

How the treaty can address the biodiversity crisis

“Biodiversity is the foundation of life. Without it, there is no life” – Elizabeth Mrema, Assistant Secretary-General of the UNEP

The parties of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) must develop and adopt an ambitious global plastics treaty that fully incorporates the protection of biodiversity and ecosystem health. At the fourth session of the INC, negotiators have a unique opportunity to shape the text in order to minimise threats to biodiversity; reverse further loss; and facilitate ecosystem restoration and improved resilience – all of which is critical to human wellbeing and planetary stability. At present, biodiversity impacts and concerns are insufficiently mentioned in the revised zero draft text.

Strengthening the revised draft text for biodiversity

Biodiversity, people and plastic pollution are intricately linked. All life on earth is dependent on healthy biodiverse ecosystems, but our ecosystems are detrimentally impacted by plastic pollution. Plus, the communities that are most reliant on healthy ecosystems and thriving biodiversity, are largely local, marginalised communities, particularly in developing economies, and are disproportionately impacted by the effects of plastic pollution.

The plastics treaty presents an opportunity to address global biodiversity loss and the triple planetary crisis head-on by aligning with existing targets of other biodiversity focused Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and strengthening language, in both the preamble and across operative provisions, to be more biodiversity positive and safeguard local communities. Further, biodiversity can be better supported in the treaty through the inclusion of measures that focus on the full lifecycle approach that consider and tackle both the physical and chemical impacts of plastic pollution, including alternative plastics; and focus on production reduction versus end-of-life interventions and adheres to the waste hierarchy principle. Further, any measures to tackle legacy plastic pollution must be locally appropriate and ecologically sensitive to prevent further harm to biodiversity or communities most at risk.

Importantly, the international legally binding instrument must be informed by an expert technical science-advisory body, anchored in the best available science, so that the treaty receives evidence-based support, free from conflict of interest to safeguard against ‘false solutions’ and unintentional negative biodiversity impacts. Advising and guiding the development and implementation of the treaty, this body should be independent, globally representative, and multidisciplinary, and incorporate both academic research and local, traditional and Indigenous Peoples’ knowledge, and facilitate knowledge exchange with all relevant actors.

This document focuses on four of the provisions in Part II that have direct relevance to and impact on biodiversity. We indicate where biodiversity considerations can clearly be strengthened and have a meaningful impact:

- 5 d. Alternative plastics and plastic products
- 6. Non-plastic substitutes
- 9. Waste management
 - 9 b. Fishing gear
- 11. Existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment

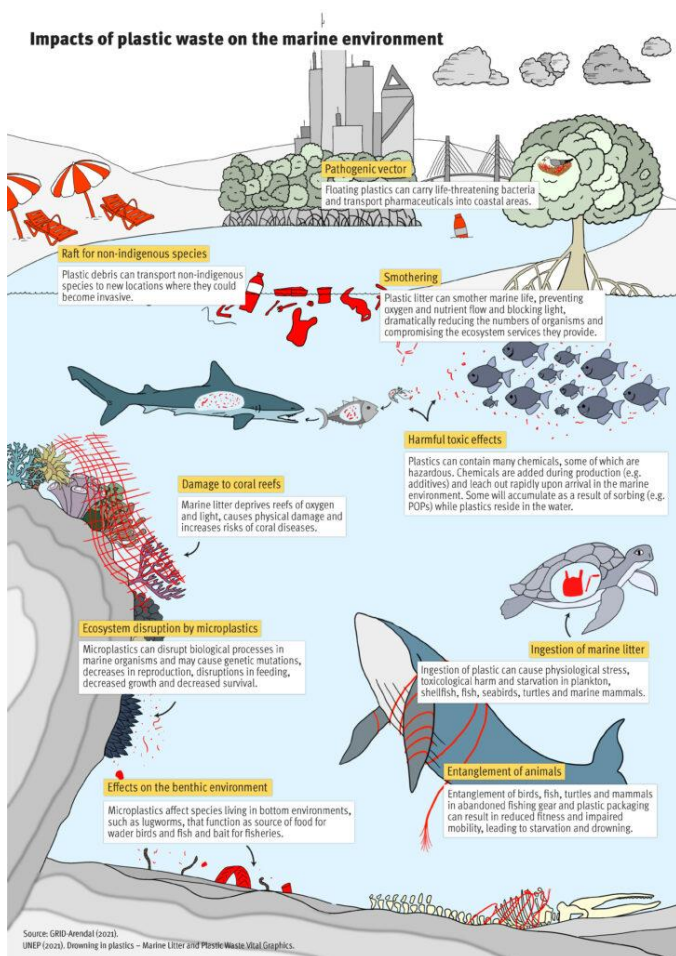
There is a separate proposal advocating that a standalone provision on "Biodiversity Aspects" would be beneficial ¹, but there is also a need and opportunities for specific language recommendations in specific provisions where biodiversity impacts and nature positive measures need to be properly addressed.

Key messages

- Plastic pollution sits at the heart of the triple planetary crisis, and the need for the treaty to urgently tackle plastic pollution is undoubted. However, without more attention to biodiversity impacts the treaty risks missing opportunities to reverse the biodiversity crisis or could even aggravate the situation. Upcoming negotiations represent an opportunity to strengthen the current draft treaty text to better ensure actions to tackle plastic pollution are also biodiversity positive.
- Centering and strengthening biodiversity positive language throughout the treaty text; in the Preamble, Principles, Scope and Articles will help bridge gaps and create synergies with other treaties and agreements on plastic pollution and its impact on biodiversity and local communities.
- Details on preferred language and text recommendations for Part II Provisions 5 d., 6, 9 and 11 are available in the table below. The suggestions stem from the general principles that the treaty must:
 - Incorporate a full lifecycle approach that considers and tackles both the physical and chemical impacts of plastic pollution, including alternative plastics;
 - Align with existing targets of other biodiversity-focused MEAs;
 - Only promote locally appropriate, ecologically sensitive clean-up and restoration activities to prevent further harm to biodiversity;
 - Deal with production reduction as well as end-of-life interventions and adhere to the principles of the Waste Hierarchy.

