Thank you Madam Co Facilitator,

I would first thank the INC Secretariat for preparing the synthesis report on the submissions received on elements not discussed at the second session such as scope and principles of the instrument. I would like to thank Govt of Kenya for hosting this preparatory meeting.

It needs no over emphasize that plastics are useful materials and that the INC should address the pollution caused by plastic which needs to be addressed.

For the preamble of International Legally Binding Instrument, Indian delegation believes that it should be developed using the agreed elements in UNEA 5/14.

We see both scope as well principles as the fundamental elements that must be integral to the international legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution.

For scope, we believe that the scope of the instrument should be circumscribed as per UNEA 5.2 resolution 5/14.

Any potential considerations on elements defining scope should not be beyond the mandate of UNEA 5/14 resolution.

The scope of the instrument should be circumscribed by Rio Principle 12 which emphasizes that trade policy measures for environmental purposes
should not constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade.

The scope should help in ensuring that there is no overlap with mandates of relevant existing multilateral governmental environmental agreements and other relevant multilateral fora such as the World Trade Organization (WTO).

For principles, the principles of Rio Declaration on Environment and Development including Common but Differentiated Responsibility, as well as national circumstances and capabilities, and equity need to flow through international legally binding instrument.

The principle of common but differentiated responsibility and national circumstances and capabilities should be integrated in operative provisions of international legally binding instrument. Deliberations, on the elements of the draft, need to take note of these principles as it would help in shaping of the instrument recognising the differences in terms of circumstances and capacities of different countries.

There is a need to clearly define “complete life cycle of plastics” keeping in view the thrust of UNEA resolution 5/14 is to end plastic pollution.

Clear definitions will ensure effective and efficient implementation of the envisaged international legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution.
When countries would be deliberating on various issues during the coming days, we believe that we would be taking pragmatic approach to evolve consensus.

Thanks