Türkiye’s intervention on preamble, scope, principles, definitions

11th Nov.2023

Thank you, co-facilitator,

First of all, I would like to kindly remind that the official use of my country's name is Türkiye, not Turkey.

Since this is our first time on the floor, I would like to express my gratitude on behalf of the Turkish Delegation for the synthesis report prepared within the intersessional period.

Turkish Delegation notes that the first part of the synthesis report regarding the preamble of the ILBI may recall relevant existing resolutions, declarations, and documents, reaffirming the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. On the other hand, the UN 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals should also be referenced in the text.

Since the SDGs include targets directly or indirectly related to ecosystems and habitats, especially affected by plastic pollution. For instance, SDG 14: Life Below Water, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 13: Climate Action, and SDG 12: Sustainable Cities and Communities can be referenced.

We note that any control measures and time frames should not be included in the preamble. The preamble should set the principles and the rationale of the ILBI. We strongly support the acknowledgment of different national circumstances and capabilities reflected in the preamble, as well as the different levels of development of the plastic industry and contribution to plastic pollution by the parties.

On the other hand, a separate heading dedicated to principles may be redundant if a well-constructed preambular part is provided recognizing the commonly acknowledged principles of international environmental law.

With regards to definitions, The Turkish delegation strongly believes in the necessity of intersessional work. In this context, it is important that the focal points of the countries as well as representatives of relevant institutions and organizations and academicians participate in the working groups to be established.

In addition, it is considered useful to take into account the definition section in the UNEP/PP/INC.2/4 document prepared with the contributions of the Parties and other participants.

Thank you.