

Mr. Chair.

On behalf of the Saudi delegation, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to you, the co-facilitators, the Secretariat, and the delegates for their efforts. Much work has been done, and tangible results have been achieved in INC-3. Still, we have significant work ahead of us, and we must keep up the momentum and push forward. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia continues to be committed to realizing the ambition set out in UNEA Resolution 5/14.

Mr. Chair

We must adopt a rigorous approach to successfully design an effective instrument that meets our collective ambition to end plastic pollution. Our approach should be based on scientific evidence, sound socio-economic analysis, and inclusive stakeholder engagement. This will ensure wide support for its adoption and accelerate its implementation.

We must not fail to consider that we aim to address plastic pollution, and not limiting plastic production. This means we need to focus on sound waste management system. We agree that a full lifecycle approach is needed to identify the most effective strategies to address plastic pollution. At the same time, a simple approach that does not fully reflect the reality of the plastic industry will not only fail to achieve the desired outcome of the treaty but could cause significant harm to our economies and societies. A more nuanced approach is urgently needed, considering, for instance, the role of technology and innovation, variations among sectors, plastic lifespan, and recyclability.

It is unhelpful that a number of committee members are calling for strict measures and restrictions on the production of plastics without properly considering their uses in development and economic applications in developing and developed countries.

But we need to build on our commonalities in our work and direct our full attention to INC-4. This includes some areas such as just transition, financing to developing countries for capacity building, technology transfer, circular approach, and waste management. Through our diligent intersessional work, we can make good progress on these topics to advance the development of the instrument.

Mr. Chair

Allow me to reiterate our position on the rules of work procedures and that decisions should be based on the collective work of all members of the committee to reach consensus, which is the only way forward. We also firmly believe that the zero draft should be in a consolidated form without modification and that Not legally binding.

In conclusion,

I sincerely thank the government of Kenya for hosting INC-3 and the delegates and the Secretariat for the progress we have achieved in Nairobi. We look forward to building on our achievements in the coming months and INC-4.

I would also like to congratulate Ambassador Luis Vayas Valdivieso on chairing the upcoming sessions, wishing him all the best. See you in Ottawa.