Thank you Chair

At the outset, we would like to thank the Government of Kenya for their warm hospitality in welcoming the delegates for the third meeting of INC. We would also like to thank the INC Secretariat and UNEP for organization of this meeting.

We would like to thank the INC Chair for preparing the zero draft along with INC Secretariat for consideration of third meeting of INC.

At the outset, our delegation would like to reiterate that all the decisions on substantive issues shall be taken by consensus and that Rule 38 (1) will not be invoked till the final adoption of Rules of procedure by INC.
We may recall that INC 2 had spent a substantial time on adopting the interpretative statement, in this regard.

It is of utmost importance that the scope of negotiations on the zero draft to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, which could include both binding and voluntary approaches, must be in line with the UNEA resolution 5/14 that we all had collectively adopted.

When we all move forward together with the negotiations, we would like to reiterate that any potential consideration of elements in the zero draft should not be beyond the mandate of the UNEA resolution.

The instrument should focus on the mandate of the UNEA 5/14 resolution which is to end plastic pollution.

It needs no over emphasis that plastics are useful materials and that the INC should address the pollution caused by plastic which needs to be addressed.
Accordingly, there must be no binding targets/cap on the production of plastic polymers.

Coverage of substances, materials, products, as required, must be related to addressing plastic pollution.

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. Unilateral actions to deal with environmental challenges outside the jurisdiction of importing country should be avoided. Environmental measures addressing transboundary or global environmental problems should, as far as possible, be based on an international consensus.

The legally binding instrument should address plastic pollution, by addressing the availability, accessibility, affordability of
alternatives including cost implications and by specifying
arrangements for capacity-building and technical assistance, 
technology transfer, and financial assistance.

The Obligations under the instrument shall be directly linked
with the availability of adequate and predictable financial and 
technical resources for developing countries and this should be
made part of substantive provisions.

A country driven approach needs to be adopted for addressing
plastic pollution.

Matters related to trade should be dealt within the ambit of
World Trade Organization (WTO).

Means of implementation should include a dedicated
multilateral fund and also mechanism for technology transfer
and these must be linked with substantive provisions.
Further, we echo the views expressed by the Like Minded Group on the mandate of the Contact groups.

At INC 3, we need to work with a collective spirit in order to address the global environmental challenge of plastic pollution.

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