

Statement by Norway on agenda item 4, sub-item 3d: Other aspects, including scientific and technical cooperation and coordination, research and awareness raising

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

It is clear that science must guide us, both in our discussions in the INC, as well as in our decision-making within the new treaty. We have seen science continually expand and deepen on the topic of plastic pollution. A key feature for the scientific and technical cooperation within the new treaty should be that we build on existing sources and continually expand our knowledge.

There are already a number of existing sources of information, research programs, and platforms for knowledge-sharing and scientific cooperation - as listed in the meeting documents prepared by the secretariat. We expect these existing information sources to be of great importance in our negotiations.

Our negotiations take place simultaneously with those on the new science-policy panel for chemicals, waste and to prevent pollution. Although the outcome of those negotiations is not settled, Norway expects the panel to be able to play an important role for the new treaty once established. We equally see that IPBES for biodiversity and IPCC for climate change, will provide relevant information.

Norway is ready to discuss the establishment of a treaty-specific science-policy instrument with limited and defined tasks.