

INC-3 Contact Group 3

Co-facilitators' proposals regarding Part I, Part V and Part VI of the zero-draft text of the international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment

Part I (Preamble, definitions, principles, scope)

1. Preamble

Context:

The text below is based on the preambular text of UNEA resolution 5/14. It is proposed as a starting point with a view to its further development taking into account the inputs from members during INC-3.¹

The Parties to this instrument,

Noting with concern that the high and rapidly increasing levels of plastic pollution represent a serious environmental problem at a global scale, negatively impacting the environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainable development,

Recognizing that plastic pollution includes microplastics,

Noting with concern the specific impact of plastic pollution on the marine environment,

Noting that plastic pollution, in marine and other environments, can be of a transboundary nature and needs to be tackled, together with its impacts, through a full-life-cycle approach, taking into account national circumstances and capabilities,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, by which the General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Reaffirming also the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, adopted in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992,

Stressing the urgent need to strengthen the science-policy interface at all levels, improve understanding of the global impact of plastic pollution on the environment, and promote effective and progressive action at the local, regional and global levels, recognizing the important role played by plastics in society,

Recalling United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions 1/6, 2/11, 3/7, 4/6, 4/7 and 4/91 and affirming the urgent need to strengthen global coordination, cooperation and governance to take immediate action towards the long-term elimination of plastic pollution in marine and other environments, and to avoid detriment from plastic pollution to ecosystems and the human activities dependent on them,

Recognizing the wide range of approaches, sustainable alternatives and technologies available to address the full life cycle of plastics, further highlighting the need for enhanced international

¹ See the compilation of written submissions by Members during INC-3 available on the session webpage, at <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/44033/CompilationText.pdf>

collaboration to facilitate access to technology, capacity-building, and scientific and technical cooperation, and stressing that there is no single approach,

Underlining the importance of promoting sustainable design of products and materials so that they can be reused, remanufactured or recycled and therefore retained in the economy for as long as possible, along with the resources they are made of, and of minimizing the generation of waste, which can significantly contribute to sustainable production and consumption of plastics,

Welcoming efforts made by Governments and international organizations, in particular through national, regional and international action plans, initiatives and instruments, including relevant multilateral agreements, and recognizing the need for complementary actions and a coherent and coordinated long-term global vision,

Reaffirming the importance of cooperation, coordination and complementarity among relevant regional and international conventions and instruments, with due respect for their respective mandates, to prevent plastic pollution and its related risks to human health and adverse effects on human well-being and the environment, including the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships of 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto and as further amended by the Protocol of 1997; the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal; the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade; the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants; the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea; the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter of 1972 and the Protocol thereto; the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management; the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; the Convention on Biological Diversity; and other international organizations, regional instruments and programmes, and recognizing efforts led by non-governmental organizations and the private sector,

Recognizing that each country is best positioned to understand its own national circumstances, including its stakeholder activities, related to addressing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment,

Recognizing also the significant contribution made by workers in informal and cooperative settings to the collecting, sorting and recycling of plastics in many countries,

Underlining that further international action is needed by developing an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment,

Recalling United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/14 of 2 March 2022 which requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to convene an intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastic,

Have agreed as follows:

3. Definitions

Context: A list of terms that may require a definition in the instrument is contained in the **working list** annexed to this document. This list contains the terms identified in the synthesis report, as well as those terms identified during INC-3 as potentially requiring a definition.² The placement of these definitions could be in a standalone article (option 1) or integrated into the substantive provisions of the instrument (option 2), or a combination of the two.

Option 1

1. For the purposes of this instrument:
 - a. [“term”] means []
 - b. [“term”] means []
 - c. [“term”] means []

Option 2 (no standalone provision)

4. Principles

Context: The three options identified below for the consideration of the Committee are intended to reflect the three possible approaches identified on the basis of Members’ inputs which could be used, in isolation or in combination, to reflect principles relevant to the instrument:

- Option 1: references to relevant principles in preambular language;
Option 2: a dedicated provision identifying principles to guide the instrument; and/or
Option 3: incorporation of the relevant principles in relevant substantive provisions.

