UK Proposal for changes to articles 8 and 9b

PART II, Articles 8 and 9b

8. Emissions and releases of plastic throughout its life cycle

1. Each Party shall prevent and eliminate the emissions and releases of plastic polymers, plastics, including microplastics, and plastic products across their life cycle, to the environment from the sources identified in annex E by the dates identified therein. The emissions and releases covered under this provision should include:
   a. Emissions of hazardous substances, including microplastics, to air;
   b. Releases to soil and water from the production, transportation and use of chemicals and polymers of concern, plastics and plastic products; and
   c. Releases of chemicals and polymers of concern, plastics and plastic products, including microplastics, to air, soil, and water, and ecosystems.

2. Each Party shall prevent and eliminate emissions and releases of plastic pellets, flakes and powder from the full supply chain, including production, storage, handling and transport, taking into account, as appropriate, the relevant provisions and guidance agreed in the framework of international organizations such as the International Maritime Organization.

3. Each Party shall cooperate and take effective measures across the whole lifecycle of fishing and aquaculture gear to prevent, reduce and eliminate, abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing and aquaculture gear and promote circularity, taking into account internationally agreed rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures. In particular, parties shall take measures to:
   a. enhance the design of fishing and aquaculture gear, with a view to increasing durability, reusability, repairability and refurbishability and their capacity to be repurposed, recycled, and disposed of in a safe and environmentally sound manner at end-of-life, and minimising releases and emissions of or from fishing and aquaculture gears, including microplastics, to the environment;
   b. implement effective marking of gears and require reporting of lost gears, taking into account other relevant regional and international regulations, including MARPOL Annex V;
   c. facilitate the collection and environmentally sound waste management of gear, including the reuse, repair and recycling of gear, and
   d. promote and facilitate training, education and awareness raising.

4. The measures taken to implement the provisions of this Article shall be reflected in the national plan communicated pursuant to [part IV.1 on national plans].

5. The governing body*, at its first session, shall adopt guidelines, including where relevant, sectoral guidelines, to facilitate implementation of the obligations set out in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 including emission and effluent standards, sector-specific best available techniques and best environmental practices on preventing emissions and releases, and best available techniques and best environmental practices to capture and remove plastic pollution, including microplastics from freshwater bodies, the marine environment and ecosystems.

5. Parties are encouraged to promote scientific and technical innovation to prevent and capture the releases of plastics and plastic products, including microplastics, into the marine environment.
9. Waste management\(^1\)

b. Fishing gear\(^2\)

1. Each Party shall cooperate and take effective measures, including appropriate marking, tracing and reporting requirements, to prevent, reduce and eliminate, abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear\(^3\) containing plastic, taking into account internationally agreed rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures.\(^4\) The measures taken to implement this provision shall be reflected in the national plan communicated pursuant to [part IV.I on national plans].

2. Parties shall promote synergy and complementarity with relevant initiatives and organizations in their respective actions towards safe disposal of fishing gear.

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\(^1\) Note: For the purposes of this text, the terms “waste”, “waste management” and “environmentally sound management” of plastic waste are used with the same meanings as under the Basel Convention, without prejudice to how Members may ultimately choose to define these terms as needed in the instrument.

\(^2\) Note: Members may wish to include measures on other specific sectors as deemed necessary.

\(^3\) Note: For the purposes of this text, the terms “fishing gear” and “abandoned”, “lost” and “discarded” fishing gear are used with the same meaning as under Article 16 of the 2019 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Voluntary Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear (accessible at [https://www.fao.org/3/ca3546t/ca3546t.pdf](https://www.fao.org/3/ca3546t/ca3546t.pdf)), without prejudice to how Members may ultimately define these terms as needed in the instrument.

\(^4\) Note: This might include rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures developed under the FAO (see the submission by FAO to the committee’s second session, accessible at [https://resolutions.unep.org/resolutions/uploads/230106_food_and_agriculture_organization_of_the_united_nations_0.pdf](https://resolutions.unep.org/resolutions/uploads/230106_food_and_agriculture_organization_of_the_united_nations_0.pdf)), the International Maritime Organization, Regional Fisheries Management organizations and other relevant bodies ([https://www.fao.org/fishery/en/rrfb](https://www.fao.org/fishery/en/rrfb)).