Guidance on the conduct of the informal straw poll by electronic means

1. The informal ballot/straw poll is being conducted at the request of the Asia-Pacific States Group (Group) of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) established under UN Environment Assembly resolution 5/14 entitled, "End plastic pollution: towards an international legally binding instrument" in order to assist in selection of a candidate from the Group for Chair of the INC. The Chair, as a member of the Bureau of the INC, will oversee and guide the work of the INC that is to negotiate an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment.

2. In preparation for the straw poll, each Member of the Asia-Pacific States Group will be requested to submit the name of its representative who will cast the ballot of that Member to the INC Bureau from a list of candidates that have been put forward by the Asia-Pacific States Group. It would be up to each Member to determine if they wish to have its INC focal point register as its representative to cast the ballot. To facilitate this process, an online registration form will be sent from the INC Plastic Secretariat [**unep-incplastic.secretariat@un.org**] for Members to register (see Annex I). The deadline for registration will be 72 hours from the time the link to the registration form has been emailed.

3. One working day prior to the straw poll, the INC Plastic Secretariat [**unep-incplastic.secretariat@un.org**] will communicate to the registered delegates the specific time when the voting will begin and the duration of the voting period. The duration of the voting period will be 72 hours. The list of agreed candidates will be communicated in the same e-mail.

4. At the start of the voting process, the representatives who have registered will receive from the INC Plastic Secretariat [**unep-incplastic.secretariat@un.org**] an electronic copy of the ballot paper, in a PDF format.

5. The names of the candidates [country name] that have been communicated to the Bureau members representing the Group will be printed on the ballot paper. Representatives will only be allowed to vote for the candidates on the ballot paper. No other names will be accepted.

6. The voters will be requested to use only those ballot papers that will be provided to them through the e-mail and to put an "X" in the box next to the name of the candidate whom they wish to vote for.

7. Only ballots cast within the duration of the voting period will be accepted.

8. Delegates will be invited to vote for one candidate only. Therefore, the total number of checked boxes should not exceed one. A ballot paper containing more than one checked box will be declared invalid. If a ballot contains any notations other than votes in favour of a specific candidate, those notations will be disregarded.

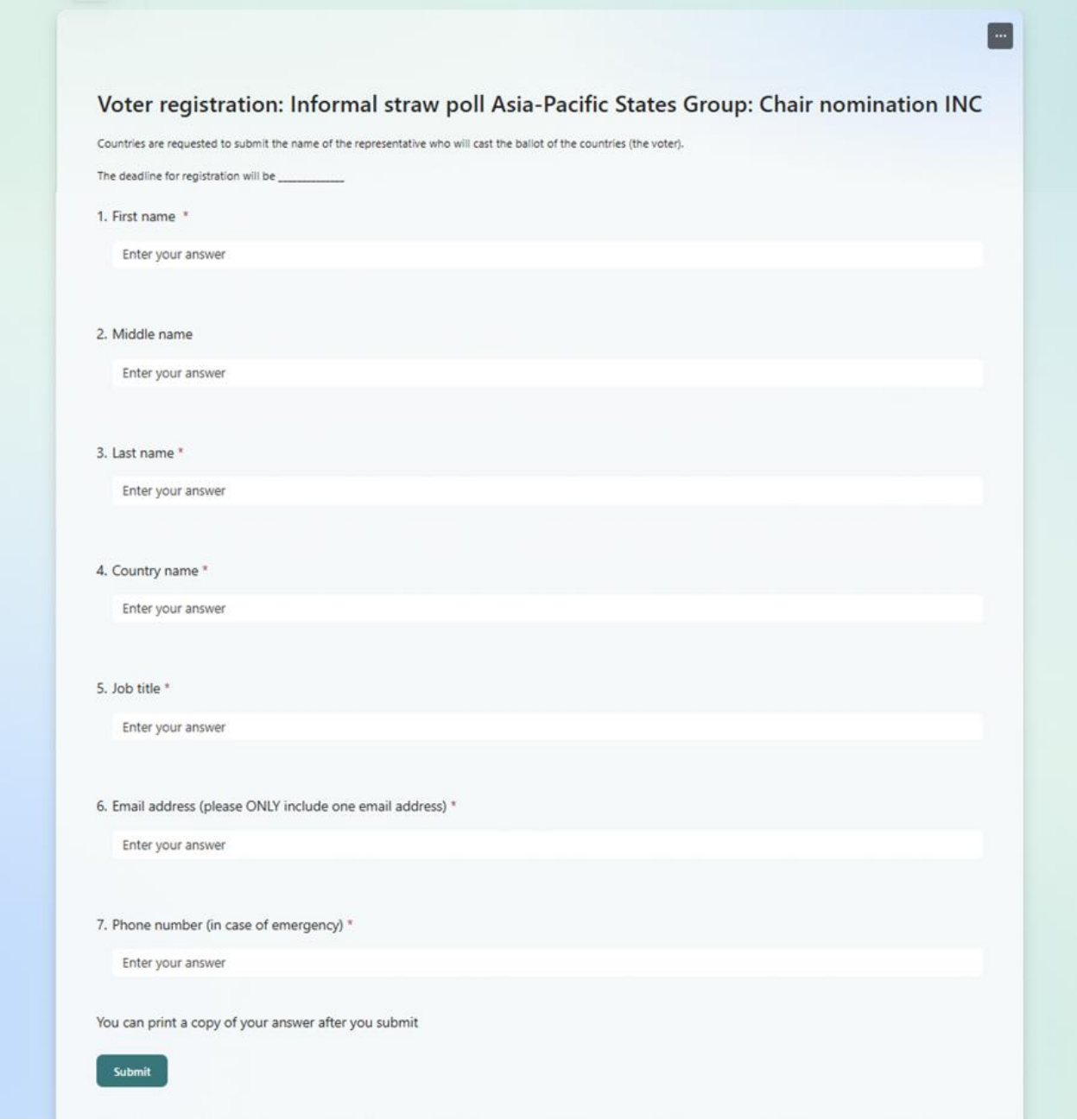
9. The representatives who have registered will then have 72 hours to send the ballot paper back. The ballot paper can be filled in off-line (printed and filled) and a scanned copy will have to be emailed to the INC Plastic Secretariat [**unep-incplastic.secretariat@un.org**] before the conclusion of the voting period.

10. At the conclusion of the voting period, representatives who have registered will be informed that the voting period has concluded and no more ballot papers will be accepted.

11. The ballots will be tallied by the United Nations Environment Programme staff and supervised by two tellers from the Asia-Pacific States Group as well as a UNEP Legal Officer.

12. The results of the straw poll will be provided to the Bureau members representing the Group.

Annex I



Voter registration: Informal straw poll Asia-Pacific States Group: Chair nomination INC

Countries are requested to submit the name of the representative who will cast the ballot of the countries (the voter).

The deadline for registration will be _____

1. First name *

Enter your answer

2. Middle name

Enter your answer

3. Last name *

Enter your answer

4. Country name *

Enter your answer

5. Job title *

Enter your answer

6. Email address (please ONLY include one email address) *

Enter your answer

7. Phone number (in case of emergency) *

Enter your answer

You can print a copy of your answer after you submit

Submit