Response on written submissions prior to INC-3 (part a)

| Name of country (for Members of the committee) | GRID-Arendal |
| Name of organization (for observers to the committee) | GRID-Arendal |
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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:**

   **Explanatory Text:**

2. **Principles**

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

   **Proposed principles:**

   The implementation of the new plastics treaty needs to adhere to the principle of ‘just transition’ and work towards establishing a sustainable new plastic economy in a way that is fair, inclusive, safe, evidence-based, and that delivers gender justice.
Explanatory Text:

A ‘just transition’ means maximizing the social and economic opportunities of measures to end plastic pollution in all stages of the plastics life cycle, while minimizing and carefully managing any challenges to impacted groups, especially those most vulnerable including the informal workers.

Applying the principle of ‘just transition’ of the informal recycling sector should be done in ways that are:

Fair: The treaty should provide for legal recognition of the informal waste sector. It should also ensure transparent and equal access to resources for all genders (e.g., in design and implementation of polluter pays principle, extended producers' responsibility), give fair compensation to waste pickers and fair access to equipment, training and social/health services.

Inclusive: The treaty should foster opportunities for employment for all genders and ensure social inclusion of vulnerable groups. This means integrating, where relevant, the context and characteristics of the informal recycling sector in implementation measures of the new plastic treaty.

Safe: Workers of the informal waste sector should operate in safe physical and mental work environment with zero tolerance for violence and harassment. The treaty should foster protection measures to ensure safe working conditions, including protection from criminal environments. It should also secure economic stability of the informal recycling sector.

Evidence-based: A just transition of the informal recycling sector needs to be tracked, in a standardised manner following pre-defined and co-developed indicators, definitions and methodologies. The treaty should include provisions for Parties to conduct participatory baseline assessments to address knowledge gaps on the role of the informal recycling sector, the extent of existing networks and trade relations, socio-economic factors, and interlinkages with the formal sector.

Deliver gender justice:
Ensuring that a just transition delivers gender justice is critical to avoid replication and exacerbation of structural gender inequalities, such as the gender pay gap, occupational segregation, women’s disproportionate responsibility for unpaid care and domestic work and their limited access to social protection.

The treaty should foster implementation that addresses structural gender inequalities by: highlighting equal access, ownership and control over resources; equality in work, including rights and entitlements for informal workers; equal access to social protection; the reduction and redistribution of unpaid care and domestic work; and the generation and preservation of descent work opportunities for all genders.

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:

Moreover, there is a continued vital need to ensure inclusion of the informal recycling sector by involving representatives in the transition process, for instance, as part of multi-stakeholder committees and policy dialogues at global, national and local level. This will lead to strengthened implementation and monitoring of co-defined outcomes as part of the global treaty. To enable the same, their capacities need to be strengthened.

We envision technical guidelines that would support capacity building and training needs assessments, including curriculum and reporting tools.

Explanatory Text: