

Thank you Mr. Chair.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

*My name is Eirik Lindebjerg, and I'm speaking on behalf of WWF.*

**Sufficient implementation support** must be a core part of the new instrument. Common global rules should be supported by adequate means of implementation, including financial support and technology transfer—including the option of a dedicated multilateral fund—for effective implementation by all parties.

WWF also considers National Action Plans as a supporting provision to facilitate implementation of core obligations under the new treaty. However, we should **be cautious of the bureaucratic burden** that **new requirements** for national action plans may put on parties, in particular developing countries. Many states have already made such plans. Should they need to re-do them under this treaty, it could turn out to be a very costly administrative exercise, and a duplication of work already done.

We must learn from lessons of the past. The **Global Programme of Action for the protection of the marine environment from land-based activities**, adopted in Washington **in 1995**, has already requested States to—and I quote—“develop or review national programmes of action within a few years and take forward action to implement these programmes with the assistance of international cooperation”. A new treaty on plastic pollution, with only National Action Plans and without binding global measures, would be repeating what we have been doing for three decades!

WWF expresses **full support** for the variety of **ambitious global measures** proposed today by many Delegations, **from countries with diverse national contexts and capacities**. These include global bans and phase-outs of toxic additives and high-risk polymers and products, global product requirements for circularity, and global standards for environmentally sound waste management. The core obligations must be specific and binding, and designed to solve plastic pollution in a cost-efficient way, through globally harmonised measures.

**Our best fighting chance** against plastic pollution is **through setting up common rules** in the treaty, backed by strong implementation support mechanisms. Time is up for fragmented activities, as the past has shown. Now we must finally enter the time of coherent and effective common standards of action.

Thank you.