Opening statement of the Republic of Iraq at the third conference of the International Negotiating Committee regarding the preparation of a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment.

His Excellency the President of the Republic of Kenya

Gentlemen and ladies, Your Excellencies and distinguished delegations

Mr. President of the Government Negotiating Committee
The Iraqi delegation extends its sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Republic of Kenya for its hospitality, generosity and all its efforts to support global environmental policies, and for holding this important conference.

As Iraq looks forward to active participation in the work of our conference, in a spirit of high desire to achieve tangible progress, seeking to achieve our objective goals, related to eliminating plastic pollution, and protecting human health, the environment, and biodiversity from all the real, agreed-upon risks it carries,
Our delegation also expresses its readiness to engage in all necessary technical and legal discussions in a high spirit of flexibility, to reach a consensual formula that serves all parties, and to reach an agreement that takes into account the circumstances of different countries, is based on a correct scientific basis, and takes into account all economic and social circumstances and repercussions. It leads directly to achieving the desired goal, without failures, or going too far towards commitments that may not lead us to what we want, or lead us into mazes that we would rather avoid.

 Whereas my delegation affirms the second and seventh principles of the Rio de Janeiro Principles of 1992, which relate to the sovereign right of countries to exploit their natural resources in accordance with their environmental and development policies, and the common but differentiated responsibility according to the contribution of each party, taking into account the circumstances of developing countries and their needs in accordance with Due to the capabilities and different circumstances of each of them, we consider that these two principles are indispensable as important guides that lead us towards the success we aspire to
We agree with everyone on the seriousness of plastic pollution, the necessity of preventing it, the difficulties related to managing its waste, protecting the environment from it, the need to include the necessary treatment plans for the pollution that actually occurs, taking into account downstream countries and their circumstances with regard to plastic pollution in transit with cross-border rivers, and other considerations that Related to protecting human health from exposure to the dangers of plastic particles, by protecting food, medicine and water from contamination and exposure to these types of pollutants, The necessity of applying circular economy mechanisms and producing plastic in sustainable ways that the parties take into account, avoiding adding hazardous and toxic materials to its components, using successful and sound alternatives, transferring technology, and providing the required financial and technical support to developing countries to be able to implement this.
We have to admit that plastic materials, despite all the disadvantages mentioned, are not just a limited range of products, but rather they represent an essential contributing part to the form of modern civilization and its revolution and have become part of the lifestyles of societies, and they are characterized as materials with high resistance to chemical reactions, acids and bases and can be considered as inert materials. We must also consider the different types of plastic materials and their levels of complexity, the different plastic products and products containing them, and the differences between durable and non-durable or consumer products, and we must be scientifically able to identify the specific types and products that may have contributed to the problem, and put in place sound frameworks to reduce their negative impact.
including proteins, carbohydrates, and DNA, perform important functions in living organisms. Polymers are also used in the manufacture of non-plastic materials, such as adhesives, resins, dyes, and other materials. Rubber, fibers, pharmaceutical industries, medical uses, etc.

Oil and gas have also played an important role in contributing to illuminating the path of humanity and achieving development and well-being for it. They represent a single, broad and unlimited source of organic and hydrocarbon materials of a natural, non-biotic basis, and important natural resources that countries cannot abandon their exploit in order to achieve national development. Restrictions that can be referred to are completely unacceptable and intersect with international principles, and laws.

في الختام سيدي الرئيس ، اكرر شكري وتقديري لاعطاء وفد بلدي الكلمة

Thank you for give my Delegation the floor