1. Primary plastic production

- Madame Co-facilitator, plastics has brought many benefits to society, and undoubtedly made life safer and more convenient for many industrial sectors and in many aspects of life – this is undeniable.
- However, we are here because the scientific community is telling us that we are unable to manage plastics from production to the end of life without adverse impacts.
- The current gap between the level of plastics going into the global value chain - and the level of plastics being managed in a safe and environmentally sound manner through the life cycle - is so big that without reducing production, we will not come close it ending plastic pollution.
- Despite this fact, investments in new capacity is still increasing, with production rates expected to double by 2040.
- The price of primary plastics does not reflect the costs put on society due to the adverse effects of plastic pollution on human health and the environment. This is a fundamental market failure that needs to be corrected in order to solve this problem.
- The supply of primary plastics, at artificially low prices, must be addressed in order to create competitive market conditions for reuse systems and products, secondary plastics and alternative materials.
- As stated in the UNEA resolution 5/14, this instrument will promote sustainable production and consumption of plastics. Therefore, Norway support option 2 to establish a global target to reduce the production of primary plastic polymers to sustainable levels.
- We also see merit in pursuing the options on a market- and price-based measures and removal of negative subsidies.