Statement Switzerland Agenda item 4:

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

I thank the Government of France for welcoming us in Paris and thanks to the secretariat for its introduction to document 2/4. This delegation further supports the statement delivered by Mauritius on behalf of the High Ambition Coalition.

And I welcome the opportunity to provide some general comments on the document and the way ahead.

For this delegation it is important to establish a treaty that provides us with the instruments to achieve the objective to end plastic pollution by 2040. This requires measures along the whole life cycle. The legal framework needs to enable us, among others, to restrain and reduce the production and consumption of primary plastics and to control the use of problematic chemicals, polymers and plastic products to achieve a safe circularity.

At INC1, we had the opportunity to discuss general issues associated with the proposed instrument, and to hear each other’s views. And subsequently, we have benefitted from a submission process that enabled us to be more specific about our priorities for the instrument.

Our challenge now is distil from that range the key items and measures that we will need to reflect in the instrument. To do so will require us to be focussed in our work.

It is important that we recognise the need to distinguish between obligations, outcomes and actions that might be taken. Further, the need to identify the obligations that must be taken collectively; those that might be Party specific; and those that might be voluntary.

Finally, we look forward to working with others in the contact groups that have foreshadowed in the Chair’s scenario note. We will make more detailed and specific comments at that time on the different options.

We aim as outcome for this work a mandate for the chair to prepare a draft treaty text for consideration at INC 3 and to launch intersessional work to make best use of our limited time and to progress, in particular, on technical matters.

Thank you.