These options are presented with a view to their further elaboration through draft text as appropriate. Under option 1 and 2, specific principles could be identified in subparagraphs. This could include, for example, one or more of those identified in the summary of the preparatory meeting, and without prejudice to those identified by members in the lead-up to and during INC-3³: the principles set out in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (Rio Principles), as referred to in resolution UNEA 5/14,⁴ in general or with reference to specific principles or, in no particular order of priority, one or more of the following: common but differentiated responsibilities, the polluter pays principle, the precautionary approach, the prevention principle, sovereignty over the use of natural resources, just transition, the protection of vulnerable communities, shared responsibility, intergenerational equity, non-regression, ecosystems approach, Extended Producer Responsibility, transparency, inclusiveness, bottom-up approach, a gender perspective, general principles relating to marine pollution, circular economy, non-discrimination, best available science, local and Indigenous knowledge, access to information and transparency, equity, sustained economic development, trade, promotion of cooperation at regional and international level, the three Rs of waste management.⁵

² See the compilation of written submissions by Members during INC-3 available on the session webpage, at <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/44033/CompilationText.pdf>

³ See document UNEP/PP/INC.3/INF.4 (synthesis report)

⁴ See document UNEP/PP/INC.3/INF.4 (synthesis report).

⁵ See the co-facilitators’ summary of the preparatory day, available at [PreparatorMeetingSummary.pdf \(unep.org\)](#). See also document UNEP/PP/INC.3/INF/4 (synthesis report), section A.3.a.

Option 1 (no provision)

Option 2

1. In their actions to achieve the objective of the instrument and to implement its provisions, the Parties shall be guided, inter alia, by:
 - a. [principle and accompanying text]
 - b. [principle and accompanying text]
 - c. [principle and accompanying text]
 - d. [principle and accompanying text]
 - e. [principle and accompanying text]

5. Scope

Context:

The three options identified below for the consideration of the Committee are intended to reflect the three possible approaches identified. It is proposed as a starting point with a view to its further development taking into account the inputs from members during INC-3.⁶

Option 1: no specific scope provision being included in the instrument;

Option 2: a short scope provision essentially reflecting the language contained in resolution 5/14; or

Option 3: a detailed scope provision addressing additional aspects, including with respect to what might be covered as part of the “full life cycle” of plastics, sectoral coverage, types of plastics and products to be covered, geographical and/or jurisdictional coverage.

Option 1 (no provision)

Option 2

1. This instrument addresses plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, and based on a comprehensive approach addressing the full life cycle of plastics.

Option 3

1. This instrument addresses plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, and based on a comprehensive approach addressing the full life cycle of plastics. It applies to:
 - a. [scope of the life-cycle]

⁶ See the compilation of written submissions by Members during INC-3 available on the session webpage, at <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/44033/CompilationText.pdf>

- b. [sectoral coverage]
- c. [types of plastics and products to be covered]
- d. [scope in respect of trade]
- e. [territorial scope]
- f. [exclusions]
- g. [additional elements]

Part V (Institutional arrangements)

1. Governing body

Context:

The text below has been developed following the structure of Minamata Convention on Mercury and reflects elements identified in the synthesis report. It is proposed as a starting point with a view to its further development taking into account the inputs from members in INC-3.⁷

Conference of the Parties

1. A Conference of the Parties is hereby established.
2. The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties shall be convened by [placeholder] no later than one year after the date of entry into force of this instrument. Thereafter, ordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties shall be held at regular intervals to be decided by the Conference.
3. Extraordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties shall be held at such other times as may be deemed necessary by the Conference, or at the written request of any Party, provided that, within six months of the request being communicated to the Parties by the Secretariat, it is supported by at least one third of the Parties.
4. The Conference of the Parties shall by consensus agree upon and adopt at its first meeting rules of procedure and financial rules for itself and any of its subsidiary bodies, as well as financial provisions governing the functioning of the Secretariat.

