

ZAMBIAN STATEMENT

THANK YOU CHAIR,

AS WE ARE TAKING THE FLOOR FOR THE FIRST TIME, ZAMBIA WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR APPOINTMENT TO CHAIR THIS COMMITTEE. I WISH TO THANK THE GOVERNMENT OF URUGUAY FOR HOSTING US AND TO THE SECRETARIAT FOR TAKING TIME TO ARRANGE THIS IMPORTANT MEETING AND THE PREPARATION OF THE DOCUMENTS WE HAVE BEEN CONSIDERING IN OUR DISCUSSIONS. ZAMBIA ALIGNS ITSELF WITH THE STATEMENT OF THE AFRICAN GROUP.

ZAMBIA ALSO RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF NEGOTIATING A LEGALLY BINDING INSTRUMENT ON PLASTIC THAT WILL AIM AT ELIMINATING PLASTIC POLLUTION AND THE IMPACTS TO HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT INCLUDING IN THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT. WITH REGARDS TO THE SEQUENCING, MY COUNTRY HOPES TO SEE TEXT WILL ADDRESS THE LIFECYCLE OF PLASTICS IN LINE WITH THE UPSTREAM, MIDSTREAM AND DOWNSTREAM.

WE PROPOSE THAT THE INTERSESSIONAL WORK SHOULD INCLUDE THE UPSTREAM, MIDSTREAM AND DOWNSTREAM BEFORE INC 2 TO COMPREHENSIVELY ADDRESS EACH STAGE OF THE LIFECYCLE, IN LINE WITH UNEA RESOLUTION 5/14. ON THIS, A REASONABLE DELINEATION OF THE LIFECYCLE OF PLASTIC MAY INCLUDE: (I) SOURCING OF RAW MATERIALS; (II) VIRGIN POLYMER PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION; (III) PRODUCT DESIGN AND USE; (IV) WASTE MANAGEMENT AND TREATMENT; AND (V) PLASTIC IN THE ENVIRONMENT.

REGARDING NATIONAL REPORTING, STAKEHOLDERS INCLUDING PRODUCERS OF PLASTIC, WASTE PICKERS AND RECYCLERS WILL

BE CRITICAL IN PROVISION OF DATA THAT WILL BE PART OF THE NATIONAL REPORTS. THE INFORMATION SHOULD BE BASED ON TRANSPARENCY, INCLUDING “FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THE INGREDIENTS IN PLASTIC MATERIALS” AND “SUSTAINABLE PRODUCT DESIGN THROUGH GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA AND STANDARDS AND ELIMINATING HARMFUL CHEMICALS IN PLASTICS, ENSURING TRANSPARENCY ACROSS THE VALUE CHAIN.”

THE ZAMBIAN DELEGATION IN ATTENDANCE BOTH IN PERSON AND ONLINE, REMAINS COMMITTED TO SEEING THE WORK OF THIS INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE PROGRESS TO THE DRAFTING AND CONCLUSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LEGALLY BINDING INSTRUMENT ON PLASTIC POLLUTION.

THANK YOU! ☺