

Call for written submissions – Proposed response template on the potential options for elements towards an international legally binding instrument

On 9 December 2022, the Executive Secretary of the INC Plastic Pollution Secretariat sent a notification inviting written submissions from members of the committee and from observers. The template below is intended to provide guidance to members of the committee and observers in structuring the written submissions.

As requested by INC-1, written submissions will inform the secretariat in the preparation of a document with potential options for elements towards an international legally binding instrument, for consideration at the second session of the INC, without in any way prejudging what the committee might decide regarding the structure and provisions of the instrument. The document is to be based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastics as called for by UNEA resolution 5/14, including identifying the objective, substantive provisions including core obligations, control measures, and voluntary approaches, implementation measures, and means of implementation.

The template below is meant to assist Members and Observers to prepare their written submission as a guide. A number of documents prepared for INC-1 are of relevance, notably UNEP/PP/INC.1/5 on 'Potential elements, based on provisions in paragraphs 3 and 4 of United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/14, including key concepts, procedures and mechanisms of legally binding multilateral agreements that may be relevant to furthering implementation and compliance under the future international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment'.

The template is divided into three sections:

- I. Substantive elements
- II. Implementation elements
- III. Additional input

All written submissions must be sent to unep-incplastic.secretariat@un.org. The statements received will be compiled and made available the INC webpage.

Please note that it is not required for all fields to be answered in the template for submission.

Deadline for submissions:

- 6 January 2023 for written submissions from observers.
- 10 February 2023 for written submissions from Members of the Committee.

TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSIONS

Name of country (for Members of the committee)	Nigeria
Name of organization (for observers to the committee)	
Contact person and contact information for the submission	Usman Abdullahi Bokani Federal Ministry of Environment, Abuja Nigeria abokanee@gmail.com
Date	7 February, 2023

I. Substantive elements

1. Objective(s)

a) *What objective(s) could be set out in the instrument?*

<p>Proposed Objective:</p> <p>It is very essential that the treaty considered the following elements;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promote Sustainable Consumption and Production of Plastic and elimination of problematic polymers ● Transparency of plastic chemicals additives ● Just Transition for waste pickers and frontline communities. ● Technology transfer. ● Plastic Taxes ● Extended Producer Responsibility scheme/Industry interventions ● National Plastic Reduction Targets <p>Explanatory Text:</p> <p>1. Sustainable Consumption and Production of Plastic: This is aimed towards overall reduction of plastic production particularly difficult and unnecessary single-use plastics, promotion of circular economy in the plastic value chain.</p> <p>2. Transparency of chemicals used in plastic production: The right to know, labeling of all chemical additives use in plastics and elimination of hazardous chemicals from plastic production to ensure a toxic-free plastics for all.</p> <p>3. Just Transition Programme for waste pickers and frontline communities: This is to support and provide social inclusion for vulnerable groups such as waste pickers and frontline communities. Integration of informal waste pickers into the plastic value chain programme/ plastic circular economy programme.</p>

4. Replace plastic production processes that require the use of heavy metals as stabilizers
5. Train and boost local producers and recyclers by equipping them with grants and modern Technologies that would promote 1 and 2 above and at the same time cushion the cost of transition to acquire this new technology.
6. EPR scheme/Industry interventions to ensure plastics producers and manufacturers are responsible for their products throughout their lifecycle.
7. It is essential that reduction targets are incorporated into the national action plans

2. Core obligations, control measures and voluntary approaches

a) *What core obligations, control measures and voluntary approaches would provide a comprehensive approach to addressing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, throughout the full life cycle in line with the future objective(s) of the instrument?*

Core obligations should include;

1. The right to know and appropriate information about chemicals additives in plastic production
2. Polluter pays principle through a robust national Extended Producer Responsibility programme that prioritize the most vulnerable groups to plastic pollution.
3. Mandatory circularity application to design out waste throughout the lifecycle of plastic

Control measures should include;

1. Elimination and banning of unnecessary single-use plastics and difficult plastics
2. Promotion of reuse alternatives particularly for packaging sector
3. Acceleration of toxic-free plastic innovations.
4. Mandatory high tax on virgin plastic production
5. Effective buy-back model through incentives targeting improved sorting-at-source strategy

Voluntary approaches should include;

1. Increased industrialization of polymer-to-polymer technologies particularly in developing countries
2. Incentive-based recovery system

II. Implementation elements

1. Implementation measures

a) *How to ensure implementation of the instrument at the national level (eg. role national action plans contribute to meeting the objectives and obligations of the instrument?)*

- b) *How to ensure effectiveness of the instrument and have efficient national reporting?*
- c) *Please provide any other relevant proposals or priorities here on implementation measures (for example for scientific and technical cooperation and coordination as well as compliance).*

- Technical support and technology transfer to support developing countries economies transition.
- Application of smart technology for effective data collection
- Establishment of science-policy-industry interface in national action plans

2. Means of Implementation

With respect to means of implementation, document UNEP/PP/INC.1/5 covers the following elements: capacity-building, technical assistance, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and financial assistance.

- a) *What measures will be required to support the implementation of the instrument?*

The Creation of a fully funded project office domiciled in the Ministry of Environment and saddled with the following responsibilities for not less than 3 years:

1. Awareness creation in schools and public places like markets, hospital, hotels etc using trade unions affiliated with these organizations on the need for plastic waste segregation at source in the six Geo-political Zones of the country.
2. Awareness creation in the six Geo-political Zones of the country targetting manufacturers and recyclers which will be aimed at inculcating technically improved plastic production and recycling processes that has identified and addressed all noted concerns associated with plastic waste management.
3. Capacity building workshops in the six Geo-political Zones of the Country aimed at training manufacturers and recyclers with improved technical processes that would ensure a smoother transmission to the production and recycling of less hazardous plastic products.
4. Provisions of start off grants to small and medium scale plastic producers and recyclers who have been trained by this project in the 36 states of the country including the Federal Capital Territory (Abuja) increasing their numbers in every state and providing easily accessible plastic collection points.

III. Additional input

Please provide any other relevant proposals or priorities here (for example introductory elements; awareness-raising, education and exchange of information; research; stakeholder engagement).

1.)Awareness/ advocacy creation for and effective and efficient plastic management response.
- 2) Education and information exchange.
- 3) Technology research and development
- 4) Strengthened stakeholder engagement;
- 5)Provision of Train the Trainee programme and integration of informal waste pickers and workers into plastic circular plastic economy programme