⁷ See the compilation of written submissions by Members during INC-3 available on the session webpage, at <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/44033/CompilationText.pdf>

The Conference of the Parties shall keep under continuous review and evaluation the implementation of this instrument. It shall perform the functions assigned to it by this instrument and, to that end, shall:

- (a) Establish such subsidiary bodies as it considers necessary for the implementation of the instrument;
 - (b) Cooperate, where appropriate, with competent international organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies;
 - (c) Take decisions on convening meetings;
 - (d) Review, evaluate and adopt decisions related to the implementation of the instrument;
 - (e) Consider and take any action necessary to achieve the objectives of the instrument;
 - (f) Consider matters related to compliance;
 - (g) Request and consider scientific and technical assessments or reviews from the subsidiary bodies to the instrument or any independent body linked to the instrument;
 - (h) Oversee the work of subsidiary bodies;
 - (i) Review information made available to it, including through national reporting and subsidiary bodies;
 - (j) With the help of the subsidiary bodies, providing guidance on financial needs for the implementation of measures;
 - (k) Consider amendments to the instrument proposed by the Parties.
5. The United Nations, its specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy, as well as any State not a Party to this instrument, may be represented at meetings of the Conference of the Parties as observers. Any body or agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, that is qualified in matters covered by this instrument and has informed the Secretariat of its wish to be represented at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties as an observer may be admitted unless at least one third of the Parties present object. The admission and participation of observers shall be subject to the rules of procedure adopted by the Conference of the Parties.

2. Subsidiary bodies

Context:

The following potential subsidiary bodies have been identified for further consideration:

- a scientific, technical, and socio-economic body, including for information-sharing, the identification of chemicals to be included in the instrument, assessments and recommendations;
- a compliance and implementation committee (see part IV of the zero-draft);
- a clearing house mechanism for exchange of information;
- a financial mechanism, including to consider availability of resources, funding for developing countries and transfer of technology. (see part V of the zero-draft). A committee would manage the financial mechanism, including by monitoring financial flows for developing countries; and
- a committee on means of implementation.

The following approaches to the establishment of subsidiary bodies could be followed by the committee: subsidiary bodies could be established, and their functions defined, either, within the instrument; or by the Conference of the Parties, if needed; or a mixture of the two previous approaches.

Specific language will need to be elaborated following further discussion in the Committee, including with respect to the composition and functions of the relevant bodies, and also taking into account written submissions by Members during INC-3.⁸

3. Secretariat

Context:

The text below has been developed following the structure of Minamata Convention, article 24. and Rotterdam Convention, article 19. Paragraph 2 on the functions of the Secretariat, is based on the elements reflected in the synthesis report.⁹ It is proposed as a starting point with a view to its further development taking into account the inputs from members in INC-3.¹⁰

Secretariat

1. A secretariat is hereby established.
2. The functions of the Secretariat shall be:

⁸ See the compilation of written submissions by Members during INC-3 available on the session webpage, at <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/44033/CompilationText.pdf>

⁹ See document UNEP/PP/INC.3/INF/4, para. 85.

¹⁰ See the compilation of written submissions by Members during INC-3 available on the session webpage, at <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/44033/CompilationText.pdf>

- (a) Preparation and arrangements for meetings of the Conference of the Parties, subsidiary bodies and the multistakeholder action agenda, and to provide them with services as required;
 - (b) To facilitate and coordinate the implementation of the instrument;
 - (c) Assist Parties, as required, in the exchange of information related to the implementation of the instrument;
 - (d) Compile and publish national report submitted by the Parties;
 - (e) To prepare and make available to the Parties periodic reports based on national reporting and other sources of information, as appropriate;
 - (f) To coordinate, as appropriate, with the Secretariats of other relevant international bodies and instruments;
 - (g) To enter, under the overall guidance of the Conference of the Parties, into such administrative and contractual arrangements as may be required for the effective discharge of its functions; and
 - (h) To perform the other secretariat functions specified in this instrument and such other functions as may be determined by the Conference of the Parties.
3. The secretariat functions for this instrument shall be performed by [placeholder], unless the Conference of the Parties decides, by a three-fourths majority of the Parties present and voting, to entrust the secretariat functions to one or more other international organizations.
 4. The Conference of the Parties, in consultation with appropriate international bodies, may provide for enhanced cooperation and coordination between the Secretariat and the secretariats other relevant international bodies;
 5. The Conference of the Parties, in consultation with appropriate international bodies, may provide further guidance on this matter.

Part VI (Final provisions)

Context:

Final provisions are proposed to be developed by a legal drafting group to be established by the INC.

Annex – working list of possible definitions

Due to the significant number of submissions received, there may be some missing submissions in this version. The placement of these definitions could be in a standalone article (option 1) or integrated into the substantive provisions of the instrument (option 2), or a combination of the two.

