

## **Statement by Norway on agenda item 4, sub-item 2: Scope, objective(s) and options for the structure of the instrument**

Thank you, Chair,

Let me start by thanking the secretariat for the comprehensive set of documents prepared for this meeting.

On the STRUCTURE,

Norway seeks a traditional treaty to end plastic pollution which is legally binding upon ratification. It should contain general and specific commitments for all parties. Different national circumstances and capabilities may be reflected in the design of the measures and mechanisms to support implementation.

An essential outcome of the treaty would be that it enables parties to achieve more than states may achieve individually. The treaty must be dynamic and able to respond to developments in knowledge, and increased ambitions.

On the OBJECTIVE,

The first part of the title of UNEA resolution 5/14, End Plastic Pollution, has already settled as the ultimate goal of our work. However, we also see merit in specifying the primary motivation for ending plastic pollution.

Plastic pollution contributes to the triple planetary crises and has significant adverse effects on human health. Norway proposes that the objective of this treaty be “to protect the environment and human health from plastic pollution, and ultimately end plastic pollution”.

The SCOPE,

must allow for a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastics. The scope should be wide enough to enable us to address all drivers and sources of plastic pollution as well as the full breadth of materials, products, chemical substances including additives, uses and processes applied in the value chain of plastic from the time of polymerization.

As our knowledge on plastic pollution will develop further, the scope cannot be defined in a way that constrains our future work under the treaty to only what we now know about drivers and sources of plastic pollution. The scope may be further defined in the core obligations, control measures and voluntary approaches of the treaty, including annexes.

Norway reiterates the importance of cooperation, coordination and complementarity between the treaty and other relevant conventions, for example the Basel and Stockholm Conventions.