

Thank You Chair

I thank all the colleagues for intensive as well as exhaustive discussions on the options paper in two contact groups. It was indeed insightful.

I thank the Chair, co facilitators as well as the secretariat for all the hard work, particularly, in regard to compilation of the views expressed by Member States comprehensively.

This would definitely be of great help in moving towards having the zero draft.

I hope the submissions, made by Member States will be duly considered by Secretariat in the work towards formulating zero draft.

It is important to have better understanding and clarity on certain aspects in order to enable their consideration for inclusion in the zero draft.

Inter sessional work, need to first undertake the work on scientific and technical aspects such as definitions, criteria etc in regard to elements where there is need for unambiguous clarity.

That could help guide in having the zero draft with elements based on the clarity derived through scientific and technical understanding.

Further , I would again urge and reiterate that all substantive matters must be agreed by consensus, as this reiterates collective decision-making and reflects shared responsibilities and commitment.

India urges all parties to adopt the draft rules of procedure by finalizing Rule 37 and Rule 38.1, before any occasion arises to invoke provisional application the rules of procedure especially rule 38.1.

It is for the benefit of parties that Rules of Procedures are agreed before INC 3.

It is important that the elements of the zero draft must be guided by UNEA resolution 5/14 and must adhere to the principles of Rio Declaration on Environment and Development including Common But Differentiated Responsibility, as well as national circumstances and capabilities.

Finally, we urge you chair and the secretariat that the intersessional work and preparation of zero draft should follow an inclusive and transparent approach to provide the comfort and confidence to all parties for engaging meaningfully and productively.

Thank You Chair.