Proposed response template on written submissions prior to INC-3 (part a)

At its second session, the intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC) requested the secretariat to invite written submissions on:

- Elements not discussed at INC-2, such as principles and scope of the instrument

INC-2 further requested the secretariat to post any submissions received on the INC website and to prepare a synthesis report of the submissions.

The template below was prepared by the secretariat, in consultation with the Chair, and is meant as a guide to assist Members and Observers in preparing their written submissions.

A number of documents prepared by the secretariat for INC-1 and INC-2 are of relevance to this submission, including:

**UNEA resolution 5/14** on ‘End plastic pollution: towards an international legally binding instrument’

**UNEP/PP/INC.1/5** on ‘Potential elements, based on provisions in paragraphs 3 and 4 of United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/14, including key concepts, procedures and mechanisms of legally binding multilateral agreements that may be relevant to furthering implementation and compliance under the future international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment’

**UNEP/PP/INC.1/6** on ‘Glossary of key terms’

**UNEP/PP/INC.1/8** on ‘Description of standard articles on final provisions that are typically included in multilateral environmental agreements’

**UNEP/PP/INC.2/4** on ‘Potential options for elements towards an international legally binding instrument, based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastics as called for by United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/14’

**UNEP/PP/INC.2/INF/4** on ‘Additional information linked to the options for the potential elements towards an international legally binding instrument’

**UNEP/PP/INC.2/INF/7/REV.1** on ‘Information submitted by the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions’

All written submissions must be sent to unep-incplastic.secretariat@un.org. As detailed in the mandate, the submissions received will be made available on the INC webpage, a synthesis report of the submissions will also be developed in advance of INC-3.

Please note that not all fields in the template need to be answered in the submission.
Deadline for submissions:

I. By 15 August 2023 for written submissions from observer organizations.
II. By 15 September 2023 for written submissions from Members of the Committee.
Elements not discussed at INC-2

1. **Scope**

*What is the proposed scope for the future instrument?*

*Which types of substances, materials, products and behaviors should be covered by the future instrument?*

**Proposed scope:**
- international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, which could include both binding and voluntary approaches, based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastic,

It also includes supporting the efficient use of resources and the circular economy approach, developing and strengthening national action plans to work to prevent, reduce and eliminate plastic pollution, supporting regional and international cooperation and coordination with relevant regional and international agreements, instruments and organizations, while recognizing the mandate of each, avoiding duplication and enhancing the integration of the job

- This legal framework must include guidelines for comprehensive evaluation of all stages of the plastic’s life

**Explanatory Text:**

*The plastic crisis can only be addressed holistically, following a life cycle approach. Therefore, preventive measures should be fully implemented to reduce waste generation and the root of the problems should be dealt with simultaneously. This instrument should also aim to protect human health and the Environment from plastic pollution.*
2. Principles

*What principles could be set out in the future instrument to guide its implementation?*

**Proposed principles:**

- Principle of Prevention & waste hierarchy
- Prevention principle
- Proximity principle
- Put in place clear provisions for coordinating actions with other existing or future international and regional instruments and strict provisions for the relationship between parties and non-parties.
- Innovation and Research
- Transparency and Reporting

**Explanatory Text:**

3. Additional considerations

*Provide any other relevant inputs, proposals or priorities here that have not been discussed at INC-2 (e.g. preamble; institutional arrangements, including governing body, subsidiary bodies, scientific and technical cooperation and coordination, and secretariat; final provisions including dispute settlements; and if appropriate annexes).*

**Proposed inputs:**

- Establishing a mechanism to monitor progress in implementation and measure the reduction in pollution within national plans that also monitor all stages of the life of plastic

**Explanatory Text:**