

Canadian statement on objectives, scope and structure

- Thank you chair. I will be brief as many of our points were made in our opening statement.
- Canada supports establishing an overarching goal and shared objectives in the agreement. This will facilitate a common understanding of the intention of the agreement, drive ambitious actions and enable the implementation of an agreement in support of these objectives.
- An overarching goal to end plastic pollution aligns with the UNEA 5/14 resolution and recognizes the need for urgent action to turn off the tap and address the breadth of risks posed by plastic pollution and the mismanagement of plastics.
- Canada supports discussions on the scope of the agreement, recognizing it will need to reflect and align with the objectives and measures of the agreement. Additional discussions will be required to further refine the scope, as work to confirm objectives and measures progresses throughout the INC process.
- Pursuant to UNEA resolution 5/14, the agreement should address the full lifecycle of plastics and reflect the waste hierarchy with complementary upstream, midstream and downstream solutions.
- At this time, we consider the scope of this agreement to consider all plastics, including all sizes (e.g. macro and microplastics) and composition (e.g. conventional, compostable and degradable plastics) from all sources, as well as its associated chemicals and additives without duplication of other relevant multilateral environmental agreements.
- Finally, we also agree with the interventions of others that form follows function and we want a structure that is commensurate to the objectives and needs of the agreement.

Sequencing and Clustering

- We have an ambitious timeline to develop the legally binding instrument on plastic pollution and as such, we need to be negotiation ready to discuss substance at INC-2.
- Canada wants an ambitious, robust, inclusive, and transparent INC process to develop the instrument and this first meeting is the time to set the framing of those discussions and put the path in motion for effective negotiations.
- With that and building upon the provided report 1/5, Canada supports establishing two main clusters for organizing discussions at INC-2 that would be informed by a Secretariat report outlining potential elements in these areas.
- The first area of work to discuss objectives, control measures, voluntary approaches and implementation measures, including national action plans and reporting. This area of work should address the full lifecycle of plastics, consider the waste hierarchy, and discuss complementary upstream, mid-stream and downstream measures.
- The second area of work to discuss means of implementation, including capacity building, technical assistance and finance as well as institutional arrangements and other enabling elements.
- We could also support the creation of informal groups to facilitate these work streams, recognizing the circumstances of smaller delegations, there should not be more than 2 parallel sessions.

3e. Stakeholder participation and action

- Thank you Chair.
- Canada highly values the input of Indigenous Peoples, youth, academia, civil society, industry, all levels of government and others to inform the development of the instrument on plastic pollution.
- We want to see meaningful engagement of stakeholders throughout the INC process that complements existing initiatives and considers lessons learned from other processes.
- We would like to see engagement inter-sessionally in a virtual format. In particular, written submissions relevant to meeting agenda items in advance of member state submissions and before intergovernmental negotiating committee meetings in order to share views and help inform the negotiations.
- We also welcome webinars and technical briefings as well as openly communicating and sharing information on the INC website or other platforms to facilitate accessibility and transparency.