Term	Proposed definitions	Cited sources
Additives	Chemical compounds added during plastic compounding (the process of mixing or blending polymers and additives in a molten state) to fulfil specific desired functional properties in the production process or in the final plastic product, in which they can be divided into four different categories, namely functional additives, colourants, fillers and reinforcements. For example, plasticizers, flame retardants, thermal and ultraviolet (UV) light stabilizers, antioxidants, antimicrobial agents, biocides, pigments, antistatic and blowing agents, impact modifiers, lubricants, etc.	Developed and modified from Chemicals in plastics: a technical report (UNEP and BRS Secretariat 2023) and From Pollution to Solution: A global assessment of marine litter and plastic pollution (UNEP 2021).
Avoidable plastic items	Avoidable plastic items, including unnecessary and short-lived products, could be characterized as any plastic material or product that can be avoided or replaced by less harmful alternatives.	Modified from document UNEP/PP/INC.1/7, Plastics science (UNEP, 2022).
	*Note: A Member suggested defining “avoidable plastics”.	
Biobased plastics * (not included in the SR)	A Member suggested the instrument should define “biobased plastics” and proposed a definition.	
Biodegradable plastics * (not defined in the SR)	Some Members suggested including this definition.	
Biopolymer * (not included in the SR)	A Member suggested including a definition of Biopolymer.	
Biodegradation	Biological process influenced by the physicochemical (temperature, humidity, pH) and microbiological variables (quantity and nature of microorganisms) of the environment that results in the formation of water, carbon dioxide (CO ₂) and/or methane (CH ₄), energy and by-products—including residues, new biomass.	Developed and modified from a meaning of ‘degradation’ contained in From Pollution to Solution: A global assessment of marine litter and plastic pollution (UNEP 2021).
Circular economy	One of the current sustainable economic models, in which products and materials are designed in such a way that they can be continuously utilized—including reused, remanufactured, recycled or recovered—at their highest value and there is no “waste” as all by-products are gainfully used and thus maintained in the economy for as long as possible, along with the consumption of resources of which they are made, and the generation of	Document UNEP/PP/INC.1/6, Glossary of key terms and Scaling up circular strategies to achieve zero plastic waste in Thailand (WWF Thailand 2020) (accessible at https://wwfint.awsassets.panda.org/downloads/zero_pla)

	wastes, especially hazardous wastes, are avoided or minimized, and greenhouse gas emissions are prevented or reduced, can contribute significantly to sustainable consumption and production.	stic waste in thailand en.pdf).
Collection * (not defined in the SR)	Some Members suggested including this definition.	
Compostable Plastics * (not defined in the SR)	A Member suggested the instrument should define ‘compostable plastics’ and made a proposal.	
Degradation	Partial or complete breakdown of a polymer caused by any physical, chemical and biological reactions, resulting in alteration of its properties, such as discolouration, surface cracking and fragmentation.	Developed and modified from From Pollution to Solution: A global assessment of marine litter and plastic pollution (UNEP 2021).
Downstream underdeveloped countries * (not included in the SR)	A Member suggested including this definition under the rationale that those countries receive important plastic loads from upstream.	
Energy Recovery * (not included in the SR)	A Member suggesting including this definition.	
Environmental impacts	Harmful effects of anthropogenic activities on ecosystems.	Developed and modified from a report on policy options to eliminate additional marine plastic litter by 2050 under the G20 Osaka Blue Ocean Vision (IRP 2021).
Equity * (not defined in the SR)	A Member suggested this definition.	
Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)	Environmental policy approach in which a producer’s responsibility for a product is extended to the post-consumption stage of such product’s life cycle for the management of its product after becoming waste, including: collection; pre- treatment, e.g. sorting, dismantling or depollution; (preparation for) reuse; recovery (including recycling and energy recovery) or final disposal.	Developed and modified from document UNEP/PP/INC.1/6, Glossary of key terms (UNEP 2022).
Fossil-based plastics	Plastics made from synthetic polymers derived from petroleum oil.	
Just Transition * (not defined in the SR)	Some Members suggested to define Just Transition.	

