HIGHLIGHTS OF DAY FIVE, INC-4

- Readthroughs were completed by all subgroups and line-by-line negotiations commenced in the afternoon:
  - Subgroup 1.2 finished first reading of Part II. 3bis, 4, 10a and 13 in the morning, and planned to continue the discussions in the evening. Subgroup 1.1 started discussions on objective.
  - Subgroup 2.1 discussed Part V.1; only two paragraphs (9 and 10) remaining to complete this section. Subgroup 2.2 completed a read through of Part IV and commenced text negotiations in the afternoon.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- Contact Group 1:
  - Subgroup 1.2 completed a first reading of the remaining provisions in the morning:
    - On Part II. 3bis, microplastics, under the group of provisions on problematic and avoidable plastic products, Kenya submitted a proposal on the leakage of micro and nanoplastics across the entire lifecycle of plastics, which received mixed views from states. States generally aligned on the need for further research on nanoplastics. Co-facilitators proposed to include the submission by Kenya, review it in the second reading before further streamlining. One state suggested to move Part II. 3bis to Part III. 2, on technology transfer.
    - On Part II. 4, exemptions, many states noted the dependency and connection of this provision to substantive discussions of other provisions on chemicals of concern and problematic and avoidable plastic products—further discussions on this provision could be premature at this time. There was broad convergence amongst states on the necessity of exemptions, given considerations of national circumstances. Some states, however, stressed that there must be no exempted hazardous products or chemicals. There was a suggestion to draw on existing MEAs, such as Article 6 of the Minamata Convention on mercury, to provide the basis to start discussions.
    - On Part II. 10a, trade-related measures on listed polymers, chemicals and products, there were diverse views—many states supported sub-option 1 of Option 1, while others expressed preference for sub-options 2 and 3 of Option 1. Linkages with other provisions were discussed, with some views that it could be premature to discuss details before other provisions. Many noted that trade-related measures are common practices in MEAs, with examples like the Stockholm Convention and Minamata Convention. Some states voiced concerns on potential duplication of work in other processes, including the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (BRS) Conventions; while the Informal Dialogue on Plastic Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade (IDP) was noted as a complementary and not competing process to the plastic pollution treaty.
    - On Part II. 13, on transparency, tracking, monitoring and labelling, many states considered this provision as key in evidence-based decision-making and accountability in the full life cycle approach.
Some saw this provision as duplicative and overcomplicated. States also considered whether labelling could be better placed under product design provisions.

- Subgroup 1.1 debated which of the streamlined texts should be used for further negotiations, and eventually decided to use the original text from the Co-chairs. The group started—but has not completed—textual negotiations on the treaty’s objective and will continue the discussions when it resumes.

- Subgroup 1.3 started text negotiations on Part II.9b, on fishing gears, firstly with discussions on placement (inclusion in Part II. 8, 9, or as a standalone provision), with no clear outcome yet. States also considered whether fishing gears should be referred to, and to what extent, in national plans.

- Subgroup 1.2 resumed in the evening session, with most of the meeting spent on the debate of whether the subgroup could start text negotiations on Part II. 1 provisions, or via other ways of organising the work. The group eventually started negotiations on Part II. 1, primary plastic polymer but has not completed the work when it closed at 11PM.

- **Contact group 2:**
  - Subgroup 2.1
    - During the first session, Part III.1. 9 (plastic pollution fee) and 1.10 (Parties’ alignment of financial flows with treaty goals) were discussed. There is significant divergence on paragraph 10, with substantial support for the option requiring parties to align policies with goals of this instrument; others prefer generic language encouraging alignment. WWF urges support for policy alignment as an obligation.
    - The first reading of Part III.2 (capacity building, technical assistance and technology transfer) was completed. There was widespread agreement these provisions are fundamental to the instrument, and divergence on whether financial assistance should be included here, or only in III.1 (financing mechanism).
    - In the evening, discussion on Part III.2 (capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer) focused on whether technology transfer should be a standalone article; with diverging views presented by states.
  - Subgroup 2.2
    - Subgroup 2.2 in the afternoon concluded the first reading of all elements assigned to it. In the evening session, the subgroup commenced line-by-line negotiations on Part IV.1 (National Action Plans). The session commenced with the first paragraph and made limited progress.

