Proposed response template on written submissions prior to INC-3 (part b)

Potential Areas Identified by the Contact Groups

At its second session, the intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC) requested the secretariat to invite written submissions on:

- Any potential areas for intersessional work compiled by the co-facilitators of the two contact groups1, to inform the work of INC-3.

The template below was prepared by the secretariat, in consultation with the Chair, and is meant as a guide to assist Members and Observers in preparing their written submissions.

All written submissions must be sent to unep-incplastic.secretariat@un.org. The submissions received will be made available on the INC webpage.

Please note that not all fields in the template need to be answered in the submission.

Deadline for submissions:

I. By 15 August 2023 for written submissions from observer organizations.
II. By 15 September 2023 for written submissions from Members of the Committee.

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1 Contact Group 1 focused on Section A: Objective(s). Section B: Substantive Obligations; Contact Group 2 focused on Sections C: Means of Implementation. D: Implementation measures. E: Additional matters as contained in part II of the Annex to document UNEP/PP/INC.2/4.
**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSIONS**

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<tr>
<th>Name of country</th>
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<td>(for Members of the committee)</td>
<td>Sanid Organization for Relief and Development (SORD)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name of organization (for observers to the committee)</td>
<td>Sanid Organization for Relief and Development (SORD)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact person and contact information for the submission</td>
<td>Mohammed Al-Kabous</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:ceo@sandi.org">ceo@sandi.org</a></td>
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**Input on the potential areas of intersessional work to inform the work of INC-3 (following the lists compiled by the co-facilitators of the two contact groups)**

**Potential areas for intersessional work**

The list of potential areas for possible intersessional work compiled by the co-facilitators of the two contact groups at INC-2 is set out below. Members and observers may wish to provide input on one or more of these areas.

**Contact group 1:**

1. Information on definitions of, e.g. plastics, microplastics, circularity
2. Information on criteria, also considering different applications and sectoral requirements, including:
   a. Chemical substances of concern in plastics,
   b. Problematic and avoidable plastic polymers and products and related applications
   c. Design e.g. for circularity, reuse
   d. Substitutes and alternatives to plastic polymers and products
3. Potential substances of concern in plastics, problematic and avoidable plastic polymers and products
4. Potential sources of release of microplastics (applications and sectors).

(Please note: A longer list is included in the co-facilitators report on discussions in contact group 1. Submissions may also include input on any of the items in that longer list, such as, amongst others, the development of criteria to prioritise problematic and avoidable plastics; the development of targets for the reduction, reuse and repair of problematic and avoidable plastic products; or the guidelines on EPR)

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2 The report can be accessed here: [https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/42621/CG1.pdf](https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/42621/CG1.pdf)
Contact Group 2:

1. To consider the potential role, responsibilities and composition of a science and technical body [to support negotiation and/or implementation of the agreement]
2. To consider potential scope of and guidance for National Action Plans [including optional and/or suggested elements]
3. To identify current provisions within existing MEAs [and other instruments] on cooperation and coordination that could be considered
4. To consider how other MEAs provide for monitoring, and suggest best practice
5. To consider options to define ‘technology transfer on mutually agreed terms
6. To further consider how a potential financing mechanism could work [including a new standalone mechanism, a hybrid mechanism, or an existing mechanism]
7. To identify options to mobilise and align private and innovative finance (including in relation to matters at 24(e) and the proposed Global Plastic Pollution Fee (GPPF))
8. To map current funding and finance available [to address plastic pollution] and determine the need for financial support for each Member
9. To identify capacity building and training needs for each Member.

Inputs relating to potential areas for intersessional work. Please identify clearly which area your input relates to.

Contact group 1:

- Information on definitions: The definitions of plastics, microplastics, and circularity are essential for the effective implementation of any future instrument on plastic pollution. The intersessional work should focus on developing clear and comprehensive definitions that take into account the different types of plastics and their impacts on the environment.
  - Recommendation: The intersessional work should consider the following factors when developing definitions of plastics, microplastics, and circularity:
    - The environmental and health impacts of plastics.
    - The availability of alternatives to plastics.
    - The need for consistency with existing international agreements.
    - The need to be clear and comprehensive.

- Information on criteria: The intersessional work should also develop criteria for identifying problematic and avoidable plastics. These criteria should be based on the environmental and health impacts of plastics, as well as the availability of alternatives.
  - Recommendation: The intersessional work should consider the following factors when developing criteria for identifying problematic and avoidable plastics:
    - The toxicity of plastics.
- The persistence of plastics in the environment.
- The potential for plastics to harm marine life.
- The availability of alternatives to plastics.

- Potential sources of release of microplastics: The intersessional work should identify the potential sources of release of microplastics. This will help to target interventions to reduce the release of microplastics into the environment.
  - Recommendation: The intersessional work should consider the following sources of release of microplastics:
    - The use of plastics in consumer products.
    - The use of plastics in industrial processes.
    - The release of microplastics from clothing and textiles.
    - The release of microplastics from tires.

Contact Group 2:

- The role of a science and technical body: The intersessional work should consider the role of a science and technical body to support the negotiation and implementation of the future instrument. The body should be responsible for providing scientific and technical advice on the environmental and health impacts of plastics, as well as on the effectiveness of different measures to address plastic pollution.
  - Recommendation: The intersessional work should consider the following functions for a science and technical body:
    - Providing scientific and technical advice to the parties to the future instrument.
    - Developing guidelines and standards on plastic pollution.
    - Monitoring the implementation of the future instrument.

- National Action Plans: The intersessional work should consider the potential scope of and guidance for National Action Plans. The plans should be tailored to the specific needs of each country, but they should all include measures to reduce the production and use of plastics, as well as to improve the management of plastic waste.
  - Recommendation: The intersessional work should consider the following elements for National Action Plans:
    - Targets for reducing the production and use of plastics.
    - Measures to improve the management of plastic waste.
    - Capacity building and training needs.

- Monitoring and reporting: The intersessional work should consider how to monitor and report on the implementation of the future instrument. This will help to track progress and identify areas where further action is needed.
  - Recommendation: The intersessional work should consider the following elements for monitoring and reporting:
• Data collection and reporting requirements.
• Independent verification of data.
• Mechanisms for reviewing progress.

• Financing: The intersessional work should consider how to finance the implementation of the future instrument. This could include a combination of public and private financing.
  o Recommendation: The intersessional work should consider the following sources of financing for the future instrument:
    ▪ Contributions from parties to the instrument.
    ▪ Funding from international organizations.
    ▪ Private sector investment.

• Capacity building: The intersessional work should consider the capacity building needs of countries to implement the future instrument. This could include training, technical assistance, and financial support.
  o Recommendation: The intersessional work should consider the following elements for capacity building:
    ▪ Training programs for government officials and stakeholders.
    ▪ Technical assistance for developing and implementing National Action Plans.
    ▪ Financial support for capacity building activities.