Life cycle	The consecutive and interlinked stages of a product system, from raw material acquisition or generation from natural resources to final disposal.	ISO:14040:2006 (en) Environmental management – Life cycle assessment – Principles and framework
(Full) life cycle approach	Considering all potential impacts of all activities and outcomes associated with the production and consumption of plastics, including raw material extraction and processing (for plastics: refining; cracking; polymerization), design and manufacturing, packaging, distribution, use and reuse, maintenance and end-of-life management, including segregation, collection, sorting, recycling and disposal.	Document UNEP/PP/INC.1/7, Plastics science (UNEP, 2022).
	Management approach that mitigates all environmental impacts throughout the consecutive and interlinked stages of a product system, from raw material acquisition or generation from natural resources to final disposal and/or to feedstocks.	Developed and modified from a meaning of 'lifecycle' contained in document UNEP/PP/INC.1/6, Glossary of key terms (UNEP 2022).
	*Some Members suggested defining Full Life Cycle or Life Cycle only after core obligations are agreed upon.	
Marine debris (or "marine litter")	Any anthropogenic, manufactured or processed solid material (regardless of size) to be disposed of or intended to be disposed of or required to be disposed of by national laws or abandoned that ends up in the marine environment, in which it includes, but is not limited to, plastics, metals, glass, paper, rubber, rope, textiles, timber, hazardous materials, such as munitions, asbestos and medical wastes, etc., and any other materials.	Developed and modified from Article 2(1) of the Basel Convention (UNEP and Secretariat of the Basel Convention, 2019); From Pollution to Solution: A global assessment of marine litter and plastic pollution (UNEP 2021), and document UNEP/PP/INC.1/6, Glossary of key terms (UNEP 2022).
Microplastics (MPs)	Generic term for small plastic particles or fragments or pieces that are less than 5 mm in diameter, easily released to the environment, and which are either intentionally used in certain products and manufacturing processes, so-called 'primary MPs', or unintentionally produced from the degradation of macro scale plastic objects or wastes or litters, so-called 'secondary MPs'.	Developed and modified from Addressing single-use plastic products pollution using a life cycle approach (UNEP 2021), Chemicals in plastics: a technical report (UNEP and BRS Secretariat 2023), and From Pollution to Solution: A global assessment of marine litter and plastic pollution (UNEP 2021).
Monomers	Simple molecules that can undergo polymerization, thereby contributing constitutional units to the essential structure of a macromolecule.	Developed and modified from Chemicals in plastics: a technical report (UNEP and BRS Secretariat 2023).

Nanoplastics (NPs)	Plastic particles that are less than 1 micrometre in diameter and produced unintentionally from the degradation of microscale plastic objects or wastes or litter.	Developed and modified from Chemicals in plastics: a technical report (UNEP and BRS Secretariat 2023) and From Pollution to Solution: A global assessment of marine litter and plastic pollution (UNEP 2021).
Non-toxic circularity * (not included in the SR)	Several Members suggested defining 'Non-toxic circularity'.	
Plastic(s)	Complex materials based on macromolecular compounds (polymers) with possible inclusion of different additives. The most widely used plastics are based on synthetic polymers. Plastics are directly related to plastic masses, meaning that these materials are able to be moulded under the heating and/or pressure and retain a given shape after cooling or solidification. The moulding process is accompanied by transition of a plastic deformable (viscous or highly elastic) state to a solid state (glassy or crystalline).	
	Any solid materials that are made from one or more high-molecular-mass polymers and various additives (used to deliver the functionality and durability of such materials), and which are formed or shaped by heat and/or pressure during their manufacturing processes.	Developed and modified from Chemicals in plastics: a technical report (UNEP and BRS Secretariat 2023); document UNEP/PP/INC.1/6, Glossary of key terms (UNEP 2022); and From Pollution to Solution: A global assessment of marine litter and plastic pollution (UNEP 2021).
	MARPOL and Basel Convention technical guidelines as starting point + greater specificity: should encompass fossil-based and bio-based plastic, and elastomers and textiles unless made from non-chemically modified natural polymers.	MARPOL and the Technical Guidelines of Basel Convention for the Identification and Environmentally Sound Management of Plastic Waste.
	Plastics (in plural): plastic products (products made predominantly of plastics) as well as plastic as a material (long chain/high molecular mass polymers) made of plastic resin codes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7, singly or in combination with one or more of these plastics or any non-plastic material. This includes plastics made from any source material, including bio-based, bioplastics, biodegradable, degradable, compostable and conventional fossil-based plastics.	With respect to the definition of polymer, European Commission guidelines on the interpretation and implementation of the European Union's Single-use Plastics Directive 2019/904 (EU SUP Directive), referring

