Statement by the Pacific Small Island Developing States on Financing
(Part III, Item 1 of the Zero Draft Text)

Plastics INC3 - Nairobi, Kenya

Delivered by Solomon Islands on behalf of PSIDS.

Solomon Islands has the honour to speak on behalf of the 14 Pacific Small Island Developing States and aligns with the statement made by Samoa on behalf of AOSIS.

Implementing measures to end plastic pollution requires firm support for SIDS. Financing is a key means of implementation to meet the commitments and obligations of this instrument and to ensure just transition for affected populations with special consideration for women and vulnerable groups, including children and youth, in the implementation plan of this instrument.

The Pacific region faces substantial life-threatening impacts due to the indiscriminate and transboundary flow of plastics that are not created in our island countries. Our marine and terrestrial ecosystems face degradation culminating in the destruction of nearly 700 species in the marine environment, causing irreparable harm to these ecosystems that are critical to the survival of our natural environment and biodiversity.

Our Leaders commitment to ending plastic pollution is one of the key priorities embodied in the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent and aligns with the spirit of this instrument. Similarly, the Cleaner Pacific 2025 is our long term strategy for an integrated waste management and pollution prevention and control. These regional frameworks are our platforms to launch the implementation of this instrument to end plastic pollution with the necessary means of implementation such as financing.

We continue to face challenges of accessing multilateral funding to support national activities to meet obligations under multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs). As such, the implementation of this instrument relies on a financial mechanism that provides financial assistance that is sustainable, adequate, easily accessible, new, stable, predictable and timely.

As PSIDS, we generally support the text under the heading of “Financing” in Part III of the Zero Draft Text, particularly the text on circumstances of Small Island Developing States (SIDS). We do think that paragraph 3 should refer back to paragraph 1 in addition to paragraph 2. We continue to consider what the sources of funding for the Financial Mechanism should
be, including whether developed country Parties should be obligated to provide funding, major plastic-producing country Parties should take the lead, or whether there should be contributions by all Parties based on a scale of assessments, among other options. We do support the text in common paragraph 9 that imposes a plastic pollution fee on plastic polymer producers. On funding mechanisms, early access to funding and dedicated access to the mechanism by SIDS are of paramount importance. We are open to discussion on how to best accomplish this.

Such activities that would require immediate support at the entry into force of this instrument are institutional strengthening, just transition, policy and legislative development or review, capacity building, awareness-raising, training and education, technology transfer and technology transfer measures, monitoring and reporting.

On behalf of the 14 Pacific Island Small Developing States, we urge Member States to adopt a financial mechanism dedicated to end Plastic Pollution and must be sustainable, adequate, accessible, new, stable, predictable and timely.

I thank you.