

AFRICAN GROUP COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED DOCUMENT OUTLINE FOR THE AHEG CHAIRS SUMMARY

1. The international response option received significant attention during discussions at the AHEG and was the subject of multiple submissions identifying various elements and design. The AHEG short summary should provide a well-developed synthesis of these multiple submissions, comparing the various elements and design for comparative purposes. This should be a top priority for the AHEG short summary.
2. The analysis of effectiveness should draw from the UNEP report titled "Combating Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics: An Assessment of the Effectiveness of Relevant International, Regional and Subregional Governance Strategies and Approaches" and the multiple discussion papers prepared by UNEP. These served as the basis for substantial discussion at the AHEG.
3. Under section D "Options for Future and Continued Work at the Global Level," based on the submissions, the listed features in the sub-bullets under the first bullet should be expanded to include many other features that have been identified for continued work, for example:
 - i. the development of common definitions, methodologies and formats;
 - ii. common monitoring and reporting obligations on the evolution of plastic pollution in the marine and other environments and national progress toward a circular economy for plastics;
 - iii. agreed controls on the production and consumption of virgin plastic; as well as policy regulation, technology transfer, capacity building, training and public/private partnerships including incentives for the private companies working on the recycling sector"
 - iv. development of global product design standards and labels, including restrictions on polymers and chemicals;
 - v. establishment of scientific and technical bodies;
 - vi. international protocols to remediate plastic pollution;
 - vii. multilateral financial mechanism providing financial resources to developing countries and economies in transition to enable implementation and compliance, such as capacity-building and training, monitoring and reporting support, policy development and institutional strengthening;
 - viii. mechanism for ensuring coordination with relevant regional and international conventions, instruments and organizations. It is important that the features listed here

contain the elements of an international response option that are broadly identified in the submissions and;

- ix. Inclusion of mandatory extended producer responsibility schemes and take back schemes.

- 4. Finally, under the last bullet in section D “Options for Future and Continued Work at the Global Level,” when identifying a vision for future work, the modalities should include the convening of an intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC) to develop a legally binding global agreement on plastic pollution.

The proposal of a global agreement has been voiced by several MS in the earlier discussions and the AG in full support of a global agreement to address reporting, funding, global scientific panel. This should be included in the chairs summary.