The treaty, the triple planetary crisis and other international agreements

Plastic pollution, climate change and biodiversity loss (constituting the triple planetary crisis) are inextricably interconnected, and the treaty must consider them together. The treaty and the approach to implementation must recognise that plastic pollution of all scales (macro- and micro- plastics ⁱ) is a major driver within the triple planetary crisis. Greenhouse gases are released at every stage of the plastic lifecycle – during extraction, production, recycling and end-of-life phases ² - and plastic pollution detrimentally affects the health and resilience of over 2000 species ³ both through its immediate physical impacts and the longer-term effects associated with its degradation and its inherently toxic chemical properties ⁴. Further, plastic pollution causes the breakdown of crucial natural systems that we are reliant on, including highly productive coral reefs, seagrass mats and mangrove forests ⁵.



Impacts of plastic pollution on marine biodiversity.
Source: GRID-Arendal, 2021

Given this critical link connecting climate change, pollution and habitat destruction, the treaty must be fully aligned to uphold targets of existing MEAs. Further, there are clear opportunities to create synergies, with overlapping terms and regulatory measures ^{6, 7}, with several existing MEAs and other treaty regimes that intersect with plastic pollution and have commonalities with the treaty, such as tackling transboundary pollution, designating hazardous pollutants and addressing biodiversity loss. For example, the treaty should harness the ambition set out in the Global Biodiversity Framework target 7 to “Reduce pollution risks and the negative impact of pollution from all sources, by 2030, to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, considering cumulative effects, including: [...] preventing, reducing, and working towards eliminating plastic pollution”. MEAs will support global efforts to protect biodiversity and local communities reliant upon productive ecosystems, while also encouraging the de-siloing of MEAs.

ⁱ We broadly define microplastics as pieces of plastic measuring 5 mm or less in any dimension, with no lower size limit, thereby including nanoplastics. For full details of the recommended definition for microplastics, please see our [joint submission on the potential areas of intersessional work for microplastics \(2023\)](#) made to the INC Secretariat. www.fauna-flora.org/plastics-treaty

Biodiversity-positive language recommendations: Preferred Options, recommended text and rationale

To support Parties in negotiations, we have identified a Definition in Part I and four Provisions in Part II where biodiversity messaging can clearly be strengthened and have a meaningful impact. From the options provided in the revised draft text for these specific provisions, we have selected the options which currently present the most biodiversity positive potential.

Within the text of these options we have also indicated additional language which is needed to further strengthen the approach to ensure the treaty properly addresses biodiversity impacts, or where deletions/adjustments of the current text of the option are needed.

Please also see [Fauna & Flora and ZSL's joint Position Statement \(2023\)](#), [Submission on Scope and Principles including elements not discussed at INC-2 \(2023\) focusing on biodiversity and elevating local voices](#), and [Fauna & Flora's Biodiversity brief \(2023\) on the threat plastic pollution poses to biodiversity and conservation efforts](#).

Key:

- **Red text** - Text to be deleted
- **Green text** – Additional and amended text
- Page references are in accordance with the revised Zero Draft text dated 28 December 2023 ⁸.

Specific provisions covered:

3. Definitions

5 d. Alternative plastics and plastic products (Option 3)

6. Non-plastic substitutes (Option 1)

9. Waste management (Option 1)

9 b. Fishing gear (Option 2)

11. Existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (Option 1)



Photo credit: Surfers Against Sewage

Part I, Definitions

Preferred Definition (page 7 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p>Option 1 For the purposes of this instrument: 1.["term"] means []</p>	<p>For the purposes of this instrument: 1.["Environment"] means ... [<i>relevant aquatic, atmospheric and/or terrestrial systems and associated biodiversity.</i>]</p>	<p>The term 'environment' is used throughout the document and a definition will help Parties in implementation of the Treaty.</p>

Part II, Provision 5 d. Alternative plastics and plastic products

Option 3 is the strongest because it promotes following the waste hierarchy principle and prioritises a reduction in production of all single-use plastics, regardless of feedstock, as noted in Option 3.2.

This Article represents an opportunity to address unintended consequences and avoid negative impacts on biodiversity that could be caused by a rush to substitute fossil fuel derived plastics with alternative plastics.

We advocate that the introduction of alternatives must be evidence-based and that a full lifecycle analysis following the precautionary approach is conducted.

We suggest that wherever 'sustainable' is used in the revised draft text INC.4/3 it is defined by the [United Nations Brundtland Commission](#) definition, as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Part II, Provision 5 d. Alternative plastics and plastic products

Preferred Option for 5d. Alternative plastic and plastic products (page 24 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p><u>Option 3</u></p> <p>1. This instrument* shall apply to alternative plastics and plastic products which include bio-based, biodegradable and compostable plastics.</p> <p>2. Parties shall be guided by the waste hierarchy and ensure that reduction in the use of all plastics and prevention of plastic waste, including from non-fossil feedstocks, will prevail when considering the development and use of alternative plastics and plastic products.</p> <p>3. Each Party shall ensure that alternative plastics and plastic products are safe, environmentally sound and sustainable, based on the minimum design and performance criteria and other related elements contained in part I of Annex C, including distinct sustainability criteria for: (i) bio-based plastics, (ii) biodegradable plastics and (iii) compostable plastics. The criteria shall build on a full life cycle analysis and take into account their potential for environmental, economic, social and human health impacts, including food security.</p>	<p><u>Option 3</u></p> <p>1. This <i>instrument</i>* shall apply to alternative plastics and plastic products which include bio-based, biodegradable, oxo(bio)degradable and compostable plastics, as well as developing and future alternatives.</p> <p>2. Parties shall be guided by the waste hierarchy and ensure that reduction in the use of all plastics and prevention of plastic waste, including from non-fossil feedstocks, will prevail when considering the development and use of alternative plastics and plastic products.</p> <p>3. Each Party shall ensure that alternative plastics and plastic products are safe, environmentally sound and sustainable, based on the minimum design and performance criteria and other related elements contained in part I of Annex C, including distinct sustainability criteria for: (i) bio-based plastics, (ii) biodegradable plastics, and (iii) oxo(bio)degradable and (iv) compostable plastics. The criteria shall build on a full life cycle analysis and take into account adopt a precautionary approach to their potential for environmental, economic, social and human health impacts, including food security.</p>	<p>We have included oxo(bio)degradable plastics in the list because this material is known to accentuate the issue of microplastic pollution. Studies show that oxo(bio)degradable plastics do not break down fully within stated timeframes and this material has been prohibited in some regions (e.g., European Union).</p> <p>The chemical structure of alternative plastics can be identical to conventional plastics, meaning they can behave like- and perpetuate the same threats to biodiversity⁹ on disposal.</p> <p>A precautionary approach must be adopted and all alternative plastics on the market and in development must be subjected to a full life cycle analysis to avoid unintended consequences. For example, a switch to plastic derived solely from biomass (organic feedstocks) may reduce reliance on fossil fuels (benefitting the climate agenda)¹⁰, but it could exacerbate biodiversity loss by driving land-use changes to grow alternative feedstocks, jeopardise food security and further fuel the climate crisis².</p>

