

Agenda item 4_Norway

Thank you Mr. Chair,

Let me first thank France for hosting us here in the lovely city of Paris. The options paper provides a comprehensive overview of the potential elements for the INC to consider. This delegation believes we must now take the next step and request a zero draft treaty text to be developed in order to have sufficient time to conclude our process in the scheduled time.

This week we will give our views of which options should be carried forward in a zero draft text and identify information gaps that requires input from technical experts. We stress the importance of having a zero draft that can serve as a solid basis for negotiations, whereby all members can see their views reflected as a starting point for negotiations.

Plastic pollution encompass all emissions and risks resulting from plastic production, use, waste management and leakage. To protect the environment and human health, the treaty must end plastic pollution by 2040.

This will require legally binding provisions to reduce the production of primary plastic polymers to sustainable levels. This is also necessary to meet agreed global climate and biodiversity objectives.

Additionally, we need binding provisions in the treaty to eliminate and restrict the types of plastic products, polymers and chemicals of particular concern due to their impacts on human health and their risk of ending up in the environment.

Plastics will remain an important material in our economy, but we need binding provisions to ensure that plastics are contained in a safe and circular economy, underpinned by the waste hierarchy.

In order to avoid plastic pollution resulting from the management of the plastic waste that cannot be circulated, we need binding provisions to ensure high standards of environmentally sound waste management.

Lastly, we highlight the need to develop binding provisions to identify points of plastic pollution to air, water and land, and to take action to close these points of release.

This delegation also recognizes the need for providing support to developing countries in order to effectively implement the obligations in this treaty, and we look forward to engaging with you all in contact groups this week.