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

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

- Elements not discussed at INC-2, such as principles and scope of the instrument

INC-2 further requested the secretariat to post any submissions received on the INC website and to prepare a synthesis report of the submissions.

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.

A number of documents prepared by the secretariat for INC-1 and INC-2 are of relevance to this submission, including:

**UNEA resolution 5/14** on ‘End plastic pollution: towards an international legally binding instrument’

**UNEP/PP/INC.1/5** on ‘Potential elements, based on provisions in paragraphs 3 and 4 of United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/14, including key concepts, procedures and mechanisms of legally binding multilateral agreements that may be relevant to furthering implementation and compliance under the future international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment’

**UNEP/PP/INC.1/6** on ‘Glossary of key terms’

**UNEP/PP/INC.1/8** on ‘Description of standard articles on final provisions that are typically included in multilateral environmental agreements’

**UNEP/PP/INC.2/4** on ‘Potential options for elements towards an international legally binding instrument, based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastics as called for by United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/14’

**UNEP/PP/INC.2/INF/4** on ‘Additional information linked to the options for the potential elements towards an international legally binding instrument’

**UNEP/PP/INC.2/INF/7/REV.1** on ‘Information submitted by the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions’

All written submissions must be sent to unep-incplastic_secretariat@un.org. As detailed in the mandate, the submissions received will be made available on the INC webpage, a synthesis report of the submissions will also be developed in advance of INC-3.

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.
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 use of plastic materials is growing widely and rapidly. Plastic has entered the products of most of the consumed materials. Therefore, we find that its waste is increasing steadily. To get rid of plastic materials, we have to pay attention to its full life cycle in the long term and in a gradual manner in a way that is compatible with economic and social activity and in a way that guarantees a decent life for its users and producers, especially in Developing countries.

Explanatory Text:

- We have to know the full life cycle of plastic, starting from production to manufacturing, consumption, then recycling, waste, and the environmental impact of each stage.
- Divide the uses of plastic into different sectors (agricultural - industrial - health ---- etc.)
  Treat each sector separately
  Try to secure alternatives for each sector
- Starting to reduce the most dangerous and polluting plastic materials
- Increasing public awareness of the dangers of plastic to the environment (on land, sea and air)
2. Principles

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

**Proposed principles:**
- Develop specific policies that determine the negative environmental impacts of each type of plastic material
- Taking into account the national plans in the set policies
- Banning non-recycled plastics and banning plastic burning
- Develop financial policies to stimulate recycling
- Develop clear mechanisms for tracking the phase-out of plastic materials
- The application of the principle of transparency and the polluter pays in the case of the matter
- Achieving the principle of circular economy
- Involving scientific expertise and developing scientific research in relation to production and recycling.
- No increasing the economic burdens on developing countries

**Explanatory Text:**

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:** *The items of the agreement must be agreed upon by all member states, and there should be no discrimination between countries for its application, and the economic conditions of the member states must be taken into account.*

**Explanatory Text:** *The agreement must include internationally agreed upon definitions and instructions*
- The agreement should include work, implementation and monitoring plans and should be clear, detailed and easily dealt with by all countries
- The agreement must include a clause for building the capabilities of those working in the field of implementing this agreement
- The agreement must include specification of the financing elements (who will pay... to whom will the payment be made... and when...)
- Institutional strengthening and development of appropriate legislation
- The standards proposed in the agreement should take into account previous agreements and not violate them
- Paying attention to the national plans of each country, taking into account its economic conditions
- Determine the legal framework for resolving disputes