In the name of God, the most gracious, the most merciful

Mr. Chair, distinguished heads of delegations, Colleagues and colleagues attending,

May the peace, blessings, and mercy of God be upon you,

Firstly, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the government of the friendly Republic of Kenya for hosting this meeting and its warm hospitality. I also thank the Secretariat for organizing and managing this meeting effectively and competently to reach realistic and implementable results, through developing a legally binding international instrument on plastic pollution, including the marine environment.

Mr. Chair ... We know that developing a legally binding international instrument on plastic pollution has become a major challenge for all countries of the world, and at the same time we must not lose sight of the importance of plastic in the global economy, which is considered an essential part on which a wide range of industries depend and is widely used. In our daily lives and in various fields, which require our recognition of the importance of plastic in serving humanity, we also stress the need for concerted efforts to preserve the environment and its safety. Therefore, it was important for the instrument to be based on a correct scientific approach to find optimal solutions to reduce pollution, and to adopt scientific practices, techniques, and expertise in managing waste effectively, considering the economic conditions of each country and not harming its economic interests and respecting the sovereignty of countries.

Mr. Chair, the State of Kuwait stresses the necessity of avoiding all gaps that prevent reaching consensus between the parties participating in the negotiations when drafting the zero-draft, which in its current text lacks the basic foundations and principles on which negotiations are built. This constituted a difficulty in laying the foundation stone to reach a common ground that would serve as the starting point for achieving the goals of the instrument to end plastic pollution.

Moving towards the circular economy as one of the solutions aimed at establishing sound and effective waste management is one of the basic pillars that we hope the instrument will support.
The State of Kuwait has taken into consideration adopting an effective approach to waste management in accordance with its vision 2040, through projects, strategies, technologies and programs that support the principle of recycling and the transition to a circular economy to achieve sustainable development goals, and participate in enhancing the awareness aspect and highlighting the importance of community participation in creating tangible behavioral change and reducing the negative effects resulting from mismanagement of plastic waste.

Lastly, the State of Kuwait appreciates all the efforts and endeavors that contributed to laying the foundation stone for adopting a legally binding international instrument to end plastic pollution, and we are fully prepared to cooperation between the States Parties and contribution to developing optimal solutions for the sound management of waste.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.