**WHAT TO EXPECT ON DAY SIX (28 APRIL 2024)**

- All subgroups are expected to make substantial progress on the next-to-last day of INC-4, and wrap up their work on all provisions, before reporting to their respective Contact Groups, on main areas of convergence and streamlined texts as the main results, and specific points of divergence that require further work in the treaty.
- All streamlined texts are found [here](#).

**WWF RECOMMENDATIONS**

**For Day Six:**

With two days remaining in the session, it is critical that states progress negotiations with a focus on global obligations in line with Resolution 5/14’s comprehensive mandate, and on critical outcomes for the session:
Streamlining draft text of the treaty, especially on provisions related to:

- binding control measures to eliminate chemicals and polymers of concern, problematic and avoidable plastic products, to redesign products and systems in a non-toxic circular economy, and to safely manage plastic waste;
- implementation measures to enable effective implementation of the treaty by all Parties; and
- institutional setups and arrangements to support long-term effectiveness of the treaty, including mechanisms to gradually strengthen the treaty over time.

WWF welcomes specific input on the intersessional work proposal submitted by Samoa on behalf of AOSIS, and urge states to support the Chair in preparing the plan for this work, which must prioritise:

- Criteria to assess and list plastic products and chemicals for bans and phased reductions;
- General and sector-specific requirements for product design and performance towards non-toxic circularity; and
- Specific details on implementation measures, including compliance, reporting, and assessment; and on financial mechanisms.

Ensure continued progress on elements and provisions in the treaty, during the intersessional period, ahead of the final adoption at INC-5 in Busan, Republic of Korea.

For further information for expected discussions throughout INC-4, recommended priority areas and WWF recommendations on the revised draft text, please see WWF’s Technical Paper.
| Subgroup 1.3 | Co-facilitated by Sr. Andres Duque Solis, Tercer Secretario – Grupo de Trabajo sobre Asuntos Ambientales, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores (Colombia) and Mr. Alshehri, Abdulrahman Ali A., Delegate, National Center for Environmental Compliance (Saudi Arabia) |
| Part II: 7 extended producer responsibility; Part II: 8 emissions and releases of plastic throughout its life cycle; Part II: 9(a) waste management: plastic waste management; Part II: 10(b) transboundary movement of non-hazardous plastic waste; Part II: 11 existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment |

| Contact Group 2 |
| Co-chaired by Mme. Kate Lynch, Division Head Circular Economy, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Australia) and Mr. Tommy Oliver Boachie, Special Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (Ghana) |

| Subgroup 2.1 | Co-facilitated by Ms. Karekaho Naomi Namara, Head Communications, National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) Principle Corporate & Communications Officer (Uganda) and Mr. Antonio Miguel Luís, Deputy Permanent Representative to UNEP, Embassy of Portugal in Nairobi (Portugal) |
| Part III: 1 Financing mechanism and resources; Part III: 2 capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer |

| Subgroup 2.2 | Co-facilitated by Mme. Marine Collignon, Deputy Head of the Environment and Climate Department, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (France) and Mr. Danny Rahdiansyah, Deputy Permanent Representative for UNEP and UN-HABITAT, Embassy of Indonesia in Nairobi (Indonesia) |
| Part IV: 1 National action/implementation plans; Part IV: 2 implementation and compliance; Part IV: 3 reporting on progress of implementation; Part IV: 4 periodic assessment and monitoring of the progress of implementation of the instrument and effectiveness evaluation; Part IV: 5 international cooperation; Part IV: 6 information exchange; Part IV: 7 awareness raising, education and research and development; Part IV: 8 partner and stakeholder engagement; Part IV: 8 bis health aspects; Part V: 1 governing body; Part V: 2 subsidiary bodies; Part V: 3 secretariat; Part VI final provisions |

or visit: [wwf.panda.org/plastictreaty](http://wwf.panda.org/plastictreaty)
for information on the treaty negotiation, including timeline, reports, briefs, and quick guide to the INC process.

For more information, contact:
Eirik Lindebjerg
Global Plastics Policy Lead
elindebjerg@wwf.no