	Unmodified natural polymers (e.g. cotton and paper) which are proven to behave differently in the environment to plastics would be excluded.	to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (known as the REACH regulation) which defines polymer.
Plastic pollution	Broadly, all emissions and risks resulting from plastics production, use, waste management and leakage, both from legal and illegal activities.	
	Broadly, the negative effects and emissions resulting from the production and consumption of plastic materials and products across their entire life cycle. This definition includes plastic waste that is mismanaged (e.g. open-burned and dumped in uncontrolled dumpsites) and leakage and accumulation of plastic objects and particles that can adversely affect humans and the living and non-living environment.	Working definition in document UNEP/PP/INC.1/7, Appendix I, Plastics science (UNEP, 2022).
	Emissions and leakage of (macro and micro) plastics and chemical pollutants from plastic production, use, recycling and disposal, covering emissions and releases to all environmental compartments.	
	Any pollution that is generated or arisen or released from all stages of and/or across the entire life cycle of plastics.	Developed and modified from a meaning of 'pollutant' contained in document UNEP/PP/INC.1/6, Glossary of key terms (UNEP 2022) and adaptation of proposed definitions of "plastic" and "life cycle approach".
	Includes pollution arising from plastics production, use, waste management and leakage.	
	*Several Members provided alternative definitions for "Plastic Pollution".	
Plastic product(s)	All kinds of products which contain or are partly or entirely made of any form of plastic materials (polymers) e.g. single-use products such as cigarette butts, packaging, consumer goods, building materials, materials and chemicals used in offshore industries, recreational boats, paints, tyres, textiles, fishing gear and items used in aquaculture or agriculture, or products with components where an essential function is determined/achieved by plastics.	Modified from UNEP/PP/INC.1/7, Plastics science (UNEP, 2022).
	an end-use product made of plastic a solid material which contains an essential ingredient one or more high molecular mass polymers and which is formed (shaped) during either manufacture of the polymer by the fabrication of such solid material plastic into a finished	Based on Revised MARPOL Annex V adopted on 15 July 2011; emphasis and strikethrough added.

	<p>product by heat and/or pressure. Plastics have material properties ranging from hard and brittle to soft and elastic. For the purposes of this annex, “all plastics” means all garbage that consists of or includes plastic in any form, including synthetic ropes, synthetic fishing nets, plastic garbage bags and incinerator ashes from plastic products. (strikethrough and emphasis used to show revisions proposed)</p>	
Plastic Waste and Plastic Waste Value Chain *(not included in the SR)	A Member suggested defining ‘Plastic Waste’ and another one suggested ‘Plastic Waste Value Chain’.	
PRO * (not included in the SR)	A Member suggested defining PRO.	
Polluter Pays Principle	<p>Concept underpinning producer and user responsibilities whereby the entities that introduce products or packaging that become litter are held responsible for arranging the collection and waste management of these materials as well as additional activities to reduce waste.</p>	<p>Scaling up circular strategies to achieve zero plastic waste in Thailand (WWF Thailand 2020) (accessible at https://wwfint.awsassets.panda.org/downloads/zero_plastic_waste_in_thailand_en.pdf).</p>
Pollution	<p>Condition or state that substance, chemicals and pollutants or a group of substances, chemicals and pollutants cause deleterious effects as harm to living resources and life, or human health or the environment on account of its properties and of its introduction into the environment.</p>	<p>Developed and modified from a meaning of ‘pollutant and pollution of the marine environment’ contained in document UNEP/PP/INC.1/6, Glossary of key terms (UNEP 2022).</p>
Polymer	<p>A substance consisting of molecules characterized by the sequence of one or more types of monomer units. Such molecules must be distributed over a range of molecular weights wherein differences in the molecular weight are primarily attributable to differences in the number of monomer units. A polymer comprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a simple weight majority of molecules containing at least three monomer units which are covalently bound to at least one other monomer unit or another reactant; - less than a simple weight majority of molecules of the same molecular weight. <p>*Some Members suggested ‘Plastic polymer’ misses the distinction between primary and secondary plastic polymers.</p>	<p>Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and Council concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH).</p>

