

Thank you Chair,

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

- I would like to thank to the **UNEP and Uruguay** for the great effort in organizing this Meeting.

Honorable delegates,

- We would like to stress our appreciation on the adoption of **decision on end-of plastic pollution and** the relevant process.
- Türkiye gives **particular importance** to the **policies and actions** in order to reduce both **land based and marine plastic pollution**.
- In Türkiye the Zero Waste Project is carried out under the auspices of our First Lady Her Excellency Madame Emine Erdoğan. Türkiye urges member states of the UNEP to support the goodwill document signed by Mrs. Erdoğan and Mr. Antonio Guterres in UNGA 77 in order to extend the country's Zero Waste project around the world.
- We will pursue our endeavor as the country which **established Green Deal Action plan** and still prepare its own **National Action Plan on Circular Economy including plastics**. Regarding the management of single-use plastics, charging

implementation for plastic bags were started in 2019, and we achieved 65% reduction.

- We are an eager country for the elimination of plastic pollution. We also support and contribute the ongoing work under EU, OECD and Basel Secretariats,
- We put into force provincial marine litter action plans for all coastal provinces. And 180 thousand tons of marine litter has been collected from the coast and the sea since 2019.
- The COP22 of UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention took place on December 2021 in Antalya and we have been conducting the role of the President of Bureau for the current biennium.
- Based on the phrase "Pollution does not have border", a Memorandum of Understanding between the Barcelona and Bucharest Conventions were signed for effective management of marine litter during our 2016 term presidency.
- I would like to express that Türkiye is ready to take a leading role in providing cooperation at the regional level within the scope of the New Instrument.
- Regarding Climate Change which has a great connection with plastic pollution. After ratification of the Paris

Agreement, Türkiye shares **more eager than ever** to combat climate change.

- Our **2053** Net Zero Target and **Green Development Revolution** has been announced by President of Türkiye H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN in UN General Assembly.
- We prepared more ambitious **NDC** and increased our emission reduction target that we announced as 21% from business as usual by 2030 to 41%.
- Plastic pollution is caused by many factors as I mentioned and needs to be agreed upon for each component.
- We expect the New Instrument to consider providing financial mechanisms and technical supports to developing countries such as Türkiye.
- I would like to end my remarks by underlining our endeavor to reach United Nations decision **“End Plastic Pollution”!**
- Thank you.