Submission on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) at the First Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment

Punta del Este, Uruguay
30 November 2022

Agenda Item 4.3.b – Means of Implementation, including capacity building, technical assistance, and finance.

1. The success of the ILBI will require the provision of necessary means of implementation for SIDS in the implementation of obligations, commitments and/or contributions under the ILBI, including enabling and reporting activities, addressing barriers to recycling, and in developing sustainable alternatives.

2. Finance, capacity building and technology development and transfer shall be provided under the regime and must be new, additional, adequate and predictable, with specific support provisions for SIDS including priority access.

3. Financial Assistance on a grant or concessional basis: In order to ensure stable and predictable funding, contributor countries will need to provide new, additional, adequate and predictable financing on a grant basis for, at least, enabling activities and associated costs. Other forms of financial assistance on a concessional basis, such as private investment and loans from multilateral development banks, are complementary tools but not replacements for public financial assistance provided as grants.

4. AOSIS considers that discussions on the instrument’s financial mechanism and corresponding obligations should begin at the outset to establish roles and responsibilities with respect to each area of focus within the ILBI. It is noted that different obligations may necessitate varied approaches and requirements in terms of enabling activities, technology transfer, general implementation of obligations, and other associated full and incremental costs.

5. AOSIS continues to engage on the possibility of a technical needs assessment for identifying capacity-building needs, which could be incorporated into a NAPs framework under the ILBI, and/or performed with the assistance of a scientific, technical and economic body under the ILBI.

6. In support of achieving the Objective(s), the ILBI must also promote research and development in technology for, among other things, sustainable alternatives to plastic, including reusable, biodegradable and compostable plastics.