U.S. Proposed Intersessional Work on Plastic Polymers, Chemicals, and Products

Draft Report Text:

The Chair will invite Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) Members to provide information to the Secretariat on any regulatory approaches, measures, and actions they have taken or intend to take on primary plastic polymers, chemicals related to plastic, and plastic products that they consider to be problematic and avoidable, including intentionally added microplastics. The Chair will also invite Observers to provide information related to any actions they have taken with respect to such polymers, chemicals, and products. The Secretariat is requested to compile the information received and make such information available ahead of the fourth session of the INC such that Members and Observers can identify areas of commonality and divergence.

Background:

Text proposal to address the diverse interests expressed in Contact Group 3 with respect to Chemicals of Concern. The United States has heard a number of Members express reservations about proceeding with intersessional work in areas that they consider to be either contentious or potentially prejudicial to the options under Part II (1) and (2) of the Zero Draft Text and subsequent co-facilitators’ consolidations and/or mergers. This proposal is intended to allow for transparency, information sharing, and better understanding amongst the INC with respect to domestic actions in the “upstream” part of the lifecycle. The outcome would be a Secretariat compilation provided to Member States and Observers in order to advance understanding and set the stage for further progress at INC-4.