New Zealand text proposal: Part II.6 Non-plastic substitutes, paragraph 1

Text proposal

1. Each Party shall take measures to foster innovation and incentivize and promote the development and use at scale of safe, environmentally sound, and sustainable non-plastic substitutes, including products, technologies and services, taking into account their potential for waste reduction and reuse, as well as environmental, climate, economic, social and human health impacts.

Rationale

New Zealand supports the general intent of the provision which is ensuring the safe, environmentally sound, and sustainable use of non-plastic substitutes. We consider this provision to be relevant and complementary to measures that are aimed at reducing the use of plastic. New Zealand would like to see the role of reduction and reuse acknowledged in this provision to better reflect a waste hierarchy approach to reducing plastic use. We note that all alternatives have climate impacts and would therefore like to see this recognised in the provision.