is a model to addresses the challenge of plastic waste pollution, which involves sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing and recycling of existing materials and products in order to maintain their economic value for as long as possible.
Environmental Impact
Peoples actions causing any change to the environment, whether adverse or beneficial, resulting from a facility’s activities, products, or services.

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)
A nationally determined approach, if applicable, that promotes and enables waste management and reduces the environmental impact of waste through policies (fiscal & non-fiscal), incentives, and awareness across the value chain of products contributing to waste.

Life cycle
The stages of a product from design, manufacturing, distribution, marketing, use, disposal, waste handling.

(Full) life cycle approach
An approach that takes into consideration the life cycle

Microplastics (MPs)
A generic term for small plastic particles or fragments or pieces that are less than 5 mm in diameter.

Plastics
Represent complex materials based on macromolecular compounds (polymers) with possible inclusion of different additives. The most widely used plastics are based on synthetic polymers. Plastics are directly related to plastic masses, because it means that these materials under the heat and/or pressure are able to be molded and retain a given shape after cooling or solidification. The molding process is accompanied by the transition of a plastic deformable (viscous or highly elastic) state to a solid state (glassy or crystalline).

Plastic pollution
Mismanaged waste of plastic products which persists in the ecosystem and travels through the environment and adversely affects humans, wildlife and their habitat.

Plastic products
End user products made of plastic materials

Pollution
The introduction of harmful materials into the environment, which can be natural, such as volcanic ash or be created by human activity, such as waste, and subsequently damage the quality of the environment

Polymers
Polymers are large molecules composed of repeating structural units, known as monomers, covalently bonded together. They can be natural or synthetic and exhibit a wide range of physical and chemical properties.

Recycling
The action or process of reclaiming and processing waste materials or products into new materials or products

Recyclability
The capability of a product to be recycled

Waste (considered as synonymous with “litter” and “debris”)
Are substances or objects which are disposed of or intended to be disposed of or required to be disposed of by the provisions of relevant national law.

4. Principles
In their actions to achieve the objective of this instrument and to implement its provisions, the Parties shall be guided, inter alia, by the following:

Recalling UNEA Resolution 5/14, Para 3:
Decides that the intergovernmental negotiating committee is to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment henceforth referred to as the instrument, which could include both binding and voluntary approaches, based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full lifecycle of plastic, taking into account among other things, the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, as well as national circumstances and capabilities

Principles for us to call on:
1. The Parties have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental and developmental policies, and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction.

2. The Parties, in particular developed countries, shall respect the principle of sovereignty of States in international cooperation to address the issue of plastics pollution in a facilitative, non-instructive and non-punitive manner, and avoiding any undue burden being placed on Parties.

3. The Parties should protect the environmental system for the benefit of present and future generations of humankind, on the basis of historical responsibility, equity and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR+RC). Accordingly, developed countries shall take the lead in addressing the adverse effects of plastic pollution and the impacts of the implementation of response measures on developing countries.

4. Parties should respect the right to development to equitably meet the environmental needs of present and future generations, in particular for developing and least developed country Parties.

5. The specific needs, priorities and special circumstances of developing country Parties, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of plastic pollution, and of those Parties, especially developing country Parties, that would have to bear a disproportionate or abnormal burden under the instrument, should be given full consideration.

6. The Parties should ensure environmental integrity by building on and enhancing the environmental agreements under other UN bodies respecting the decisions and agreements under the UN and to avoid any contradictions or inconsistent elements.

7. The Parties shall take precautionary approaches in accordance to their capabilities and responsibilities based on the CBDR principle, & national circumstances.

8. Developing country Parties should have the right to promote sustainable development, policies and measures to protect the environment as appropriate to the specific conditions of each Party and should be integrated with national development programs, taking into account that economic development is essential for adopting measures to address plastic pollution.

9. The Parties must ensure measures taken to combat plastic pollution, including unilateral ones, should not constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade.

10. Parties ensure that all efforts should be made to reach an international consensus agreement on plastic pollution, informed by scientific certainty in a manner that is implementable by all Parties according to their respective capacities and to the extent of the support received from developed Parties.

5. Scope

The scope of the instrument is to end plastic pollution through a full life-cycle approach, taking into account national circumstances and capabilities through nationally determined action plans reflecting country driven approaches, while ensuring sufficient flexibility to accommodate the different capacities and circumstances of developing countries especially LDC, while still being effective in addressing plastic pollution.

