PREPARATIONS FOR THE FIRST INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE ON PLASTIC POLLUTION (INC-1)

SUBMISSION BY SINGAPORE

Singapore welcomes the opportunity to provide views on the INC on Plastic Pollution, including: (i) the sequencing and organisation of INC; (ii) substantive issues for INC-1, in particular, regarding potential elements of the future instrument as well as priorities, needs, challenges and barriers and overview of national measures; and (iii) the content and considerations for the preparation of the forum.

Singapore fully supports the INC process to develop a new instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment. Singapore’s view is that the INC process should be inclusive and allow for active participation by all Member States of the United Nations and Members of its specialized agencies, as we work together to reach a consensus to achieve a constructive outcome. Accordingly, there should be no more than two parallel negotiating tracks in discussion at any given time during the INCs, to take into account the limitations of small delegations.

INC-1 should consider overarching issues such as the scope, objectives, and vision of the instrument. This will provide clarity on the subsequent discussions. Having done so, INC-1 should consider structuring the discussions into thematic clusters, based on delegations’ views on how the instrument should be structured.

Singapore is also of the view that the instrument should seek to galvanise global action and cooperation on plastic pollution and allow for strong and practical country-driven actions that take into account different national circumstances. The instrument should:

- Address plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, and address the transboundary nature of this issue;
- Support comprehensive waste management as a key approach to prevent leakage of plastic waste to the environment;
- Promote actions that enhance the recyclability and circularity of plastics;
- Promote the development of sustainable design standards that enable reuse and economically feasible recycling;
- Promote practical measures to reduce the consumption of single-use products including single-use plastics;
- Promote a range of practical approaches and actions, beyond standalone policies and measures, that generate net environmental benefits based on countries’ contexts; and
- Foster strong engagement with the private sector and stakeholders to generate commercially viable and innovative solutions.

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