

Call for written submissions – Proposed response template on the potential options for elements towards an international legally binding instrument

On 9 December 2022, the Executive Secretary of the INC Plastic Pollution Secretariat sent a notification inviting written submissions from members of the committee and from observers. The template below is intended to provide guidance to members of the committee and observers in structuring the written submissions.

As requested by INC-1, written submissions will inform the secretariat in the preparation of a document with potential options for elements towards an international legally binding instrument, for consideration at the second session of the INC, without in any way prejudging what the committee might decide regarding the structure and provisions of the instrument. The document is to be based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastics as called for by UNEA resolution 5/14, including identifying the objective, substantive provisions including core obligations, control measures, and voluntary approaches, implementation measures, and means of implementation.

The template below is meant to assist Members and Observers to prepare their written submission as a guide. A number of documents prepared for INC-1 are of relevance, notably UNEP/PP/INC.1/5 on 'Potential elements, based on provisions in paragraphs 3 and 4 of United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/14, including key concepts, procedures and mechanisms of legally binding multilateral agreements that may be relevant to furthering implementation and compliance under the future international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment'.

The template is divided into three sections:


- I. Substantive elements
- II. Implementation elements
- III. Additional input

All written submissions must be sent to unep-incplastic.secretariat@un.org. The statements received will be compiled and made available the INC webpage.

Please note that it is not required for all fields to be answered in the template for submission.

Deadline for submissions:

- 6 January 2023 for written submissions from observers.
- 10 February 2023 for written submissions from Members of the Committee.


09.02.2023

Md. Mazedul Islam
Deputy Secretary
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

SUBMISSIONS REPORT

Name of country (for Members of the committee)	Bangladesh
Name of organization (for observers to the committee)	
Contact person and contact information for the submission	Md Mazedul Islam National Focal Point for INC process & Deputy Secretary Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Dhaka, Bangladesh. +88 01721785763, mazed1968@gmail.com
Date	09 February, 2023

I. Substantive elements


1. Objective(s)

a) What objective(s) could be set out in the instrument?

Proposed Objective:

- Combating plastic pollution including in the marine environment and transboundary movement of micro-plastic.
- Ensuring global consensus on reduction of plastics pollution and production of alternatives and changing of behavioral pattern.
- Developing mechanism for ensuring multi-sectorial involvement in terms of financial and technical assistance including capacity building and technology transfer.

Explanatory Text:

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2. Core obligations, control measures and voluntary approaches

a) *What core obligations, control measures and voluntary approaches would provide a comprehensive approach to addressing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, throughout the full life cycle in line with the future objective(s) of the instrument?*

Core obligations


- Designing a target at national level on reduction of plastic waste and virgin plastic use, and promotion of plastic recycling in addition to environment friendly disposal.
- Integration of national and international cooperation on the technical and financial aspects.
- Introducing special fund for the downstream developing countries and countries in economic transition to manage cumulative plastic pollution due to transboundary movement.

Control Measures

- National reporting scheme on full lifecycle of plastic material flow including plastic pollution.
- Redesigning plastic product to phase out problematic types of plastics and to promote innovation for alternative material with a circularity approach.
- Introducing monitoring and evaluation mechanism.
- Assessing transboundary movement of plastics especially microplastic.
- Establishing mechanism for arbitration.

Voluntary approaches

- Strengthening institutional capacities to enhance environment risk assessment processes arising from plastic pollution.
- Legal framework for minimizing future risks, to minimize the adverse impacts caused to the coast, sea bed and the biodiversity.
- Building consensus among nations to reduce production of plastics and increase recycling and production of environment friendly alternatives at affordable prices.
- Promote behavioral changes in people to protect the environment from plastic waste.
- Introducing yearly reward system for environmentally sound management of plastic and prevention of plastic pollution.

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II. Implementation elements

1. Implementation measures

- a) *How to ensure implementation of the instrument at the national level (eg. role national action plans contribute to meeting the objectives and obligations of the instrument?)*
- b) *How to ensure effectiveness of the instrument and have efficient national reporting?*
- c) *Please provide any other relevant proposals or priorities here on implementation measures (for example for scientific and technical cooperation and coordination as well as compliance).*


- National environment management regulation prioritizing itemized banning of problematic plastic and finding alternatives of problematic elements of plastics.
- National time bound framework on replacing problematic plastic to ensure recyclability and environmental sound disposal.
- Introducing plastic waste market place at national level to promote circularity.
- Formulating technical sub-committee at national level.
- Establishment of regional center for assessing marine environment in regular interval.

2. Means of Implementation

With respect to means of implementation, document UNEP/PP/INC.1/5 covers the following elements: capacity-building, technical assistance, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and financial assistance.

- a) *What measures will be required to support the implementation of the instrument?*

- Technical assistance, technology transfer and financial assistance on the basis of country's assessment report.
- Developing a synergies with other Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs).
- Expediting capacity building through training, workshop & knowledge disseminating with logistic and financial assistance.


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III. Additional input

Please provide any other relevant proposals or priorities here (for example introductory elements; awareness-raising, education and exchange of information; research; stakeholder engagement; institutional arrangements and final provisions).

- Awareness-raising: Promotion of innovation challenge competition and behavioral change.
- Education and exchange of information: Knowledge transformation into the national and regional level
- Research: Enhancing cooperation among national and international organizations including government and private sectors to propel research on finding sustainable alternatives.
- Institutional arrangements: A global framework on plastic pollution, a hybrid approach in combination of voluntary and binding obligations with built-in flexibility for the countries in need.
- Global market promotion of recycled plastic goods, harmonization and synchronization of the plastic data to verify and track the progress, creating knowledge and information hub nationally and globally.

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