

Reference: Not-INC-2023-0036

15 August 2023

Dear Madam/Sir,

At the request of the Permanent Missions of Brazil and the United Kingdom to the United Nations Office in Nairobi, we hereby circulate a Note Verbale Ref No. 1094/23 dated 15 August 2023 and an invitation letter for Members of the INC to participate in a country-led technical dialogue.

Yours sincerely,

Signed

The INC Secretariat

NOTE NO 1094/23

The Permanent Missions of Brazil and the United Kingdom to the United Nations Office in Nairobi present their compliments to the United Nations Environment Programme and have the honour to transmit the attached letter in relation to the informal, country-led, intersessional work as part of the INC process to develop a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, that Brazil and the United Kingdom are co-leading.

The Permanent Missions would like to invite nominees to participate in an informal, technical dialogue. This dialogue aims to support the work of the INC at its third meeting on chemicals and polymers of concern, and potentially problematic plastic products that may be addressed by the instrument.

We would be grateful if the accompanying letter would be circulated to UN regional groups to invite countries to nominate technical experts to participate in the dialogue.

The Permanent Missions of Brazil and the United Kingdom to the United Nations Office at Nairobi avail themselves of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Environment Programme the assurances of its highest consideration.

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

NAIROBI

15^h August 2023





British
High Commission
Nairobi



EMBASSY OF
BRAZIL IN
NAIROBI

August 15, 2023

Invitation to Participate in Country-Led Informal Technical Dialogue

Dear Member States of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment.

The Permanent Missions of Brazil and the United Kingdom to the United Nations Office in Nairobi invite nominees to participate in an informal, technical dialogue. This dialogue aims to support the work of the INC at its third meeting on chemicals and polymers of concern, and potentially problematic plastic products that may be addressed by the instrument.

Although INC2 did not agree a mandate for formal intersessional work, members identified the need for further work on polymers and chemicals of global concern and problematic plastic products. Brazil and the United Kingdom would therefore like to invite each UN Regional Group to nominate technical experts, from INC member states within their group to participate in an informal dialogue to collate existing evidence on definitions and criteria to identify chemicals and polymers of global concern as well as potentially problematic plastic products.

The Process:

We envisage that the technical experts will participate in three online meetings between September and November, using established scientific methods to facilitate discussions. This process will produce an informal document that collates and reviews possible definitions and criteria to identify polymers and chemicals of global concern, commonly used in plastics, as well as potentially problematic plastic products.

To ensure this process is the greatest use to as many countries as possible, we are applying the following criteria:

- **Technical:** the work will be taken forward by technical experts as nominated by Regional Groups, preferably with scientific or technical expertise on the topics to be covered by the informal dialogue.
- **Representative:** the work will have balanced representation from technical experts across the UN regions, as well as gender balance.

- **Manageable:** the group of technical experts should be able to perform its work in a way that allows for open discussions and debate, so the size of the group will be kept under 50 members. The nominated experts are expected to have sufficient time to carry out the group activities as well as an appropriate level of understanding of the main elements of the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee.

A readout, summarising the discussions will be shared with INC members following each meeting.

Process for nominations

Nominations should be made through each UN regional group according to internal processes. Each regional group can make up to 7 nominations. Larger regional groups may request more nominations by writing to the Brazilian or UK delegation. If we do not receive enough nominations for a balanced technical group, we will write to members to invite additional nominations.

Please send the name and email address of your nomination to your regional group coordinator as soon as possible but no later than Wednesday 30th August. The delegations of UK and Brazil will liaise with regional groups to receive the nominations.

We envisage the first meeting of the technical group will take place in September.

Delivery Partners

This informal intersessional work will be supported by Chatham House, the Royal Society of Chemistry, the Brazilian Chemical Society and the Institute of Macromolecules of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro.

The role of the delivery partners is limited to facilitating discussions between experts nominated via regional groups. The outputs resulting from the process will be collectively owned by the technical experts nominated by each regional group and circulated to INC members. It may also be submitted as an in-session information document at INC-3, as appropriate.

Chatham House are world renowned for their expertise in the neutral convening of dialogues in international settings, applying established scientific methods to facilitate discussions.

The Royal Society of Chemistry is one of the world's leading chemical sciences communities with over 45,000 members globally. The community includes academics, industry experts, innovators, regulators, educators and more.

The Brazilian Chemical Society (SBQ) is one of the biggest scientific societies in Latin America. It congregates the Brazilian chemical community, including academics (students, faculties, professors and researchers), industry experts, and educators. SBQ plays an active role in various Government bodies and decision maker committees, dialoguing with authorities responsible for the country's scientific and technological development policies related to all fields of chemistry, aiming to provide better living conditions for the entire Brazilian population and its global partners.

The Institute of Macromolecules Professora Eloisa Mano at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro stands as a beacon of excellence in the field of Polymer Science and Technology. As a reference in Latin America, being the sole institute of its kind in Brazil. With an unwavering commitment to fostering solid researcher formation, IMA-UFRJ is dedicated to cultivating the next generation of innovators. Their mission revolves around pushing the boundaries of knowledge and driving groundbreaking discoveries in polymer science.

We look forward to your nominations to this informal dialogue which we trust will provide technical background to support further discussions in the INC process.

Yours Sincerely,

Brazil and the United Kingdom

BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION – NAIROBI



EMBASSY OF BRAZIL IN NAIROBI