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1. Governing Body

As established in majority of MEAs and, to accomplish the timeframe goal set for the INC to complete its work by 2024 as set in UNEA res. 5/14, initial governing bodies for the INC to decide should of the following:

- **Secretariat**: Many MEAs have secretariats that are responsible for facilitating and coordinating the implementation of the agreements. These secretariats are often located at the headquarters of the respective treaty organizations

- **COP/MOP**: The COP is the supreme governing body of many MEAs. It is made up of representatives from member countries and typically meets periodically to make decisions on the implementation of the agreement.
Technical Body: offers scientific and technical advice to parties to the MEA. This advice relates to understanding the environmental issue addressed by the agreement, assessing the impacts of human activities, or evaluating the effectiveness of proposed measures.

As we recognize the important role of Plastics in its contribution to the sustainable development goals, thereby for the Technical Body: INC shall establish a socio-economic technical body with the mandates of:

- Assessing, and addressing the impacts of policy interventions
- Assess the environmental and economic feasibility of switching to alternatives of plastics.

Further, to ensure the effectiveness of the future treaty we are of the view of giving the COP, the mandate to establish further bodies as appropriate.

2. Subsidy Body

Subsidiary bodies are specialized bodies or committees established under the governing body (COP) to address specific aspects or issues related to the future instrument. It should consist of Party members elected by the COP, considering equitable geographical representation and relevant expertise. The governing body determines the functions and responsibilities of these subsidiary bodies. At this stage, it is advisable not to provide detailed specifics for all subsidiary bodies, except for points d and h outlined in paragraph #58 in the Synthesis Report. This allows flexibility for the governing body to adapt the subsidiary bodies' mandates and scope as needed based on evolving circumstances, emerging priorities, and new challenges that may arise over time.

It is recommended to start with the most important subsidiary bodies that will advise on challenges such as the scientific and implementation and the COP can decide on additional permanent or temporary bodies as necessary. It is important to establish subsidiary bodies that support the COP such as the following:

**Scientific and technical Subsidiary Body**

The scientific and technical advisory subsidiary body plays a vital role in assisting the decision-making process of the COP. By offering information and recommendations, it empowers Parties to make well-informed decisions on various issues such as addressing plastic pollution, managing the entire life cycle of plastics, promoting a circular economy, addressing socio-economic aspects, facilitating technology transfer, and enhancing capacity building. This subsidiary body provides valuable guidance and recommendations that are rooted in the latest scientific knowledge and technological progress. Its efforts facilitate evidence-based decision-making.

**The Implementation Subsidiary Body**

The Implementation Subsidiary Body is a specialized body established under the governing body (COP) to support the review and facilitation of the implementation of the Convention. Its primary purpose is to assist the COP in ensuring effective implementation of the commitments outlined in the Convention. It assesses the actions taken by parties, identifies challenges and gaps in implementation, and provides recommendations to enhance the effectiveness of implementation measures.

3. Secretariat

The Secretariat serves as the administrative arm of the Convention. Its primary role is to offer support to the COP and its subsidiary bodies. This includes facilitating effective communication and cooperation between Parties. Their responsibilities primarily revolve around organizational tasks, logistical arrangements, and providing administrative support. By focusing on these areas, the Secretariat helps streamline processes, enhance communication, and ensure effective coordination among the parties. However, the Secretariat does not have decision-making authority and should not intervene in substantive matters or policy decisions.
1. **Reservations**
   The State Party may reserve some provisions of the Instrument, provided that the reservation does not conflict with the basic objectives of the Instrument.

2. **Settlement of disputes**
   Regarding Final provisions, we could identify the elements after agreeing on the scope.

3. **Amendments to the instrument**
   1. Amendments to this Convention may be proposed by any Party.
   2. Amendments to this Convention shall be adopted **only** at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The text of any proposed amendment shall be communicated to the Parties by the Secretariat at least
   3. The Parties shall make every effort to reach agreement on any proposed amendment to this Convention by consensus.

4. **Adoption and amendment of annexes**
   Regarding Final provisions, we could identify the elements after agreeing on the scope and all substantive provisions.

5. **Entry into force**
   Regarding Final provisions, we could identify the elements after agreeing on the scope and all substantive provisions.

6. **Withdrawal**
   1. once a Party has decided to withdraw, it should be permitted to do so, and that there is no benefit to keeping Parties in the instrument for a year waiting period if they do not wish to be bound.
   2. taking in consideration the rights and Benefits accredited to developing countries.

7. **Authentic texts**
   The original Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts of this Convention are equally authentic.