

Item 4 Preparations for the work of the intergovernmental negotiating committee

Regarding the **organization of work**, Norway would like to make 5 points:

1. we would like to see the INC start off with an overarching discussion on the **objectives** and the **structure** of the instrument. This will provide direction for the process moving forward and be helpful to inform the thematic structuring of subsequent deliberations.
2. We acknowledge that it may be difficult to follow many parallel discussions for smaller delegations. But we do think it is realistic to prepare for at least two **workstreams** at INC 1. We also believe it would be useful to have engagement in different workstreams in the intersessional period.
3. The resolution specifies that the INC will take a comprehensive approach that addresses the full **life cycle** of plastic. We think using the different **stages** in the **life cycle** to structure our discussions will be helpful, while also acknowledging that a number of issues are cross-cutting, and certain institutional issues need to be dealt with separately.
4. Norway also submit that it is important to prioritise our deliberations according to the most **problematic** types of plastics and different **sources** of plastic pollution.
5. Lastly, we want to underline the importance of allowing **flexibility** to address other aspects that might arise throughout the negotiations, in line with para 4 (h) in the UNEA resolution.

Norway appreciates the opportunity to suggest the Secretariat prepare the following **substantive documents** prior to INC 1.

We would echo several suggestions mentioned already including a Glossary of key terms and an Overview of the main sources and pathways of the most prevalent categories of plastic pollution, including microplastics, and the environmental risk associated with the various categories of plastic pollution; We would also like to see an Overview of the current state of scientific knowledge for the use of chemicals in plastics and its associated risks to human health;

Finally, Norway would like to suggest the secretariat to provide:

1. Overview of available statistics and possible gaps in statistics for the material flow of plastics through each stage in the life cycle, including production, import and export, use and reuse, as well as collection, recycling, incineration and disposal;
2. Overview of Provisions of MEAs relevant to plastic pollution;
3. An overview of activities and mandates under other instruments relevant to plastic pollution
4. An overview of standard articles on final provisions that are typically included in multilateral environmental agreements;

The Nordic countries has commissioned a number of reports exploring a number of possible elements in a legally binding instrument, including on international sustainability criteria, exploring relevant financing issues and National action plans. We suggest such documents, including reports from non-governmental organizations, could be made available to delegations through the secretariat.