Kenya statement on Chemicals and polymers of concern

Kenya supports Africa Group choice for Option 1.

Kenya acknowledges that plastics are made using different chemicals and additives, and some of the chemicals are harmful to human health and the environment. During recycling, plastics are processed using high temperatures and the added chemicals contaminate the plastic polymers -increasing the risk of recycled products. Because of lack of traceability mechanisms for the chemical composition of the polymers, which remain unknown to recyclers, the public cannot be assured of the safety of most recycled products. Kenya, therefore, strongly supports option 1 with the minor amendment of adding the word “prohibit” to replace “not allow”-in order to make the option more responsive and obligatory.

We also note that the annex has not been developed for the chemicals and polymers of concern. Subsequently, we support the need for intersessional work guided by scientific knowledge and a succinctly determined criteria