

Good morning Madame Chair. I am from Island Sustainability Alliance Cook Islands Inc. ("ISACI") and my name is Ms Imogen Ingram, speaking on behalf of Pacific SIDS. For many Pacific SIDS, such as Cook Islands, Fiji and Samoa plastic packaging associated with imports for our significant tourism industry makes up a large volume of our hazardous waste. It would be most helpful in term of innovative technology if harmful additives were removed or left out at the manufacturing stage. That would enable easier re-purposing or environmentally sound disposal of plastics after collection on land.

That is also true of marine plastic debris that comes to our islands from other countries . Regarding low or medium-cost options for environmentally sound disposal of plastics, Pacific SIDS simply could not afford environmentally sound disposal technology. I think Pacific SIDS need regional hubs to deal with environmentally sound disposal of our relatively small volumes of plastics. Such a regional hub might have high-tech disposal for environmentally-sound disposal of plastic wastes.

Thank you Madame Chair.