Country Statement of Pakistan in plenary –
Agenda item No 4

Thank You Mr. Chair

Pakistan would like to associate itself with the statement made by the Asia Pacific Group.

We would also like to appreciate for developing zero draft for discussion.

As we know that use of plastic is unavoidable in every sector of life starting from medical, textile, packaging, electronics, aviation, home appliances, consumer products, industrial machinery, agriculture and so on. However,
plastic pollution has become a global crisis due to mismanagement by the Governments, producers and other relevant stakeholders. It has broader implications for developing countries due to increased consumption and lack of capacity to manage plastics waste.

**Mr. Chair**

We would like to share that Pakistan has taken different measures to curb the menace of plastic pollution. Recently, our government approved Single-Use Plastics (Prohibition) Regulations in June 2023. Pakistan is executing National Plastics Action Partnership (NPAP) as part
Global Plastic Action Partnership (GPAP) under the World Economic Forum’s platform. NPAP brings together actors from government, private sector, civil society, and the plastic waste management ecosystem to leverage in-country data on the plastics challenge today and plan for evidence-based interventions that combat plastic pollution. Pakistan is also implementing a Plastic Free Rivers and Seas for South Asia Project with the cooperation of South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme and with support of the World Bank. The objective of PLEASE project is
to strengthen innovation and coordination of circular economy solutions to plastic pollution flowing into South Asian Seas.

Mr. Chair

Pakistan would like to support and discuss Part 1 of zero draft regarding preamble, objective, definitions and scope which is already part of Basel and Rotterdam Conventions. However, we are unable to see any reference of Principles in BRS Conventions and Minamta Convention.
In Part II, we need more clarification regarding primary plastic polymers. However, we support inclusion of problematic and avoidable plastic products, including short-lived and single-use plastic products and intentionally added microplastics. We are also in favour of reduce, reuse, refill and repair of plastics and plastic products as well as use of recycled plastic contents, alternative plastics and plastic products, non-plastic substitutes. We support Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) systems for collection, segregation and recycling/disposal of
plastics in an environmentally sound manner by the producers, brand owners and importers. We do not support the provision of trade in listed chemicals, polymers and products. However, we support inclusion of transboundary movement of plastic waste, existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment and just transition.

We fully support Part III regarding the means of implementation in the form of financing, capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer.
We support Part VI for national plans, implementation and compliance mechanism, effectiveness evaluation, international cooperation, awareness-raising, education and research. However, we need more clarification regarding stakeholder engagement.

Mr. Chair

We also believe that timeline for concluding the INC negotiations for a legally binding instrument is imperative. Therefore, we would urge all Member States that in the spirit of cooperation
and compromise, let us make progress on zero
draft during the INC-3 so that we move forward
in a meaningful manner.

In the end, I would say that Pakistan is fully
committed to supporting global efforts to reduce
plastic pollution exponentially.

Thank you, Mr. Chair