Part II, Provision 5 d. Alternative plastics and plastic products

Preferred Option for 5 d. Alternative plastic and plastic products (page 24 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p><u>Option 3</u></p> <p>OP3 bis. The criteria that will be established should also take into consideration avoidance of undesirable substitution and problem-shifting.</p> <p>4. Parties may consider economic instruments to incentivize alternative plastics and plastic</p> <p>5. Each Party shall take the necessary measures to ensure that environmental claims on (i) bio-based, (ii) biodegradable and (iii) compostable plastics are substantiated. Those measures may include labelling requirements, as set out in [Part II.13], to comply with.</p> <p>6. Parties are encouraged to work with relevant international organizations towards the development of standards and guidelines at the multilateral level to ensure that (i) bio-based, (ii) biodegradable and (iii) compostable plastics are safe, environmentally sound and sustainable.</p>	<p><u>Option 3</u></p> <p>OP3 bis. The criteria that will be established should also take into consideration avoidance of undesirable substitution and problem-shifting.</p> <p>4. Parties may consider economic instruments to incentivize alternative plastics and plastic products.</p> <p>5. Each Party shall take the necessary measures to ensure that environmental claims on (i) bio-based, (ii) biodegradable, and (iii) oxo(bio)degradable and (iv) compostable plastics are substantiated. Those measures may include labelling requirements, as set out in [<i>Part II. 13</i>], to comply with.</p> <p>6. Parties are encouraged to work with relevant international organizations towards the development of standards and guidelines at the multilateral level to ensure that (i) bio-based, (ii) biodegradable, and (iii) oxo(bio)degradable and (iv) compostable plastics are safe, environmentally sound and sustainable.</p>	

Part II, Provision 6. Non-plastic substitutes

We support Option 1 because, similarly to rationale provided for Provision 5 d. (above), this Option advocates for a life cycle analysis of non-plastic substitutes.

We have strengthened the language to ensure that the waste hierarchy principle is followed to best protect biodiversity and that solutions are locally appropriate to ensure that local communities are not negatively affected by the switch to non-plastic alternatives.

Preferred Option for 6. Non-plastic substitutes (page 24 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p><u>Option 1</u></p> <p>1. [Subject to its national plan and based upon national circumstances and capabilities, each][Each] Party shall take measures to foster innovation [, including through the cooperation mechanism referred to in [Part III. ...]] and incentivize and promote [the research,] the development and use at scale of safe, environmentally sound, and sustainable non-plastic substitutes, including products, technologies and services, taking into account their potential for [waste reduction and reuse, as well as] environmental, economic, social[, cultural] and human health impacts[, based on life cycle assessments] [as well as the developing countries' access to the transfer of necessary technologies and financial resources].</p>	<p><u>Option 1</u></p> <p>•[Subject to its national plan and based upon national circumstances and capabilities, each][Each] Party shall take measures to foster locally appropriate innovation [, including through the cooperation mechanism referred to in [Part III. ...]] and incentivize and promote [the research] and innovation of the development and use at scale of safe, affordable, environmentally sound, and sustainable non-plastic substitutes, including products, technologies and services, taking into account their potential for [waste reduction and reuse, as well as] environmental, economic, social[, cultural] and human health impacts[, based on life cycle assessments] [as well as the developing countries' access to the transfer of necessary technologies and financial resources]. Parties shall ensure that the application of the waste hierarchy and comparative life cycle analysis are incorporated into the use and promotion of non-plastic substitutes.</p>	<p>This Provision should recognise that solutions may differ between locations, and therefore must be locally appropriate to ensure negative impacts are not passed onto local communities as a result of switching to non-plastic alternatives.</p> <p>We have included language (taken from Option 4) that Parties must apply the waste hierarchy principle in the development and use of safe, environmentally sound and sustainable non-plastic substitutes.</p>

Part II, Provision 6. Non-plastic substitutes

Preferred Option for 6. Non-plastic substitutes (page 24 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p><u>Option 1</u></p> <p>2. Parties [are encouraged][shall ensure] to use regulatory and economic instruments, public procurement and incentives¹² to promote the development and use of safe, environmentally sound and sustainable non-plastic substitutes[, taking into account national circumstances and capacities].</p> <p>OP2 bis 1. The financial mechanism established by the governing body* shall ensure technology transfer to developing country Parties, in order to facilitate adoption and use of at scale safe, environmentally sound, and sustainable non plastic polymers.</p> <p>OP2 bis 2. This provision would entail the adoption of a holistic set of criteria encompassing safety, environmental viability, and sustainability for non-plastic substitutes. Such criteria would incorporate a comprehensive life cycle assessment, ensuring a thorough evaluation of the environmental impact across the entire product life cycle.</p> <p>OP2 bis 3. The measures taken to implement this provision shall be reflected in the national plan communicated pursuant to [Part IV.1 on national plans].</p>	<p><u>Option 1</u></p> <p>2. Parties [are encouraged][shall ensure] to the use of regulatory and economic instruments, public procurement and incentives¹² to promote the development and use of safe, environmentally sound and sustainable non-plastic substitutes[, taking into account national circumstances and capacities].</p> <p>OP2 bis 1. The financial mechanism established by the <i>governing body</i>* shall ensure technology transfer to developing country Parties, in order to facilitate adoption and use of at scale safe, environmentally sound, and sustainable non plastic polymers.</p> <p>OP2 bis 2. This provision would entail the adoption of a holistic set of criteria encompassing safety, environmental viability, and sustainability for non-plastic substitutes. Such criteria would incorporate a comprehensive life cycle assessment, ensuring a thorough evaluation of the environmental impact across the entire product life cycle.</p> <p>OP2 bis 3. The measures taken to implement this provision shall be reflected in the national plan communicated pursuant to [Part IV.1 on national plans].</p>	

