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Honorable and esteemed Chair Gustavo Meza Cuadra, delegates, and secretariate.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak. I live in and advocate for communities co-located to petrochemical plastics production & experience firsthand the environmental and human health harms produced by plastic production. My community in Houston, TX, is home to 618 chemical facilities, producing 44% of the United States' chemical volume with plastic, resins, and polymers as the #1 export. Plastic production not only causes emissions and explosions for us but has put our future in the crosshairs of toxic exposure that introduces mutagenic harm and endocrine disruptors that appear in our communities in the form of sterility, birth defects, miscarriages, and low birth weights.

The multigenerational harm we face creates a deep understanding of the existential threat of the triple planetary crisis, which plastics exacerbate at every step of the lifecycle from extraction and production to waste in our environment and waters. Polymers, additives, and feedstocks are the building blocks of plastic. Plastic management isn't the problem; plastic is the problem. Turning off the taps starts with upstream measures of raw material extraction and production.

Just as you cannot divorce DNA as the building block for human life, you cannot divorce oil, gas & petrochemicals from plastic.

To achieve effective, ambitious protective human health, biodiversity, and protection of the environment, we support voting and oppose consensus to allow. We must turn off the tap.

Thank the Overwhelming representation of delegates protecting present and future generations from the existential threat of plastic pollution crisis throughout the entire lifecycle.

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