Note No. SLHC K/177 /2023

The Permanent Representative of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi (UNEP) presents its compliments to the United Nations Environment Programme and, has the honor to attach the Proposed Written Submission to INC-3 from the Ministry of Environment in Sri Lanka to the UNEP Headquarters in Nairobi.

The Permanent Representative of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) the assurances of its highest consideration Nairobi.

Nairobi, August 23rd, 2023.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Nairobi.

Also Accredited to

Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of the Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Tanzania, Togo and Uganda.
Elements not discussed at INC-2

1. Scope

What is the proposed scope for the future instrument?

Which types of substances, materials, products and behaviors should be covered by the future instrument?

Proposed scope:

"The committee may wish to consider one, or a combination, of the following scope-related aspects for inclusion in the instrument:

(a) The legally binding instrument is expected to cover the whole life cycle of plastics, from extraction to their production and design to their use, consumption and disposal, and address all sources of plastic pollution, covering materials, products, chemicals, additives and microplastics, recognizing the risk of plastic pollution to human health.

(b) The legally binding instrument is to cover plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, with plastic pollution understood to include microplastics, without being duplicative of other multilateral efforts.

(c) The instrument is a legally binding instrument that allows evolution and strengthening overtime."

Sri Lanka would like to propose to have a combination of the above aspects including following:

- to recognize not only the risk of plastic pollution to human health but also to the environment that have to ensure the existence of healthy environment considering the correlation of the Human health and the environment
- Research and development/ technology transfer
- Importance of considering the Behavioral Change of the general public
2. Principles

What principles could be set out in the future instrument to guide its implementation?

Proposed principles:
Sri Lanka agree with the principles proposed in the document and would like to highlight the importance of having

Product Stewardship with Extended producer Responsibility which ensures the responsibility for minimizing the product’s environmental impact throughout all stages of the product’s life cycle, including end of life management.

Precautionary Principle & Proximity Principle

Also noted the importance of having transparency of reporting

3. Additional considerations

Provide any other relevant inputs, proposals or priorities here that have not been discussed at INC-2 (e.g. preamble; institutional arrangements, including governing body, subsidiary bodies, scientific and technical cooperation and coordination, and secretariat; final provisions including dispute settlements; and if appropriate annexes).

Proposed inputs:
While agreeing the elements mentioned in UNEP/PP/INC.2/4 under I. Introductory elements A. Preamble, it is proposed to recognize the impotence of reduction of plastic production and usage.

I. Institutional arrangements
Subsidiary bodies, we emphasize the significance of establishing a dedicated entity to facilitate legal cooperation and coordination. This body would play a pivotal role in aiding countries with the effective implementation of the instrument.

IV. Funding mechanism
A dedicated fund and international funding mechanisms are imperative to provide essential assistance to countries in need, specially countries in economic crisis. of support for fulfilling the fundamental obligations outlined in the instrument. We propose the establishment of this fund through contributions from plastic manufacturers, thereby addressing the financial requirements for implementation effectively.