

Philippine Intervention to AHEG-4 Agenda Item 5.  
Consideration of submissions on potential response options pursuant  
to paragraph 10(d) of UNEA Resolution 3/7 on marine litter and microplastics

As government experts, together with experts from the private sector and civil society, we have examined technical and governance-related questions. We have seen increasing actions at the sub-local and national levels as well as the strengthening of regional measures. These responses alone are not enough. We have also seen that current international frameworks to address this global problem are fragmented and ineffective, and existing responses are insufficient, including existing voluntary international frameworks (even while we can build on them moving forward).

From past discussions and submissions, many government experts as well as those from the civil society and even the business sector have expressed that **a new binding global agreement is the essential international response** needed.

**Various components of this global legal framework have been commonly identified and recommended by majority of the experts from Member States**, including those from the Philippines. These include the following, among others:

- 1) setting a vision and objective towards long-term elimination of plastics from nature;
- 2) covering the life-cycle of plastics including source materials, sustainable production and consumption (and not just focus on downstream activities like waste management);
- 3) harmonizing reporting and monitoring of actions and their effectiveness to track global progress through comparable and inter-operable indicators
- 4) mechanisms for capacity-building and technical and financial assistance, by way of implementation support especially for developing countries; and
- 5) establish a science-policy interface in the long term, i.e. scientific panel to guide policy actions of decision-makers at various levels.

**These global elements can best fit and can be contained in a new dedicated binding global agreement.**

This global response will complement and will be mutually reinforcing the existing and recommended responses at the national, such as development and implementation of a national action plan, and regional level, enhancement, and integration with regional seas programs, among others. **A new global agreement is needed to prevent and eliminate marine litter and microplastics that will also accelerate national and regional measures.**

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