Part II, Provision 6. Non-plastic substitutes

Preferred Option for 6. Non-plastic substitutes (page 24 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p><u>Option 1</u></p> <p>OP2 bis 4. Parties are encouraged to use the best available science, traditional knowledge, knowledge of Indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems [in the development of safe, environmentally sound, and sustainable non-plastic substitutes].</p> <p>OP2 ter. Parties are encouraged to establish a process for the assessment of the safety and sustainability of potential substitutes to plastics and their suitability as substitutes, considering their potential impacts on human health and the environment, the waste hierarchy, and “reduce, reuse and recycle” approaches.</p>	<p><u>Option 1</u></p> <p>OP2 bis 4. Parties are encouraged to should use the best available science, traditional knowledge, knowledge of Indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems [in the development of safe, environmentally sound, and sustainable non-plastic substitutes].</p> <p>OP2 ter. Parties are shall encouraged to establish a process for the assessment of the safety and sustainability of potential substitutes to plastics and their suitability as substitutes, considering their potential impacts on human health and the environment, the waste hierarchy, and “reduce, reuse and recycle” approaches.</p>	

Part II, Provision 9. Waste management

Option 1 is our preferred option because it requires plastic waste to be managed in a safe and environmentally sound way throughout its lifecycle and follows the principles of the waste hierarchy to establish greater environmental and societal benefits. We are very supportive of this approach because prevention measures of all plastic pollution at source and at each stage of the life cycle is critical to restore the health and resilience of ecosystems and protect local communities. For example, sustainable design techniques must be employed that reduce use of unnecessary single-use plastic and harmful chemical additives; improve transparency throughout the supply chain, increase reuse, refurbishability and recyclability, simplify product and packaging design based on the waste hierarchy principles with end-of-life processing in mind.

We support the requirement of Option 1 that Parties and the governing body take into account best practice guidelines and that the Provision is complementary to other relevant provisions and MEAs to best protect and support biodiversity.

While Option 1 is our preferred option, we have also included text amendments/recommendations for Provisions common for Options 1,2, and 3 for waste management. Within this option, we support the requirement that Parties should take measures to prevent waste management practices that may lead to emissions and releases of hazardous substances and microplastics (e.g., incineration, ocean dumping), to reduce impacts on health and livelihoods of local communities, biodiversity and the natural environment.

Preferred Option for 9. Waste management (page 30 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p>Option 1</p> <p>1. Each Party shall take effective measures to ensure that [producers manage] plastic waste [is managed] in a [safe and] environmentally sound manner [throughout its [different stages][life-cycle], [including] handling, [collection,] [sorting,] transportation, storage, recycling[treatment][, other recovery including energy recovery] and final disposal][,][taking into account</p>	<p>Option 1</p> <p>1. Each Party shall take effective measures to ensure that [producers manage] plastic waste [is managed] in a [safe and] environmentally sound manner [throughout its [different stages][life-cycle], [including] handling, [collection,] [sorting,] transportation, storage, recycling[treatment][, other recovery including energy recovery] and final disposal][,][taking into account</p>	<p>Option 1.1 - We have deleted 'producers manage' because we do not agree with the emphasis that responsibility for the outcome of environmentally sound waste</p>

Part II, Provision 9. Waste management

Preferred Option for 9. Waste management (page 30 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p>Option 1</p> <p>[recognizing that] the waste hierarchy][establishes that greater environmental and social benefit occurs when actions at the top of the hierarchy are prioritized.][[,] and the special circumstances of small island developing States.][Each Party shall take effective measures on safe and environmentally sound waste management at its different stages, including handling, collection, transportation, storage, recycling and final disposal of plastic waste. The measures taken to implement this provision shall be reflected in the national plan communicated pursuant to [Part IV.1 on national plans], with an aim of achieving nationally determined targets and [minimum requirements developed based on the harmonized indicators set out in [part II of annex F]].</p> <p>2. Each Party shall meet the requirements, [including]** where relevant through a sectoral approach, for [minimum] [safe and] environmentally sound [management of plastic waste, including through] [collection,] recycling and disposal rates[, set out in part I of annex F,] [taking into account][respecting][the waste hierarchy and other] relevant provisions[,][and taking into account] guidance and guidelines in [accordance with relevant arrangements</p>	<p>Option 1</p> <p>[recognizing that] the waste hierarchy] which [establishes that greater environmental and social benefit occurs when actions at the top of the hierarchy are prioritized.][[,] and the special circumstances of small island developing States.][Each Party shall take effective measures on safe and environmentally sound waste management at its different stages, including handling, collection, transportation, storage, recycling and final disposal of plastic waste. The measures taken to implement this provision shall be reflected in the national plan communicated pursuant to [Part IV.1 on national plans], with an aim of achieving nationally determined targets, including reduced production, and [minimum requirements developed based on the harmonized indicators set out in [part II of annex F]].</p> <p>2. Each Party shall meet the requirements, [including]** where relevant through a sectoral approach, for [minimum] [safe and] environmentally sound [management of plastic waste, including through] [collection,] recycling and disposal rates[, set out in part I of annex F,] [taking into account] [respecting] the waste hierarchy and other] relevant provisions[,][and taking into account] guidance and guidelines in [accordance with relevant arrangements</p>	<p>management should only fall on producers. This does not detract from the need for producers to take their share of responsibility.</p> <p>Clean up and end of life interventions will not prevent plastic pollution in the absence of upstream measures, therefore this article must ensure the waste hierarchy is followed as noted in Option 1.1, and actions at the top of the hierarchy are prioritised e.g. production reduction.</p>

Part II, Provision 9. Waste management

Preferred Option for 9. Waste management (page 30 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p>Option 1</p> <p>under] other international agreements, [including those developed under][inter alia] the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal[, as appropriate][, the London Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter and its Protocol on the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships][the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) Annex V of the International Maritime Organization and the Bamako Convention on Hazardous Wastes].</p> <p>3. The governing body* [shall][may][, where necessary,] adopt requirements, [best practice] guidance and guidelines for the implementation of the provisions in paragraph 2, additional or complementary to the relevant guidance and guidelines developed under other international agreements mentioned above.</p>	<p>Option 1</p> <p>under} other international agreements, {including those developed under }{inter alia} the High Seas/Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Treaty, the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal{, as appropriate}, the London Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter and its Protocol on the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships}{the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) Annex V of the International Maritime Organization and the Bamako Convention on Hazardous Wastes}.</p> <p>3. The <i>governing body</i>* {shall}{may}{, where necessary,} adopt requirements, {best practice} guidance and guidelines for the implementation of the provisions in paragraph 2, additional or complementary to the relevant guidance and guidelines developed under other international agreements mentioned above.</p>	<p>These measures should complement timelines for other relevant international guidelines and targets as noted in Option 1.2,¹¹, such as the High Seas/Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Treaty that requests action to tackle plastic pollution while simultaneously addressing the interlinkages between biodiversity loss, chemicals and waste, climate change and pollution.</p>

Part II, Provision 9. Waste management

Option 1 is our preferred option, as detailed above, but for reference, we also provide text amendments/recommendations for Provisions common for Options 1,2, and 3 for waste management.

