



CYMG Intervention at the CPR [Subcommittee Meeting](#) on 18th April 2024 on Agenda Item 6: Briefing on the Preparations for INC-4

Thank you for the floor, Chair. I am Zuhair Ahmed Kowshik from Bangladesh, speaking on behalf of the Children and Youth Major Group.

First of all, we extend our gratitude to H.E. Luis Vayas, the Honorable Chair of the INC, for his exemplary leadership in convening three informal Heads of Delegations meetings and an Observers' webinar preceding INC-4. We also express appreciation to the INC Secretariat for their support and efforts in timely document delivery for the negotiations in Ottawa. Furthermore, we acknowledge and appreciate the support of the host country, Canada, for their preparations for INC-4, including expediting visa processes for many participants and organizing Partnerships Day on April 22nd.

We note the organization of several in-person consultations across different regions preceding INC-4 and hope they were beneficial in facilitating regional consensus-building. While some of these meetings were open to observers for the first time in certain regions, we emphasize the **importance of timely communication regarding such consultations and any future intersessional meetings** ahead of INC-5 to allow observers adequate preparation time.

Given the lack of substantive intersessional progress post-INC-3, we urge member states to engage in informal discussions to seek consensus on **key treaty aspects, such as financing and legal matters**, before INC-5.

Furthermore, we raise concerns regarding the overrepresentation of fossil fuel and petrochemical lobbyists in INC sessions. We urge UNEP to **establish rules for admitting business organizations to ensure accreditation only for those prioritizing and demonstrating environmental conservation, thereby avoiding conflicts of interest**. It is worth noting that many organizations, scientists, and youth have already expressed their concern over this issue in the INC process. We emphasize the importance of **a strong conflicts of interest (COI) policy for the future plastic pollution instrument's effective deliberation**, free from external interference. Additionally, we call upon member states to uphold **human rights and intergenerational equity** considerations in the ongoing negotiations.

We want to highlight the interplay between plastics and the triple planetary crisis. Therefore, it is normal that there will be many crossovers in the discussion with other instruments. We view this as a supporting approach and see huge **potential for this instrument to complement the works of other existing treaties and frameworks**. We therefore urge member states to delve into the dimensions of plastic pollution, ensuring alignment with all other environmental goals and targets.

Lastly, we remind member states of the limited time ahead and urge them to operationalize discussions effectively and efficiently, maintaining the ambition expressed in UNEA Resolution 5/14 and building upon the progress made thus far. **Let's make Ottawa COUNT!** Thank you.

Submitted on behalf of the youth constituency by:

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