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.
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?

Proposed scope:

To be clear, Nepal supports (UNEA Resolution 5/14): Addressing the effective surveillance mechanism that takes into account origin, product specifications, branding, reuse, recycling, and disposal processes that involve throughout the entire life cycle of plastic without compromising the impact over the food chain and previous aesthetic value of the ecosystem and natural habitat. In addition, it symbolizes the need for access to clean water from Mount Everest to the ocean.

Explanatory Text:

However, the dumping of plastic waste in public areas is a sign of an uncivilized civilization, which creates repellant effects like formation of micro plastic and elimination titanium dioxide during the reverse phase. As a result, the entire lifetime is problematic and incompatible with social justice and the environment. Due to illiteracy, carelessness, and a lack of communication, plastic-based goods like non-stick cooking pans are becoming more and more popular. The use of titanium dioxide as coloring pigments is also being considered.

It is important to investigate and validate the resurgence of reasonably priced and environmentally benign nature-based polymers, particularly cellulose, as a prospective replacement for single-use plastic. Handmade paper from Nepal would be the ideal option for the environment because it is...
hydrophobic, biodegradable, and recyclable in any shape or size of their life span. Wishing for assistance in knowledge exchange and capacity building for technology optimization in line with forest-based entrepreneurship. Therefore, the issue must be dealt with quickly by organizing a recall campaign for plastic trash so as soon as possible, ensuring accountability for all stakeholders, and creating rules and regulations even for trans-boundary issues. Considering the importance of aquatic and terrestrial habitats, its impact directly triggers to the damage of the wild life and ecosystem.

2. Principles

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

Proposed principles:

Assuming the End of Plastic Pollution, ensuring that everyone has the right to live in a clean environment, encouraging people to stop using plastic bags while they shop, developing a toolkit for stock estimation, and mandating standard operating procedures (SOP) from the point of manufacture to the point of disposal are just a few of the goals.

Explanatory Text:

Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world, is one of ten natural and cultural heritage sites in Nepal that have been recognized by UNESCO. Nepal is located in the Central Himalayas and has eight high points above 8000 meters mean sea level. High mountains undoubtedly cleanse and replenish atmospheric water vapor into pure water, generating moraines, glaciers, rivulets, and rivers that eventually empty into the ocean. The further deposition of plastic waste is accelerated by the mountainous road alignment in the mountain village where the road is traversed from the river bank. Reusing single-use plastic as a kitchen, hospital wrapping and allowing hikers’ gear on the trail makes segregation laborious and puts workers at risk. It flows into a river, lake, field of crops, or goes directly to a landfill. After extensive storage, the leachate finally overflows and crosses the river. Both wild and city animals, rats, and birds have spread abandoned plastic trash. Therefore, it is necessary to modify behavior.

Encouragement of Nature-Based Solutions: Since single-use plastic is a concern in Nepal, nature-based solutions must be encouraged. The traditional method in Nepal is to make cloths and paper bags by hand, now can be mechanized for commercial production. Even though it is a plant pulp from a Nepalese paper factory with a good load carrying capacity and durability in dry conditions, it is more vulnerable to moisture. As a result, they are more fragile, biodegradable, replicable, and reusable in any thickness. Making eco-friendly products is getting more and more popular, as is the official writing paper used by the Nepal government.

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:
Addressing the need for an efficient surveillance system that takes into account the origin, health risks associated with the various stages of plastic's life cycle, and aesthetic value of the natural environment without sacrificing the influence on the food chain. Additionally, it stands for everyone, from Mount Everest to the ocean, having the right to clean drinking water, or "Water for Life."

Explanatory Text:

Formal and informal conversations should be started and carried out in favor of nature because we are all equally responsible for the situation. More vegetation and fauna are growing here since water is essential for life. Similar to how cultural legacy shouldn't be diminished, it must honor the people and places as they were in the past. As a result, an efficient management strategy must be created and put into practice to create a region free of plastic rubbish. Empowering local governments, effective community engagement, enough funding for facilities with open auditing, and public hearings beginning with the planning phase all require international cooperation.

The best guarantee for further eradication of pigment like titanium dioxide and micro plastic will be the prompt recall of the plastic garbage. Further amendment the rule focusing on whole life cycle of plastic and its derivatives and its impact on nature. Several function like safe handling, raising awareness of potential hazards, cooperation on cross-border issues, and the ethics of fair trade should all be emphasized in rules and recommendations. Contracting parties must give their prior, fully informed approval before using bits and pieces in the future endeavor.