	<p>Natural or synthetic long-chain high molecular weight molecules (or so-called macromolecules) consisting of repetitive sequences of one or more types of monomers.</p> <p>“<u>Primary plastic polymers</u>”: synthetic plastic polymers derived from petroleum oil or so-called fossil-based polymers.</p> <p>“<u>Secondary plastic polymers</u>”: polymers made of post-consumer plastic feedstocks.</p>	<p>Developed and modified from Chemicals in plastics: a technical report (UNEP and BRS Secretariat 2023) and From Pollution to Solution: A global assessment of marine litter and plastic pollution (UNEP 2021)</p>
Problematic plastics *(not included in the SR)	A Member suggested defining problematic plastics.	
Problematic plastics items	<p>Problematic plastics items could be characterized as any plastic material or product:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - that pose a significant risk to human health or the environment (applying the precautionary principle). - that contain or release polymers, monomers or additives or absorb substances that are hazardous to human health or the environment, or compromise their recyclability. - that are most frequently found in the environment due to their characteristics, mismanagement, littering, inappropriate use etc. - that contain intentionally added microplastics or that release high quantities of microplastics during normal use. - that are not reusable for the same use, repairable or recyclable at scale and in practice. 	<p>Modified from UNEP/PP/INC.1/7, Plastics science (UNEP, 2022).</p>
Primary virgin plastics * (not defined in the SR)	Some Members proposed the inclusion of this definition.	
Problematic or avoidable plastics	<p>Plastics that are not necessary in uses and can cause plastic pollutions either by themselves or without their environmentally sound management.</p> <p>*Some Members suggested that the terms “problematic” and “avoidable” are to be defined separately.</p>	
Recovery * (not defined in the SR)	A Member suggested the SR lacks a definition for “recovery” or “energy recovery”, as something different from recycling.	
Recycling	<p>Any recovery operation by which waste materials are reprocessed into products, materials or substances whether for the original or other purposes. It includes the reprocessing of organic material but does not</p>	<p>Modified from UNEP/PP/INC.1/7, Plastics science (UNEP, 2022).</p>

	include energy recovery and the reprocessing into materials that are to be used as fuels or for backfilling operations.	
Recyclability	<p>A plastic product or component shall be considered recyclable when it fulfils the following conditions:</p> <p>a) it is designed for material recycling, according to design guidelines or standards</p> <p>b) when it becomes waste, it can be recycled at scale and in practice, and it can be effectively and efficiently collected and sorted</p> <p>c) it can be sorted into defined waste streams without affecting the recyclability of other waste streams; and</p> <p>d) when it becomes waste, it can be recycled so that the resulting secondary raw materials are of sufficient quality or of equivalent quality compared to the original material and can be used as a substitute to primary raw material.</p>	Modified from UNEP/PP/INC.1/7, Plastics science (UNEP, 2022).
Reuse* (not included in the SR)	Some Members proposed the inclusion of this definition.	
Synthetic polymer microparticles* (not included in the SR)	Some Members proposed the inclusion of this definition.	
Single-use plastic product * (not included in the SR)	Some Members proposed the inclusion of this definition.	
Unavoidable plastics * (not included in the SR)	A Member proposed the inclusion of this definition.	
Waste (considered as synonymous with “litter” and “debris”)	Any materials or objects which are disposed of or intended to be disposed of or required to be disposed of by the provisions of relevant national law.	Developed and modified from Article 2(1) of the Basel Convention (UNEP and Secretariat of the Basel Convention 2019), From Pollution to Solution: A global assessment of marine litter and plastic pollution (UNEP 2021), and document UNEP/PP/INC.1/6, Glossary of key terms (UNEP 2022).
Waste Hierarchy * (not defined in the SR)	A Member suggested defining Waste Hierarchy.	
Waste Management * (not included in the SR)	Some Members proposed the inclusion of this definition.	

Waste Pickers * (not included in the SR)	Some members proposed defining Waste Pickers.
Waste Segregation * (not included in the SR)	A Member proposed defining Waste Segregation.