Provisions common for Options 1,2, and 3 for 9. Waste management (page 31 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p>Provisions common for Options above (1,2, and 3)</p> <p>[[4][3] Each Party shall [not allow waste management practices [listed in part III of annex F] that may lead to the emissions and releases of hazardous substances, [based on strong scientific evidence,] and shall regulate the other allowed waste management practices that may lead to the emissions and releases of the hazardous substances [listed in part IV of annex F.][take measures to prevent open dumping and open burning of plastic waste.]</p> <p>[5][4] Each Party shall take [the necessary] measures to prevent [open dumping, ocean dumping,] littering [and open burning][of plastic waste].</p> <p>[6][5] [It is recommended to] [Each][Parties][Party] [shall][are][is] encouraged] [to] [take additional measures[, according to their national capacities,] [to][related to waste management, with developing country parties being supported by international cooperation and, in particular, the cooperation mechanism referred to in [Part III, article number yet to be defined], which could include, inter alia:][</p>	<p>Provisions common for Options above (1,2 and 3)</p> <p>[[4][3] Each Party shall not allow waste management practices [listed in part III of annex F] that may lead to the emissions and releases of hazardous substances or microplastics, based on strong scientific evidence, and shall regulate the other allowed waste management practices that may lead to the emissions and releases of the hazardous substances and microplastics [listed in part IV of annex F.] and take measures to prevent provide alternative options to open dumping and open burning of plastic waste.]</p> <p>[5][4] Each Party shall take the necessary measures to prevent open dumping, ocean dumping, littering and open burning of plastic waste in order to reduce impacts on the health and livelihoods of local communities, biodiversity and the natural environment.</p> <p>[6][5] It is recommended to] [Each][Parties] [Party] shall [are][is] encouraged] [to] [take additional measures], according to their national capacities, [to][related to waste management, with developing country parties being supported by international cooperation and, in particular, the cooperation mechanism referred to in [Part III, article number yet to be defined], which could include, inter alia:][</p>	<p>Waste management must be carried out such that the impacts of emissions across the full life cycle and/or breakdown of plastic products at the end of life are minimised in order to reduce impacts on local communities, biodiversity and the natural environment.</p> <p>Microplastics: We broadly define microplastics as pieces of plastic measuring 5 mm or less in any dimension, with no lower size limit, thereby including nanoplastics.</p> <p>Once microplastics are lost to the environment they can be near impossible to recover and can have</p>

Part II, Provision 9. Waste management

Provisions common for Options 1,2, and 3 for 9. Waste management (page 31 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p><u>Provisions common for Options above (1,2, and 3)</u></p> <p>to adopt comprehensive economic-driven approaches such as establishing and operating Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme, including, where relevant, on as sectoral basis, to incentivize increased recyclability, promote higher recycling rates, and enhance the accountability of producers and importers for environmentally sound management, of plastics and plastic products throughout their life cycle.]]</p> <p>[a. [Invest in]] Promote investment and mobilization of resources from all sources for] waste management systems and infrastructure, including through financial and technical support to subnational governments, that enable[s] environmentally sound management of plastic waste[and enhances waste management capacity];]</p> <p>[b. Promote investment and mobilize resources from all sources to cover financing gaps for waste management systems and infrastructure that enable environmentally sound management of plastic waste and enhance waste management capacity, in light of current and expected waste generation levels; and]</p>	<p><u>Provisions common for Options above (1,2 and 3)</u></p> <p>to adopt comprehensive economic-driven approaches such as establishing and operating Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme, including, where relevant, on as sectoral basis, to incentivize improved product design, a reduction in waste generation, and increased reuse, refillability, refurbishability and recyclability, promote higher recycling rates, and enhance the accountability of producers and importers for environmentally sound management, of plastics and plastic products throughout their life cycle.]]</p> <p>[a. [Invest in]] Promote investment and mobilization of resources from all sources for] waste management systems and infrastructure, including through financial and technical support to subnational governments, that enable[s] environmentally sound management of plastic waste[and enhances waste management capacity];]</p> <p>[b. Promote investment and mobilize resources from all sources to cover financing gaps for waste management systems and infrastructure that enable environmentally sound management of plastic waste and enhance waste management capacity, in light of current and expected waste generation levels; and]</p>	<p>damaging effects on biodiversity and human health, so the release of microplastics (both primary and secondary) must be considered across the full lifecycle and all waste management practices.</p> <p>To enable a shift away from open dumping and burning of plastic waste, locally appropriate, alternative waste management options must first be provided with the necessary infrastructure, capacity building, and financial support in place.</p> <p>Waste production should be minimised through reduction of plastics at first use, improved design and increased reuse, refillability, refurbishability and recyclability.</p>

Part II, Provision 9. Waste management

Provisions common for Options 1,2, and 3 for 9. Waste management (page 31 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p><u>Provisions common for Options above (1,2, and 3)</u></p> <p>[c. Incentivize behavioural changes throughout the value chain[;] and [raise [consumer][public] awareness [on sustainable consumption][about plastic waste prevention and minimization][and production, as well as the critical roles of all stakeholders in reducing plastic litter[waste] and supporting recycling][, taking into account the waste hierarchy].]</p> <p>OP [6][5] c bis. Develop, identify, and/or strengthen markets for secondary plastics.</p> <p>[7][6] The measures taken to implement the provisions of this article shall be reflected in the national plan [communicated pursuant to [Part IV.1 on national plans]]. [Where appropriate, Parties are encouraged to cooperate internationally or regionally to implement the provisions of this article.]</p>	<p><u>Provisions common for Options above (1,2 and 3)</u></p> <p>[c. Incentivize behavioural changes throughout the value chain[;] and [raise [consumer][public] awareness [on sustainable consumption][about plastic waste prevention and minimization][and production, as well as the critical roles of all stakeholders in reducing plastic litter[waste] and supporting recycling][, taking into account the waste hierarchy].]</p> <p>OP [6][5] c bis. Develop, identify, and/or strengthen markets for secondary plastics in line with Extended Producer Responsibilities Extended Producer Responsibility.</p> <p>[7][6] The measures taken to implement the provisions of this article shall be reflected in the national plan [communicated pursuant to <i>[Part IV.1 on national plans]</i>]. [Where appropriate, Parties are encouraged to cooperate internationally or regionally to implement the provisions of this article.]</p>	

