

**Thank you Chairs
Excellences, ladies and gentlemen**

Let me begin by thanking Uruguay for the warm welcome and for convening the first INC-1 meeting on development of the international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution. It is an honour for Vietnam to be part of this important work.

Like many other countries, Vietnam continues to be adversely affected by plastic pollution both on land and in the sea, and thus we are fully aware of the long-term impacts of plastic waste on nature and human health. The Government of Vietnam therefore fully supports the development of the international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution.

For Vietnam, participating in the negotiation of this instrument, we can see both opportunities for joint activities as well as substantial challenges that **require** collective determination and concrete actions from all of us to resolve.

In this regard, and taking this opportunity, in order to develop a feasible legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution, I would like to underline some key points to INC-1, specifically:

First, looking at the successful implementation of some Multilateral Environment Agreements, strong commitments made by all member states and stakeholders should be matched by responsible and concrete actions to achieve **future ambitious** targets.

Second, dealing with this critical global environmental problem, we all understand that it is difficult to satisfy all aspects, especially the economic element, leading sometimes to trade-offs and compromises, but these need to be considered with a view to the environment to be left to future generations; and

Third, the whole global supply chain for plastic, including waste plastic, must be addressed in the process of ending plastic pollution, with the manufacturing sector playing a significant role, especially in designing out plastic waste from products. How Governments can build effective long-lasting partnerships with the private sector therefore needs to be given adequate attention throughout the whole negotiation process.

And last but not least, Vietnam's delegation is firmly committed to the success of the negotiations ahead of us.

I thank you