Support to monitoring and evaluation of progress in, and effectiveness of implementation and national reporting

We believe it is too early to discuss the issue of monitoring and evaluation, especially considering the lack of agreement on the substantive issues and the current progress.

Forward-looking developing countries have their own unique circumstances and capabilities and monitoring shall not put burden on developing countries, we believe that building and supporting capacities with the necessary tools is extremely important, while this monitoring and evaluation shall be nationally driven with no common standards for reporting.

Other Aspects including scientific and technical cooperation and coordination, research and awareness raising

Thank you, Mr. Chair, for giving us the floor.

Saudi Arabia would like to highlight the importance of supporting research and development in finding technical solutions such as; circularity approaches and investigating sustainable technical solutions throughout the plastic value chain. Saudi Arabia echoes our distinguish colleague from Japan and Brazil on the need of a subsidiary body in science and technology.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia sees the need to support and promote constructive interaction between policy and the scientific and research community, at all local and global levels, and to sustain science-based approach with regard to the sound management of plastic waste. This includes promoting the sound management of plastic waste, pollution prevention, and effective participation.

The international community should focus on finding sustainable and innovative solutions for waste management through proper scientific evidence, and build on those outputs to drive policies.

These solutions including technologies should ensure comprehensive alternative without limiting them to certain types, since the capabilities and infrastructure differ from one country to another.

it should be based on the importance that all scientific evidence must be robust and clear with a clear approach that evaluates alternatives to the current material, and does not create more harm to economic growth as well as environmental impact. Finally, Saudi Arabia is looking forward to the outcomes and contribution of the UNEA resolution 8 titled "science-Policy Panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution".

Stakeholder Participation & Action

Thank you, Mr. Chair, for giving us the floor.
We reiterate that outcomes of the discussion of the multi stakeholders needs to be transparent and submitted by the secretary in sufficient time, allowing for member states to review and digest them in sufficient time.

We see the need for a broad and diverse representation of stakeholders across the value-chain, and it is important to differentiate between committee member submissions and stakeholder submissions, such as physical scientists, social scientists, business and industry, recyclers, and including the informal sectors to provide member states the opportunity to recognize the perspectives of different stakeholders.

In regards to intersessional work we would be cautious of the limited time we have, and we would request the secretariat to provide more clarity on the modality of stakeholder’s participation and activities. Saudi Arabia is suggesting the following for the intercessional work to have constructive stakeholders’ engagement and participations:

1. We welcome the suggestion of workshops and side events, while ensuring clear topics are defined well before the events
2. we see the form being held well in advance prior to the INC meetings to allow for a comprehensive synthesis of the discussions
3. We see the most benefit from in-person sessions, as the virtual settings is challenging for engagement
4. To allow for a streamlined discussion we would suggest the creation of a portal, this would bring all the summaries from the MSF in one portal and in the future could allow for discussions, reactions, questions, research, and findings, and overall submissions. This would provide insights to the process
5. Finally, we recognize the role of other stakeholders and the valuable input they can provide but this would be out of the formal negotiations process.

Thank you for Mr. Chair

**Standard articles on final provisions**

Thank you, Mr. Chair, and secretariat, as well as our colleagues from different delegations for the progress so far.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is keen on working cooperatively and with a high level of flexibility with all the delegations, and we are keen to reach the end of 2024 with a draft instrument as UNEA decision had stated, and as you know, the work of the first INC is still incomplete by this we mean that we have not touched upon many other important aspects, and in that we must focus on working towards the main elements of the agreement, before discussing the final form of the agreement. And we reiterate our keenness to complete the preparation
of the instrument, and we are also listening to all the opinions put forward by colleagues on this issue and we look forward to seeing the outputs in the upcoming INCs so that we can determine their impact.

All thanks and appreciation

**Sequencing and recommended further work to be undertaken**

We welcome workshops and side events along INCs sessions focusing on the technical aspects, we believe of the benefits from in-person sessions, as the virtual settings is challenging for engagement for most countries.

Chair, we would like to stress the importance that this process is committee driven and this is a legal treaty that will be adopted by committee members. We want to emphasize that it has to be driven by the parties and they lead the negotiation process, and that stakeholder participation can't interfere with our work

Thanks, Mr. Chair.