Part II, Provision 9 b. [Fishing gear]

We support Option 2 as the strongest option because it addresses the design, use and end-of-life phases of fishing gear to reduce emissions of plastic pollution, including microplastics, and impacts on the environment. It also requires Parties to form synergies and complementary measures with other international and regional regulations on the prevention of plastic pollution from fishing gears.

Conversely, Option 1 (and subsets) presents a weak, voluntary commitment to collection and recycling, with no emphasis on reduction, and is therefore not fit for purpose.

Preferred Option for 9 b. [Fishing gear] (page 33 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p><u>Option 2. Alternative placement suggested as Section 8bis instead of 9b</u></p> <p>1. This obligation should have sub-paragraphs/provisions that require parties to take measures to: UNEP/PP/INC.4/3 35</p> <p>a. Enhance the design of fishing and aquaculture gears, with a view to increasing durability, reusability, repairability and refurbishability and their capacity to be repurposed, recycled and disposed of in a safe and environmentally sound manner at end-of-life, and minimizing releases and emissions of or from fishing and aquaculture gears, including microplastics, to the environment;</p> <p>b. Implement effective marking of gears and require reporting of lost gears, in accordance with other relevant regional and international regulations, including MARPOL Annex V;</p>	<p><u>Option 2. Alternative placement suggested as Section 8bis instead of 9b</u></p> <p>1. This obligation should have sub-paragraphs/provisions that require parties to take measures to: UNEP/PP/INC.4/3 35</p> <p>a. Enhance the design of fishing and aquaculture gears, with a view to increasing traceability, durability, reusability, repairability and refurbishability and their capacity to be repurposed, recycled and disposed of in a safe and environmentally sound manner at end-of-life, and minimizing releases and emissions of or from fishing and aquaculture gears, including microplastics, to the environment reducing the key threat of bycatch posed to biodiversity;</p> <p>b. Implement effective marking of gears and require reporting of lost gears, in accordance with other relevant regional and international regulations, including MARPOL Annex V;</p>	<p>We support placement of this option under Section <i>8bis</i> instead of 9b because there are macro- and micro- plastic emissions released throughout the lifecycle of fishing gear. Therefore, fishing gear would benefit from a full life cycle review and product re-design.</p> <p>2.1 a. - Enhancing traceability of fishing gear would enable ALDFG to be tracked back to users and producers, improving accountability.</p>

Part II, Provision 9 b. [Fishing gear]

Preferred Option for 9 b. [Fishing gear] (page 33 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p><u>Option 2. Alternative placement suggested as Section 8bis instead of 9b</u></p> <p>c. Improve the management of gear at the end of its usable life, including the reuse, repair and recycling of gear; and</p> <p>d. Promote and facilitate training, education and awareness raising.</p> <p>2. The measures taken to implement this provision shall be reflected in the national plan communicated pursuant to [Part IV.1 on national plans].</p> <p>Inclusion of an obligation for parties to promote synergy and complementarity with relevant initiatives, organizations, and regional and international authorities in their respective actions towards the prevention of plastic pollution from fisheries safe disposal of fishing and aquaculture gear.</p>	<p><u>Option 2. Alternative placement suggested as Section 8bis instead of 9b</u></p> <p>c. Improve the management of gear at the end of its usable life, including the reuse, repair and recycling of gear; and</p> <p>d. Promote and facilitate training, education and awareness raising to all stakeholders, including, the local-communities, civil society, and citizens, non-governmental organizations as well as the private sector, to reduce impacts on health and livelihoods of local communities, biodiversity and the natural environment.</p> <p>2. The measures taken to implement this provision shall be reflected in the national plan communicated pursuant to [Part IV.1 on national plans].</p> <p>Inclusion of an obligation for parties to promote synergy and complementarity with relevant initiatives, organizations, and regional and international authorities in their respective actions towards the prevention of plastic pollution from fisheries safe disposal of fishing and aquaculture gear.</p>	<p>Fishing gear poses a key threat to biodiversity loss, however at present, none of the draft options explicitly recognise the negative impact of fishing gear on biodiversity loss and human health and livelihoods. This includes both bycatch in active fishing and in Abandoned, Lost, or Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFGs). This issue is well-documented in literature and entanglement in fishing gear is a significant cause of mortality for multiple taxa, including cetaceans and sea turtles.</p>

Part II, Provision 9 b. [Fishing gear]

Preferred Option for 9 b. [Fishing gear] (page 33 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p><u>Option 2. Alternative placement suggested as Section 8bis instead of 9b</u></p> <p>Furthermore remediation of abandoned, lost and discarded fishing gear is important to protect the marine environment, the provision [in Part II.11] on existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, should provide the obligation on parties to take measures to remediate Abandoned, Lost and Discarded Fishing Gear, in an environmentally sound manner and in accordance with scientific and evidence-based social, economic and environmental impact assessments, using the best available techniques and environmental practices to avoid exacerbating environmental harm.</p>	<p><u>Option 2. Alternative placement suggested as Section 8bis instead of 9b</u></p> <p>Furthermore remediation of abandoned, lost and discarded fishing gear is important to protect the marine and freshwater environments, the provision [in Part II.11] on existing plastic pollution, including in the marine and freshwater environments, should provide the obligation on parties to take measures to remediate Abandoned, Lost and Discarded Fishing Gear, in an environmentally sound manner and in accordance with scientific and evidence-based social, economic and environmental impact assessments, using locally appropriate and ecologically sensitive clean-up and restoration activities using the best available techniques and environmental practices to avoid exacerbating environmental harm.</p>	<p>With most of the world's fishing gear now being made from plastic (including so-called 'cotton' nets in India), design improvements which would make recovery, recyclability, and circular economy for nets at the local level more feasible is essential, as captured in Option 2.</p>

Part II, Provision 11. Existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment

We always promote that robust, upstream measures to prevent plastic pollution at source must be prioritized because clean up and end of life interventions cannot prevent plastic pollution.

