



INCI Opening Statement

28 November 2022

GAIA is a network of grassroots groups, national and regional alliances representing more than 1000 organizations from 92 countries working towards a just zero waste world.

A successful INCI will:

Deliver a negotiations roadmap that prioritizes reducing plastic polymer production and a just transition. Time-allocation is decisive, and only a negotiations schedule that makes ample time for reduction and just transition will deliver a treaty that is effective on those fronts.

Decide on a Specific Convention that blends binding global obligations, including reduction targets, with national action. National action must build the reuse and toxic-free mechanical recycling infrastructure and systems needed to reduce plastic production, end plastic pollution and waste colonialism, and deliver a just transition for affected informal and formal workers.

Establish a framework to ban plastic polymers, additives, products and waste-management processes that harm human or environmental health or perpetuate waste colonialism including those that worsen toxic pollution or circulate toxics in the economy, threaten water security, or deepen environmental injustice (e.g., “waste-to-energy” incineration, gasification, pyrolysis and other so-called “chemical recycling”, and plastic waste exports).

Ensure meaningful and direct participation for civil society through financial and interpretation support for participation in negotiations as observers, and access

to contact groups for civil society to make suggestions that Member States can support. Special attention must be given to waste-pickers, fenceline and frontline communities, Indigenous and Traditional communities, and women.

Thank you for your attention.