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

| Name of country (for Members of the committee) | RED MEXICANA DE ACCIÓN ECOLOGICA (ACCION ECOLOGICA) Mexican Network of Ecological Action |
| Name of organization (for observers to the committee) | RED MEXICANA DE ACCIÓN ECOLOGICA (ACCION ECOLOGICA) Mexican Network of Ecological Action |
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I. Substantive elements

1. Objective(s)

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

   Proposed Objective:

   Protect human health and all ecosystems from contamination by plastics and their toxic additives, with a focus on human rights, and environmental justice under the Principles of Prevention, Precaution, Non-regression, and Intergenerational Equity.

   Explanatory Text:

   Health as the guiding principle of the Treaty is supported by the reality with the actual plastic crisis and the most recent scientific evidence indicating the serious damage to human health and the impact on ecosystems caused by plastics at all stages of their life cycle:

   The extraction of raw materials, polymer production, and the production of plastic products, to which thousands of chemical substances and toxic additives are added has affected and damage human health and environment. Also, the transport, use, and final disposal.

   The human rights approach in the Treaty will make it possible to protect all people from violations of their rights at each of the stages of their life cycle, especially the most vulnerable populations, children, indigenous people, poor communities, and formal and informal workers that suffer from socio-environmental injustice and violation of their rights to life, health, physical integrity, and a toxic-free environment.¹

The importance of prevention and precaution principles in the Treaty is intended to avoid environmental and human rights risks and damages. To ensure that the treaty establishes progressive measures for the State parties, the principle of non-regression will also be established as a national legislation guide, ensuring that the ability of future generations to enjoy their human rights and a healthy environment is not threatened.

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?

This proposal is not based on voluntary measures.

Core obligations should be focused on:

- Eliminate subsidies for fossil fuels used as raw materials and for petrochemicals destined for virgin polymer production.
- Reduce the production and supply of plastics.
- Strengthen national bans on single-use plastics.
- Enforce transparency from the industry about the type of additives and chemical substances in plastic products.
- To adopt legal and administrative measures into national legislation to ensure access by public authorities and the public to the chemical components of plastic materials and products
- Regulate classes of chemicals in accordance with the precautionary principle.
- No incineration, no co-processing, or any other form of energy recovery should be allowed nor should they be considered as viable forms of recycling that only increases the climate (Plastic is carbon) and socioenvironmental crisis which affect our health and environment.
- Ban the presence of toxic additives in plastics and the practice of recycling plastics containing hazardous substances.
- Adopt a human rights-based approach to plastics management, including meaningful public participation and access to remedies.
- End Waste Colonialism. Sending plastic garbage to another country should not be considered as recycling.


2 Refers to the practice of exporting hazardous waste from developed countries to underdeveloped ones for disposal.
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).

- National Action Plans for Implementation in line with international harmonized measures.
- Establish controls and bans on non-essential plastics.
- Adopt urgent and immediate actions to reduce the volume of plastic production and use, including single-use plastics and packaging.
- Technical support for the implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility EPR and other policies
- Commitment by corporations to conduct themselves with the same environmental standards in rich countries as in poor ones
- Enforce and support public participation from NGOs and community groups and informal workers

II. 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; institutional arrangements and final provisions).

- “One Health” unifying approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people, animals, and ecosystems.
- Just transition for waste-pickers and petrochemical and plastics manufacturing industries workers.
- Waste Hierarchy
- Extended Producer Responsibility
- Raising awareness for more public conscience and active participation.
- Plastic Pollution from agribusiness.
- Strengthen the human right to access and sanitation of drinking water for the world and thus end with the bottled water.
- Develop global returnable packaging schemes that can be implemented anywher

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3 https://www.who.int/health-topics/one-health#tab=tab_1