Proposed response template on written submissions prior to INC-3 (part a)

At its second session, the intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC) requested the secretariat to invite written submissions on:

- Elements not discussed at INC-2, such as principles and scope of the instrument

INC-2 further requested the secretariat to post any submissions received on the INC website and to prepare a synthesis report of the submissions.

The template below was prepared by the secretariat, in consultation with the Chair, and is meant as a guide to assist Members and Observers in preparing their written submissions.

A number of documents prepared by the secretariat for INC-1 and INC-2 are of relevance to this submission, including:

**UNEA resolution 5/14** on ‘End plastic pollution: towards an international legally binding instrument’

**UNEP/PP/INC.1/5** on ‘Potential elements, based on provisions in paragraphs 3 and 4 of United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/14, including key concepts, procedures and mechanisms of legally binding multilateral agreements that may be relevant to furthering implementation and compliance under the future international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment’

**UNEP/PP/INC.1/6** on ‘Glossary of key terms’

**UNEP/PP/INC.1/8** on ‘Description of standard articles on final provisions that are typically included in multilateral environmental agreements’

**UNEP/PP/INC.2/4** on ‘Potential options for elements towards an international legally binding instrument, based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastics as called for by United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/14’

**UNEP/PP/INC.2/INF/4** on ‘Additional information linked to the options for the potential elements towards an international legally binding instrument’

**UNEP/PP/INC.2/INF/7/REV.1** on ‘Information submitted by the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions’

All written submissions must be sent to unep-incplastic.secretariat@un.org. As detailed in the mandate, the submissions received will be made available on the INC webpage, a synthesis report of the submissions will also be developed in advance of INC-3.

Please note that not all fields in the template need to be answered in the submission.

**Deadline for submissions:**

I. By **15 August 2023** for written submissions from **observer** organizations.

II. By **15 September 2023** for written submissions from **Members** of the Committee.
TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSIONS (part a)

| Name of country (for Members of the committee) | India |
| Name of organization (for observers to the committee) | Institute For Sustainable Development And Research, ISDR, India |
| Contact person and contact information for the submission | Dr. (Mrs) Kalpana Chaudhari |
| Date | 12/08/2023 |

Elements not discussed at INC-2

1. **Scope**

*What is the proposed scope for the future instrument?*

*Which types of substances, materials, products and behaviors should be covered by the future instrument?*

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Proposed scope:
The Plastic Bags, Plastic wrappers for Food items, Plastic sheets used for water proofing material produces major plastic pollution in Developing and Industrialized nations. The usage of these plastic materials is due to its affordability and ease of working with low manpower cost. However, the local economic chain is depending on this type of plastic, which is cost effective. Hence it is necessary to find an alternative for such usages.

Explanatory Text:
The role of economic instruments to reduce the local plastic usage is an important factor to change the behavior of the end user. The Socio-Economic- Legal-industrial-market dimensions should be considered to propose the legal instruments to end the plastic pollution.
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2. **Principles**

*What principles could be set out in the future instrument to guide its implementation?*

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Proposed principles:
1) Users Pay Principles should be adopted to reduce the usage of local plastic materials such as high cost of fine if the plastic material is not disposed off as per the regulations. (2) Producers responsibility should be defined and producers should be insisted to collect the disposed plastic materials from the end users by proper identifications and recycle it systematically after recollecting.
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(3) Watchdogs such as NGOs, CBOs, CSOs should be empowered with the economic instruments to keep vigil on the illegal disposal of plastic materials.

Explanatory Text:
The regulatory instruments must be linked with the appropriate laws for its effectiveness. The local economic situations should be assessed for supply – chain marketing of plastic materials. To end the local plastic use, we need appropriate alternate solutions for the end users depending on the local needs.

3. Additional considerations
Provide any other relevant inputs, proposals or priorities here that have not been discussed at INC-2 (e.g. preamble; institutional arrangements, including governing body, subsidiary bodies, scientific and technical cooperation and coordination, and secretariat; final provisions including dispute settlements; and if appropriate annexes).

Proposed inputs:
Scientific and technical Cooperation with academic and research institutes is essential to find out the cost-effective disposal methods with reduces pollutions using innovations. The NGOs, CBOs, CSOs should be involved in the plastic governance so that social and economic aspects of plastic waste generation can be considered in association with the Government and Regulatory bodies.

Explanatory Text:
Some times the economic instruments used for reducing the plastic usages are not workable due to socio economic conditions of end uses. The NGOs, and CBOs can transform the plastic use patterns by innovative ways and convincing the end users. The alternatives for the local plastic usage must be cost-effective and easy to use with local conditions, markets and availability. Hence local research institutions can overcome the problems of the plastic industry owners to find and economic alternative for the plastic materials. The behavior of the end users can be transformed using innovative training and local communication methods for its effectiveness.