



**Intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop
an international legally binding instrument on plastic
pollution, including in the marine environment
Fifth session**

Busan, Republic of Korea, 25 November–1 December 2024
Item 3 (c) of the provisional agenda*

Organizational matters: organization of work

**Note by the Chair providing further detail relevant to the
organization of work at the fifth session of the
intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an
international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution,
including in the marine environment****

Introduction

1. As we prepare for our fifth session, to be held in Busan, Republic of Korea, from 25 November to 1 December 2024, we have a remarkable opportunity to make a lasting, positive impact on our planet and all who inhabit it. We should take pride in the work accomplished so far, which reflects a steadfast commitment to our shared mission.
2. Promoting dialogue and fostering shared understanding has been central to my role as Chair in pursuing our ultimate goal - establishing a legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution. I will continue to do that, and I am sure that I can count on you for this purpose.
3. To support our work in Busan with transparency, inclusivity, and constructive engagement, I have prepared this further note providing detail and additional information relevant to the organization of work at the fifth session.
4. It follows informal consultations with Members, mainly through an informal open-ended consultation meeting held at the level of Heads of Delegations on 11 November 2024, and by the contents of my non-paper 3,¹ which was made available on 29 October 2024.
5. This document should be read together with my Scenario Note, as contained in document UNEP/PP/INC.5/2, and contains information on the following:
 - (a) Establishment of contact groups;
 - (b) In-session documentation;
 - (c) Schedule of work for the first three days of the session (Annex).

* UNEP/PP/INC.5/1.

** This document has not been formally edited.

¹ Non-paper 3 of the Chair of the committee, available at https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/46483/Non_Paper_3_E.pdf.

I. Establishment of contact groups and modalities for their work

6. As reflected in section VII.C of my Scenario Note, I propose the establishment of four contact groups, each to be led by two co-chairs. I have used the article numbering from my non-paper for ease of reference, as relevant.

A. Contact Group 1

- (a) Plastic products and chemicals of concern as used in plastic products (Art. 3)
- (b) Exemptions (Art. 4)
- (c) Plastic product design (Art. 5)
- (d) Supply (Art. 6)
- (e) Definitions (Art. 2)

B. Contact Group 2

- (a) Emissions and releases (Art. 7)
- (b) Plastic waste management (Art. 8)
- (c) Existing plastic pollution (Art. 9)
- (d) Just transition (Art. 10)

C. Contact Group 3

- (a) Finance, including the establishment of a financial mechanism (Art. 11)
- (b) Capacity building, technical assistance, technology transfer, including international cooperation (Art. 12)

D. Contact Group 4

- (a) Objective (Art. 1)
- (b) Scope
- (c) Preamble
- (d) Principles
- (e) Implementation and compliance (Art. 13)
- (f) National plans (Art. 14)
- (g) Reporting (Art. 15)
- (h) Effectiveness evaluation and monitoring (Art. 16)
- (i) Information exchange (Art. 17)
- (j) Awareness, education and research (Art. 18)
- (k) Health (Art. 19)
- (l) Conference of the Parties, including ability to establish subsidiary groups (Art. 20)
- (m) Secretariat (Art. 21)
- (n) Final provisions (Art. 22 to 32)

7. As detailed in my Scenario Note, each contact group would be expected to organize its work to conduct negotiations in the most effective manner possible, with a view to fostering the development of convergence.²

8. With respect to those issues for which my non-paper does not contain specific draft text, this may include an initial round of conceptual discussion using the elements contained in my non-paper as starting point. This may be supported by informal consultations as needed, with a view to facilitating

² See UNEP/PP/INC.5/2, para. 33.

dialogue among Members and supporting the development of draft text for further consideration by the contact group, under the guidance of the co-chairs.

9. Of course, I will remain available, as Chair, to support this work as needed over the course of the week.

10. Contact groups, within their mandate, will also identify issues and areas where preparatory work should be done in the interim period between the Diplomatic Conference and the first session of the COP, as well as any actions to facilitate early entry into force and preparations by States for ratification.

II. In-session documentation

11. The guidance below is provided to facilitate a common understanding and ensure an efficient process for the development and issuance of in-session documentation.

12. This is our fifth and final negotiating session, and we need to focus our efforts on the development of convergence and final text across all areas of the negotiations. In this spirit, should Members wish to submit any text proposals, I would urge that they concentrate their efforts on facilitating the development of such convergence by showing flexibility and bridging gaps in positions where this is needed. I would also urge that any such proposals be submitted following coordination among Members to facilitate the development of further convergence, and that any text proposals be presented by groups of States rather than individual Members, for consideration in the relevant contact group.

13. Consistent with the approach at the fourth session, Members and groups of States may submit statements and text proposals by self-uploading them to the online In-Session Documents Platform. Each Member delegation can nominate one user for the fifth session (if not already done for the fourth session) to access and use the platform as per the notification sent to delegation focal points and existing platform users on 4 November 2024.

