

Honorable Chair,

Fellow delegates,

1. The United Republic of Tanzania wishes to congratulate you for assuming the chairmanship of Inter -governmental Negotiation Committee.
2. The United Republic of Tanzania is advancing our appreciation to the Government of Uruguay for hosting this first Inter -governmental Negotiation Committee Meeting and hospitality accorded to our delegation.
3. The United Republic of Tanzania aligns itself to the statement issued by the Distinguished Delegate from Ghana on behalf of the African Group
4. United Republic of Tanzania also sends sincere congratulations to UNEP for organizing this first Inter -governmental Negotiation Committee Meeting to develop international legally binding Instrument to end plastic pollution.
5. Our delegation and the rest of the members are aware of the effects of plastics from production, distribution, use and disposal to the environment include marine.

6. Hence there is a need to have necessary measures to reduce or eventual elimination of their effects. In this regard in 2019 United Republic of Tanzania prepared the regulation to prohibit single use plastic carrier bags. The implementation of the regulation has been successfully.
7. United Republic of Tanzania recognizes the global efforts through INC to end Plastic pollution which have impacts to the environment including terrestrial and marine: In achieving this, we recommend the process toward this agreement to be transparent and inclusive, involving all key stakeholders in all stages of plastic lifecycle without forgetting informal sector such as waste pickers. Inclusivity of the stakeholders will also allow flexibility and easy inclusion of technological changes required during implementation.
8. The importance of plastic in our daily life and our economy cannot denied, Hence through scientific proven research the instrument that is going to be developed should highlight the plastic products, hazardous additives that could be identified as potential hazards to the environmental pollution.
9. Our delegation reaffirms its commitment to participate effectively in INC, so as to reach an agreement by 2024. We

will continue to take part in global efforts towards ensuring that the objectives agreed upon in UNEA's resolution no. 5/14 are realized.

Honorable Chair, Delegates, thank you.