

### **Intervention of Philippines to Agenda Item 3.**

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

We thank the authors and consultants for preparing the analysis and appreciate attempts to analyze the effectiveness of responses options.

Response options at the national, regional and international level can be complementary to each other.

We agree with our colleagues from EU regarding the absence of an analysis of the difference in the impact of a legally binding agreement and a voluntary international framework. We also note that many of the member states, in their submissions, have already expressed the need for a legally binding global treaty that can also include voluntary measures.

Since this is a new agreement, some of the criteria applied may not be appropriate to analyzing this response option that member states can adopt moving forward. A global agreement fills in the geographical gaps of regional actions. It harmonizes and simplifies reporting and tracking systems to avoid redundancies or double counting.

A global agreement also levels the playing field for national measures as global standards for design and common global methods for monitoring are established, among others. The global agreement also takes into account national circumstances and respective capabilities of countries.

Finally, aside from feasibility and time frame, impact of the response option is also an important consideration. International voluntary frameworks are good, but they have not been sufficient and have not been so successful in curbing the discharge of marine litter into the ocean, as both rates of plastic production and discharge into oceans continue to increase.

Mr. Chair, we reiterate our vision to find a global solution to eliminate marine litter and microplastics. ###