Therefore, under this Provision we advise that the waste hierarchy principle is followed and actions at the top of the hierarchy and reduction measures such as reuse and refill and safe recycling are prioritised, rather than clean-up technologies. Legacy plastic pollution removal and remediation technologies must be approached with caution because they can cause unintentional damage to biodiversity with possible bycatch of marine life and the release of greenhouse gases from vessels. Therefore, we encourage that all remediation and removal techniques, including those already in operation, must require environmental impact assessments and monitoring, in-line with the precautionary approach, and life cycle analysis pre-deployment on a case-by-case basis to determine their effectiveness and impact and secure environmentally sound management ¹². Removal and remediation techniques that fail to pass environmental impact assessments that demonstrate high risk to regional biodiversity must be halted. This will help ensure that clean-up and restoration activities are done in an ecologically sensitive manner.

Further, we support the creation of a database, that facilitates a knowledge exchange between countries, so that all can benefit from scoping trials and research studies to establish safe and environmentally sound legacy plastic removal techniques.

Preferred Option for 11. Existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (page 36 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p>Option 1</p> <p>1. Parties [shall] [are encouraged] [will take actions and shall] [cooperate] [in accordance with the Common but Differentiated Responsibility to respective capabilities] [to] [mobilize resources from multi-stakeholders, including, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, academic and scientific and research.</p>	<p>Option 1</p> <p>1. Parties [shall] [are encouraged] [will take actions and shall] [cooperate] [in accordance with the Common but Differentiated Responsibility to respective capabilities] [to] [mobilize resources from multi-stakeholders, including, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, academic and scientific and research</p>	<p>Once in the environment, the impact of macro- and micro- plastic pollution can be severe and wholesale retrieval is both impractical, unfeasible, and rarely cost-effective, which is why we</p>

Part II, Provision 11. Existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment

Preferred Option for 11. Existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (page 36 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p>Option 1</p> <p>institutes, international financial institutions and multilateral development banks, non-profit organizations and other relevant organizations or associations] [, including through the <i>cooperation mechanism</i>* referred to in Part III, <i>article number yet to be defined</i>]], to:</p> <p>a. [cooperate to] [assess] [evaluation, identification and prioritization of][, identify and prioritize] accumulation zones, [and] [hotspots] [critical points] [and sectors]:</p> <p>i. most affected by existing plastic pollution, [including] in the [terrestrial, freshwater and the] marine environment [and areas beyond national jurisdiction]; and</p> <p>ii. [where] [that evaluations identify accumulation areas with] quantities and types of [litter] [plastic pollution] [garbage that represent] [pose] a threat to [human health,] species or habitats [taking into account the [full][complete] life cycle of plastics].</p>	<p>Option 1</p> <p>institutes, international financial institutions and multilateral development banks, non-profit organizations and other relevant organizations or associations] [, including through the <i>cooperation mechanism</i>* referred to in Part III, <i>article number yet to be defined</i>]], to:</p> <p>a. [cooperate to] [assess] [evaluation, identification and prioritization of][, identify and prioritize] ecosystems impacted by plastic pollution accumulation zones, [and] [hotspots] [critical points] [and sectors]:</p> <p>i. most affected by existing plastic and microplastic pollution, [including] in the [terrestrial, rivers, freshwater and the] marine environment [and areas beyond national jurisdiction]; and</p> <p>ii. where] [that evaluations identify accumulation areas with] quantities and types of [litter] [plastic and microplastic pollution] [garbage that represent] [pose] a threat to [human health,] and biodiversity species or habitats [taking into account the [full][complete] life cycle of plastics].</p>	<p>advocate, where possible, for existing plastic pollution removal to address areas most affected and/or be conducted as close to the source as possible to be most effective.</p> <p>As noted in Option 1.1 c, knowledge-sharing between countries, especially with those that cannot afford to perform scoping trials, should be facilitated, such as via a shared database.</p>

Part II, Provision 11. Existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment

Preferred Option for 11. Existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (page 36 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p>Option 1</p> <p>b. Take [adopt] [effective] mitigation and [remediation measures][removal actions], including clean-up activities [for the] [in identified] accumulation zones, [and] hotspots [and [critical] sectors] identified, [taking into account the provisions [in existing international agreements] [of international agreements in force,] including those [relevant][relating] to the conservation and sustainable use of [terrestrial, freshwater and] marine [environment and] biological diversity, [including in areas [beyond][located outside] national jurisdiction;]] [and manage and dispose of removed plastic pollution in an environmentally sound manner] [taking into account special circumstances of small island developing States,] [and the disproportionate impacts on small island developing States; and</p> <p>OP 1.b. bis. collect data and information on existing plastic pollution to support monitoring in accordance with [Part IV.4 on Periodic assessment and monitoring of the progress of implementation of the instrument* and effectiveness evaluation]</p>	<p>Option 1</p> <p>b. Take [adopt] [effective] mitigation and [remediation measures][removal actions], including locally appropriate and ecologically sensitive clean-up and restoration activities [for the] [in identified] ecosystems with high levels of plastic pollution accumulation zones, [and] hotspots [and [critical] sectors] identified, [taking into account the provisions [in existing international agreements] [of international agreements in force,] including those [relevant][relating] to the conservation and sustainable use of [terrestrial, freshwater, rivers and] marine [environment and] biological diversity, [including in areas [beyond][located outside] national jurisdiction;]] [and manage and dispose of removed plastic pollution in an environmentally sound manner] and ecologically sound manner] [taking into account special circumstances of small island developing States,] [and the disproportionate impacts on small island developing States; and</p> <p>OP 1.b. bis. collect data and information on existing plastic pollution to support monitoring in accordance with [Part IV.4 on Periodic assessment and monitoring of the progress of implementation of the instrument* and effectiveness evaluation]</p>	<p>Plastic clean-up technologies must be informed and regulated by an expert body and ensure that biodiversity and ecosystems are not negatively impacted by clean-up efforts, and that the chemicals associated with plastics and their impacts on biodiversity are also taken into consideration when adopting ecologically sensitive clean-up and restoration activities, as added into Option 1.1b.</p>

