UK Proposal for preamble text

This proposal from the UK sets out preamble text inspired by the UNEA Res 5.14

“The parties to this Convention,

Recalling United Nations Environment Assembly Resolution 5/14, which decided that the intergovernmental negotiating committee is to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastic,

Noting with concern that the high and rapidly increasing levels of plastic pollution represent a serious environmental problem at a global scale, negatively impacting the environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainable development, and have potential adverse physical, chemical and biological impacts on the environment and human health;

Noting with concern the specific impact of plastic pollution on the marine environment,

Noting that plastic pollution, in marine and other environments, can be of a transboundary nature and needs to be tackled, together with its impacts, through a full-life-cycle approach,

Noting the particular vulnerabilities of Small Island Developing States (SIDS),

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, by which the General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Reaffirming also the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, adopted in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992,

Recalling United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions 1/6, 2/11, 3/7, 4/6, 4/7 and 4/91 and affirming the urgent need to strengthen global coordination, cooperation and governance to take immediate action towards the long-term elimination of plastic pollution in marine and other environments, and to avoid detriment from plastic pollution to ecosystems and the human activities dependent on them,

Recognizing the wide range of approaches, sustainable alternatives and technologies available to address the full life cycle of plastics, further highlighting the need for enhanced international collaboration to facilitate access to technology, capacity-building, and scientific and technical cooperation, and stressing that there is no single approach,

Underlining the importance of promoting sustainable design of products and materials so that they can be reused, remanufactured or recycled and therefore retained in the economy for as long as possible, along with the resources they are made of, and of minimizing the generation of waste, which can significantly contribute to sustainable production and consumption of plastics,

Stressing the importance of financial, technical, technological, and capacity-building support, from all sources particularly for countries with limited capacity to implement their obligations under the instrument, in order to strengthen national capabilities for the effective implementation of the instrument,

Recognizing that each country is best positioned to understand its own national circumstances, including its stakeholder activities, related to addressing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment,

Recognizing also the significant contribution made by workers in informal and cooperative settings to the collecting, sorting and recycling of plastics in many countries,

Noting that nothing in this instrument prevents a Party from taking additional domestic measures consistent with the provisions of this instrument in an effort to protect human health and the environment.”