IPEN Closing Statement at INC2 in Paris

Dr. Tadesse Amera, IPEN Co-Chair

June. 2nd, 2023

Thank you Mr. Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

We would like to offer some reflections on the second session of the INC.

IPEN has been working on toxic impacts of plastics on health and the environment for over 2 decades. Through our work in other MEAs we have seen first-hand how important it is that civil society has an active voice at the table. This process concerns us all and it is important to continue having an open and transparent process.

This week we have heard from communities, women, workers, and indigenous peoples impacted by the toxic chemicals in plastics. It is becoming increasingly clear that plastics are a public health issue. We are therefore encouraged by the important discussions on how to address these issues more upstream of the plastics life cycle.

Although we are disappointed by the slow process, the roadblocks we are seeing are also a sign that the treaty work is paving the way for big changes (No pain, no gain).

The reason that these negotiations are so complicated is because it has become very clear that this treaty presents an incredible opportunity to protect human health and the environment from toxic chemicals in plastics.

IPEN will continue to advance our mission together with others with a high ambition to achieve a meaningful Plastics Treaty that protects human health and the environment.

We welcome the mandate for a zero draft and look forward continued negotiations at INC3

THANK YOU!!