14. The online In-Session Documents Platform for the fifth session will open from Monday, 25 November at 10 a.m. Registered Member platform users will have the possibility of self-uploading any text proposals, including in Contact Groups on behalf of their delegation or a group of States.

15. Members and Observers may submit plenary statements, including on behalf of groups of States and groups of Organizations, by self-uploading them directly to the online In-Session Documents Platform from 10 a.m. on Monday, 25 November, once the session begins.

16. Conference Room Papers (CRPs) from the contact groups, the Legal Drafting Group, the Chair, and any designated informal groups, for consideration by the plenary will be uploaded by the INC secretariat to the In-session Documents Platform and will also be accessible via the INC-5 web page under the 'In-session Documents' tab. The CRP system will be reserved for communicating such documents.

Annex

Proposed schedule of work – Monday, 25 November to Wednesday, 27 November 2024

<i>Date</i>	<i>Monday 25 November</i>		<i>Tuesday 26 November</i>		<i>Wednesday 27 November</i>	
10.00 – 11.00			<i>Plenary</i>		<i>Plenary</i>	
			<i>Contact Group 2</i>	<i>Contact Group 4</i>	<i>Contact Group 1</i>	<i>Contact Group 3</i>
			Emissions and Releases (art. 7)	Secretariat (art. 21)	Plastic products and chemicals of concern as used in plastic products (art. 3)	Finance, including the establishment of a financial mechanism (art. 11)
11.00 – 13.00	Opening plenary		Plastic Waste Management (art. 8)	Conference of the Parties (art. 20)	Exemptions (art. 4)	Capacity building, technical assistance, technology transfer, including international cooperation (art. 12)
			Existing Plastic Pollution (art. 9)	Final Provisions (art. 22 to 32)	Plastic product Design (art. 5)	
			Just Transition (art. 10)		Supply (art. 6)	
					Definitions (art. 2)	
13.00 – 15.00						
	<i>Contact Group 2</i>	<i>Contact Group 4</i>	<i>Contact Group 2</i>	<i>Contact Group 4</i>	<i>Contact Group 1</i>	<i>Contact Group 3</i>
	Emissions and Releases (art. 7)	Implementation and Compliance ((art. 13)	Emissions and Releases (art. 7)	Implementation and Compliance ((art. 13)	Plastic products and chemicals of concern as used in plastic products (art. 3)	Finance, including the establishment of a financial mechanism (art. 11)
	Plastic Waste Management (art. 8)	National Plans (art. 14)	Plastic Waste Management (art. 8)	National Plans (art. 14)	Exemptions (art. 4)	Capacity building, technical assistance, technology transfer, including international cooperation (art. 12)
	Existing Plastic Pollution (art. 9)	Reporting (art. 15)	Existing Plastic Pollution (art. 9)	Reporting (art. 15)	Plastic product Design (art. 5)	
15.00 – 17.00	Just Transition (art. 10)	Effectiveness evaluation and monitoring (art. 16)	Just Transition (art. 10)	Effectiveness evaluation and monitoring (art.16)	Supply (art. 6)	
		Information exchange (art. 17)		Information exchange (art. 17)	Definitions (art. 2)	
		Awareness, education and research (art. 18)		Awareness, education and research (art. 18)		
17.00 – 18.00		Health (art. 19)		Health (art. 19)	Plenary	
18.00 - 19.30						

<i>Date</i>	<i>Monday 25 November</i>		<i>Tuesday 26 November</i>		<i>Wednesday 27 November</i>	
	<i>Contact Group 2</i>	<i>Contact Group 4</i>	<i>Plenary</i>		<i>Contact Group 4</i>	<i>Contact Group 3</i>
19.30 -	Emissions and Releases (art. 7)	Implementation and Compliance ((art. 13)	<i>Contact Group 3</i>	<i>Contact Group 1</i>	Objective (art. 1)	Finance, including the establishment of a financial mechanism (art. 11)
	Plastic Waste Management (art. 8)	National Plans (art. 14)	Finance, including the establishment of a financial mechanism (art. 11)	Plastic products and chemicals of concern as used in plastic products (art. 3)	Scope	
	Existing Plastic Pollution (art. 9)	Reporting (art. 15)	Capacity building, technical assistance, technology transfer, including international cooperation (art. 12)	Exemptions (art. 4)	Preamble	Capacity building, technical assistance, technology transfer, including international cooperation (art. 12)
	Just Transition (art. 10)	Effectiveness evaluation and monitoring (art. 16)	Information exchange (art. 17)	Plastic product Design (art. 5)	Principles	
		Awareness, education and research (art. 18)	Supply (art. 6)	Definitions (art. 2)		
	Health (art. 19)					