

OWEG Plastic: Opening Statement Switzerland

- We thank Senegal to invite us to Dakar and to host this meeting. We express as well our sincere condolences to Senegal, for the tragic fire incident.
- The adoption of the **resolution “end plastic pollution”** was a historic moment and a stepping stone. It is a recognition that we need global rules to tackle plastic pollution – making clear that the current legal framework is insufficient and fragmented and that voluntary approaches are not enough.
- Now we need to deliver and ensure to **set up a process** that will enable us to have efficient and meaningful negotiations. To do this, **we have at this OEWG the opportunity to lay a good ground by defining key elements for the negotiation process.** This includes to
 - o Identify a bureau for the INC, including the Chair of the process
 - o To agree on a timeline for the INC process – giving us sufficient guidance while allowing us to make the necessary adjustments and most important, provides us with sufficient time to address the relevant questions during the INC meetings as well intersessionally.
 - o To provide guidance to the secretariat on the documents prepared for INC 1. We will need, among others, informations on the sources, consumption patterns and related risks of the most prevalent types of plastic to be able to define effective and efficient control measures.
 - o Agree on a draft organization of work for the INC that would help us to discuss the main elements that the legally binding instrument will need to cover.
 - o Finally – we have taken note of preparations of the forum. We firmly support the active engagement of stakeholders as we will need their expertise throughout these intergovernmental negotiations.

We aim to achieve a treaty that effectively contributes to the **protection of human health and the environment** from plastic pollution and contains **clear obligations and specific measures**. We are ready to continue to engage constructively and in a committed manner in this important process.