Thank you to each and every one of you for being here with us today. Before we get started, we would want to express our sincere appreciation to Kenya government, INC secretariat; and all who generously helped to make this gathering a success. We would not have done it without you.

Our speech is in line with the declaration of African group and as a member of High Ambition coalition. Plastic pollution is a global problem and it wreaks havoc on ocean, land and the environment. Massive amount of plastic wastes are visible everywhere around the globe especially in ASIA and AFRICAN countries where garbage collection is rare or non-existent and in developed world where recycling rate is low.

*Mr President*, unmanaged disposal of plastic wastes have harmful effects on animals including humans and this trend is getting worse every year. As a result, action must be taken to address this key issue before it is too late.

This problem prompted a global treaty by United Nations Environmental assembly, to adopt resolution 5/14 titled end plastic pollution: Towards an international legally binding instrument to Convene an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop a global treaty by the end of 2024. The INC has met twice already in Punta Uruguay (INC-1) and Paris France (INC-2).

*Mr President*, this third session of the committee provides us with an opportunity to advance the main elements of the future instrument and we shall be focusing on

I- the advance of the development using zero draft as the basis.

II-Identify the possible content of provisions on elements not discussed at the second session.

III- Consider and decide on any intersessional work required for the fourth and fifth sessions of the committee.

We shall continue to work together, share priorities and strategies for key
substantive elements to ensure a sound global treaty that serves the whole world to end plastic pollution by 2040.

Thank you

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