On behalf of the State of Qatar, we would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to the Secretariat and all parties concerned for their continuous and constructive efforts to achieve tangible progress toward achieving the objectives of this important instrument.

We would like to highlight several key points starting from

**preamble:**

We emphasize the importance of the preamble being comprehensive and reflecting the multiple challenges associated with plastic pollution, while maintaining its non-binding character and flexibility to guide the objectives of the instrument.

It is essential that the preamble provide a broad framework that reflects in a balanced and equitable way the vital role of plastic in our societies, and recognizes the important role that plastic plays in society, noting that the main challenge comes from the mismanagement of plastic and not from its use itself.

The preamble should include references to the support that States can provide to strengthen national legal and economic systems, with a view to improving plastic waste management and reducing marine pollution from land and marine sources. The preamble should also highlight support for national initiatives aimed at incorporating legal provisions on plastic waste into national legislation.

The development of cooperation and coordination between regional and international bodies in the field of reducing plastic waste pollution is essential and should be highlighted in the preamble.

Emphasize that the preamble should be broad enough to provide general guidance, but without going into specific details of the obligations of the instrument, so that it remains consistent with the object and scope of the instrument; it provides the clarity and guidance necessary for Parties to achieve their objectives of effectively combating plastic pollution while recognizing the importance of plastics in the global economy and the challenges associated with managing them in a sustainable manner.

**Definitions**

We agree with the need for comprehensive definitions covering various aspects of plastic pollution and waste management. These definitions should include not only plastic and its derivatives, and should reflect the complex nature of plastic pollution, focusing on the mismanagement of plastic waste as a major source of the problem. It is important that these definitions reflect the actual challenges that countries face in managing plastic waste and direct efforts toward effective and sustainable solutions.
**Scope**
In the context of the ongoing discussions on the instrument, the debate on the proposed scope of the instrument stands out as a vital and central topic. Articles 33 and 34 indicate the need for a comprehensive approach that covers the entire life cycle of plastics, reflecting the great diversity and complexity of the issue, and the proposed scope covering upstream, midstream and downstream phases includes multiple aspects ranging from raw material extraction to plastic waste management.
As a party to these discussions, we believe that the elements in the instrument, especially the scope, need to be carefully discussed and adjusted and that the advantages of plastic and its importance for economic growth and innovation should be taken into account, along with a focus on inefficient plastic waste management. We emphasize that these discussions should be driven by documented scientific and technical data and analysis to ensure that a realistic and implementable instrument is designed.
We reaffirm the importance of ensuring the fair and equal participation of all parties in the negotiation process, to ensure that the final instrument reflects the interests and needs of all Member States, as such a comprehensive and balanced approach is essential to the success and effectiveness of the global fight against plastic pollution.

**Specifically, the scope relates to the resource uses to which the instrument applies**

While the debate on article 43 of the International Instrument on Plastic pollution has taken place, the challenge is to define the scope of application of the instrument in such a way as to ensure its effectiveness without leading to unnecessary procedural complications. Article 43 is to exclude certain substances and products from the scope of the instrument, including raw materials such as hydrocarbons and their derivatives, intermediate products such as polymers requiring further processing, as well as dual-use items. These exceptions are based on the idea that the application of the instrument should focus on plastic products in their final stages, where the probability of environmental pollution is higher and more obvious. The aim is to focus efforts on combating pollution from consumer plastics, rather than expanding regulation of the initial stages of production that may have less impact on the environment. Maintaining the exceptions mentioned in article 43 is important and represents a balanced approach that allows efforts to focus on the most important and influential aspects of combating plastic pollution, while avoiding unnecessary complications that may hinder the effective implementation of the instrument.
Principles:

We would like to express our appreciation for the efforts made in the formation of an international instrument dealing with the issue of plastic pollution, recognizing that the principles that have been developed form a solid basis for this vital work. We agree on the importance of the principles being fundamental in guiding parties toward the achievement of the objectives of the instrument, and we believe that the inclusion of the Rio Principles is necessary, but they must be elaborated in order to be practical and effective.

We stress the need to emphasize the commitment of all parties to combat plastic pollution within the framework of the instrument, recognizing its transboundary nature and the need for international cooperation. It is important that commitments be based on the principle of equity, differentiating between developed and developing countries, recognizing common but differentiated responsibilities.

We stress the importance of designing the instrument in such a way as to motivate countries to take appropriate and effective measures, taking into account the specific circumstances of each country, and the need to provide support and resources to developing countries to help them fulfill their obligations.

We call for respect for the national sovereignty of each State and its right to exploit its natural resources, taking into account the principles set out in the Rio Principles and taking into account the diverse national contexts.

We stress the importance of a bottom-up approach in the development and implementation of policies to combat plastic pollution, with risks and benefits to be comprehensively assessed before making decisions, and ensuring that such policies do not hinder economic development and growth.

We also emphasize the importance of the precautionary principle, which should be guided by a comprehensive assessment of the available scientific evidence, focusing on the balance of potential risks versus potential benefits.

Finally, we believe that the instrument should encourage regional and international cooperation and partnership, highlight the importance of sustainable development and its balance with environmental protection, while emphasizing support for the development of national legal and economic systems to improve plastic waste management and reduce pollution.

The State of Qatar reaffirms its commitment to collective action and international cooperation to address the challenges of plastic pollution. We believe that through joint efforts and the sharing of experience and knowledge, we can develop effective and sustainable strategies that balance the preservation of our environment and the promotion of economic growth.

We look forward to continuing these constructive discussions and working together toward an instrument that reflects the aspirations and needs of all parties and guides us toward a more sustainable and clean future.

Thank you again.