Mister Chairman,

Your Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen –

My name is [X] from [X] and it is my honor to address you on behalf of the International Chamber of Commerce.

We would like to start by extending our gratitude to you, Mr. Chair, to the INC Secretariat and to all the Parties present here, for a committed, collaborative and constructive engagement in the discussions as we witnessed these past 5 days.

If there is one message, we would like to convey at the closing session of this first INC meeting, is that we are certain that the global business community is deeply committed to support the efforts to secure an ambitious, workable and effective
international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution by 2024.

We very much welcomed the opportunity to engage in the multi-stakeholder dialogue at this meeting. It provided a unique and invaluable instance to give impulse to the multilateral and multilevel exchange and collaboration we critically need. We encourage the Secretariat to build on its success and further strengthen the format and modalities for the continued engagement of the business community, from all sectors and sizes, and all stakeholders.

We particularly appreciated the expressions of Member States this week regarding the critical role of business and industry in achieving a successful outcome. We stand ready to accelerate our efforts and inform and engage actively in forthcoming sessions by providing experience and expertise, and solutions.

But we can only go so far on our own.
We now look to Parties to set the foundations for a harmonised and coordinated regulatory framework, with clear targets and goals, that can help guide businesses actions and investments at the required scale and speed, and across the entire value chains and enable business to become positive drivers of a circular economy for plastics.

We welcome progress made this week on both the procedural elements and more importantly on the concrete aspects to guide and frame the Committee’s work going forward structuring the content of the instrument.

We agree of course than an effective treaty should address the full life cycle of plastics, including upstream and downstream measures, with particular focus on reduction, reuse, recovery and recycling. A balance of legally binding and voluntary elements for effective implementation and broad participation will be critical.

Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,
We all know much work still remains to be done to ensure that we achieve the objective we want to attain.

Let us build on the achievements made at this meeting, the partnerships and collaborations created and together speed up and advance the critical work towards an ambitious treaty to end plastic pollution.

Thank you.