Part II, Provision 11. Existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment

Preferred Option for 11. Existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (page 36 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p>Option 1</p> <p>c. [promote engagement of [all stakeholders, including,] [the] local [communities][population] [civil society,] and citizens][, non-governmental organization as well as the private sector,] in [safe and] environmentally sound [removal] ** [remediation] [activities].</p> <p>OP 1.c. Alt. Promote safe and environmentally sound remediation activities, including through engagement with local population, communities, and citizens.</p> <p>OP 1.c. bis. Conducting investigations and distribution research on the current state of plastic pollution, including the marine environment, as well as developing technologies and establishing international standards for impact assessments, pollution removal and restoration.</p>	<p>Option 1</p> <p>c. {promote engagement and knowledge exchange of {all stakeholders, including,}{the] local {communities}{population} [civil society,] and citizens}{, non-governmental organization as well as the private sector,} in {safe and} environmentally sound [removal] ** [remediation] [activities].</p> <p>OP 1.c. Alt. Promote safe and environmentally sound remediation activities, including through engagement with local population, communities, and citizens.</p> <p>OP 1.c. bis. Conducting investigations and distribution research on the current state of plastic pollution, including the marine environment, as well as developing technologies approaches and establishing international standards for impact assessments, pollution removal and restoration.</p>	<p>In the absence of robust upstream measures to prevent plastic pollution, no extent of technological solutions and community clean-up efforts can fully address plastic pollution, and any measures to address existing plastic pollution must not be used to legitimise continued primary plastic production through off-setting schemes. The principles of the waste hierarchy must be followed as a priority, as added to Option 1.2.</p>

Part II, Provision 11. Existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment

Preferred Option for 11. Existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (page 36 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p>Option 1</p> <p>2. [Each Party][Developing countries] [should][encourage] make publicly available information [collected] on common plastic pollution types and [trends, as well as on the] practices and behaviours that lead to plastic pollution [, to raise awareness and prevent further plastic pollution, including littering in [floodplains,] coastal and freshwater areas].</p> <p>OP2 bis. Each Party exporting chemicals, polymers and products shall establish and implement an export permit requirement for such exports and track the types, volumes and destinations of all its exports.</p> <p>3. The measures taken to implement the provisions of this article [Part II. 11] [shall][could] be reflected in the national plan communicated pursuant to [Part IV.1 on national plans].</p>	<p>Option 1</p> <p>2. [Each Party][Developing countries] [should consult national stakeholders to consolidate and][encourage] make publicly available information [collected] on common plastic pollution types and [trends, as well as on the] practices and behaviours pathways to the environment that lead to plastic pollution [, to raise awareness and prevent further plastic pollution, including littering in [floodplains,] coastal and freshwater areas]. Each Party should work with national stakeholders to support awareness-raising activities, promoting the waste hierarchy and complementing this with necessary infrastructure to facilitate source reduction measures such as reuse and refill, recapture and safe recycling.</p> <p>OP2 bis. Each Party exporting chemicals, polymers and products shall establish and implement an export permit requirement for such exports and track the types, volumes and destinations of all its exports.</p> <p>3. The measures taken to implement the provisions of this article [Part II. 11] [shall][could] be reflected in the national plan communicated pursuant to <i>[Part IV.1 on national plans]</i>.</p>	<p>OP 1.c bis. - Suggest using 'approaches' because 'technologies' are just a subset of the much larger goal of developing ecologically sensitive approaches to remediation.</p>

Part II, Provision 11. Existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment

Preferred Option for 11. Existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (page 36 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p>Option 1</p> <p>OP3 Alt 1. No text.</p> <p>4. The governing body* shall, at its first session, adopt:</p> <p>a. Indicators to identify accumulation zones, hotspots and sectors; and</p> <p>b. Guidance on best available techniques and best environmental practices, developed on the basis of best available science, [[including the] traditional knowledge, knowledge of Indigenous Peoples [’ accessed with their free, prior and informed consent,] and local knowledge systems,] to address existing plastic pollution, with a view to ensuring the [effective mitigation and remediation measures, including] clean-up activities do not have potential for [negative] impacts on the environment, biodiversity and human health.</p> <p>OP 4 Alt 1. The governing body* should adopt guidance, as appropriate, to facilitate implementation of this article.</p>	<p>Option 1</p> <p>OP3 Alt 1. No text.</p> <p>4. The <i>governing body</i>* shall, at its first session, adopt:</p> <p>a. Indicators informed by an expert body to identify ecosystems with high levels of plastic pollutionaccumulation zones, hotspots and sectors; and</p> <p>b. Guidance provided by an expert body on best available techniques and best environmental practices, developed on the basis of best available science, [[including the] traditional knowledge, knowledge of Indigenous Peoples ’ accessed with their free, prior and informed consent,] and local knowledge systems,] to address existing plastic pollution, with a view to ensuring the [effective mitigation and remediation measures, including] clean-up activities do not have potential for [negative] impacts on the environment, biodiversity and human health.</p> <p>OP 4 Alt 1. The <i>governing body</i>* should adopt guidance, as appropriate, to facilitate implementation of this article.</p>	

Part II, Provision 11. Existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment

Preferred Option for 11. Existing plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (page 36 of INC.4/3)	Recommended language	Rationale
<p>Option 1</p> <p>OP 4 Alt 2. The governing body* shall get an assessment of the existing plastic pollution in respect of each country from an appropriate subsidiary body, the financial resources required to mitigate and remediate the existing plastic pollution due to legacy plastic waste.</p> <p>OP 4 bis. Developed country Parties as the largest historical beneficiaries of plastic goods shall take the lead in tackling legacy and existing plastic pollution in the marine environment including beyond national jurisdiction.</p>	<p>Option 1</p> <p>OP 4 Alt 2. The <i>governing body</i>* shall get an assessment of the existing plastic pollution in respect of each country from an appropriate subsidiary body, the financial resources required to mitigate and remediate the existing plastic pollution due to legacy plastic waste.</p> <p>OP 4 bis. Developed country Parties as the largest historical beneficiaries of plastic goods shall take the lead in tackling legacy and existing plastic pollution in the marine environment including beyond national jurisdiction.</p>	

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