Thank you Chair.

The Scientists’ Coalition for an Effective Plastics Treaty and the Endocrine Society stand ready to help find solutions to prevent and eliminate plastics pollution globally and mitigate the harmful impacts on human health and the environment throughout plastics’ full life span.

From a scientific perspective, the most effective and comprehensive global plastics treaty will be guided by PRECAUTION, SIMPLIFICATION, and TRANSPARENCY while ensuring a JUST TRANSITION at every phase. Importantly, the treaty must be BASED ON THE BEST AVAILABLE SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE in partnership with the Indigenous People’s Caucus, The International Alliance of Waste Pickers and other important knowledge and rights holders.

Treaty implementation must effectively respond to the growing scientific consensus on the significant, intra, inter, and transgenerational impacts of plastic pollution on human and environmental health.

The treaty will need mandatory global and national time-bound AGGREGATE PLASTICS PRODUCTION REDUCTION TARGETS.

Targets should also significantly reduce the number of chemicals and polymers associated with plastics production. Chemicals and polymers should be permitted based on hazard-based assessments and work on criteria on chemicals and polymers of concern and on reduction targets should start during the intersessional period. This work will only be achieved effectively if contributions from expert working groups are enabled by robust CONFLICT OF INTEREST and participatory policies.

An effective and comprehensive treaty will focus at the top of the waste hierarchy and prioritise prevention, reduction, redesign of materials, chemicals, products, systems and services and technologies, reuse, refill, and the right to repair, and secondarily mechanical recycling with dedicated financing to enable this critical system change.

The Scientists’ Coalition has independent scientific expertise and a strict conflict-of-interest policy. We look forward to working with members toward the development of science-based definitions in other working groups, and preventative and mitigative responses to plastic pollution globally, based on the best available independent science, and meeting all regional needs.

We thank you.