Second informal in-person meeting of Heads of Delegation to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution
27 – 30 September 2026, Bangkok

Guiding Questions
9 September 2026

Reference is made to my Note of 20 August. These guiding questions are intended to support delegations in preparing for the Cluster discussions at the upcoming second informal in-person Heads of Delegation (HODs) meeting in Bangkok. They seek to encourage continued exchanges, identify interlinkages and explore possible landing zones to inform the development of the second iteration of the "Aid to Negotiations".

Members are invited to identify areas where further convergence may be possible, including bridging proposals and potential solutions, while avoiding the reiteration of previously expressed positions.

The proposed questions represent a starting point for the conversation only and are not intended to limit the ability of Members to raise other elements considered to be of relevance for discussion in the Clusters, nor to prejudge the outcome of any future negotiations or the priority that Members may attach to particular issues.

My expectation is that these questions can serve as a tool to continue building on the discussions held in the first informal in-person HODs meeting in Nairobi, reflecting on previous exchanges in a comprehensive and more in-depth manner, and trying to identify potential bridging solutions and areas of convergence.

For this meeting, Clusters are organized following the structure of the Aid to Negotiations, in order to provide a focused approach to the exchanges.

Co-facilitators will facilitate discussions covering all the topics in each of the Clusters. During the meeting, and in consultation with me as Chair, they may develop further questions, depending on the ideas shared by Members, including clarifying questions or questions on topics that Members identify as priorities and that may require further understanding.

In dedicated consultations during the meeting, I will separately address Scope; Decision-making; possible consideration of long-term goals; and Subsidiary Body or Bodies. Accordingly, these topics are not assigned to the Clusters.

Common approach for all Clusters

Consistency in approach across all four Clusters will be important to provide a single vision as we move together throughout this meeting. At the same time, since the topics in each Cluster are different, methodologies may vary depending on the progress of discussions in the rooms.

After each Cluster session, I will meet with each pair of Co-facilitators in order to gather their perspectives on the discussions that took place that day. Co-facilitators will be invited to present a brief summary of their main takeaways each day in the Review of Progress segments outlined in the meeting schedule.

Common guiding elements for all Clusters

Members are invited to take these general elements into consideration when preparing their interventions for the Cluster discussions:

- Identification of elements that should be included in the text of the instrument itself as necessary to ensure legal clarity, effectiveness, and predictability in implementation, and of those elements that could be operationalized subsequently through decisions of the Conference of the Parties.
- Identification of possible provisions in the text that could lead to mandates from the Diplomatic Conference for work to be carried out during the interim period.
- Identification of linkages between elements contained in the articles, with a view to streamlining the provisions of the future instrument, while ensuring its effectiveness and coherence throughout the instrument.

Guiding questions as starting point in Cluster discussions

Cluster A:

- **National plans**
- **Reporting**
- **Implementation and compliance**
- **Information exchange**
- **Effectiveness evaluation**

1. What purposes are National Plans expected to serve as a contribution to the achievement of the objectives of the instrument?

2. How could provisions on reporting, implementation and compliance, information exchange, and effectiveness evaluation support the overall implementation of the instrument, and what is the relationship between these articles?

3. What will be the role of information exchange in the overall implementation of the instrument and how can it contribute to its effectiveness?

Cluster B:

- **Releases and leakages**
- **Existing and legacy plastic pollution**
- **Plastic waste management**
- **Plastic products design**
- **Plastic products**

1. What considerations should guide decisions on determining which plastic products will require possible global measures, actions or cooperation?

2. What type of enabling factors should be considered to address existing and legacy plastic pollution, including the process to identify and evaluate the locations or accumulation zones and subsequent remediation efforts?

3. How can Parties cooperate in the implementation of effective waste management policies, taking into account the different national circumstances and needs?

Cluster C:

- **Capacity-building, technical assistance, technology transfer, including international cooperation**
- **Financial resources and mechanism**

1. What elements must be considered to ensure that all available financial sources, including public finance, are effectively mobilized for the implementation of the instrument?

2. What role should the private sector have in facilitating the mobilization of financial resources, capacity building and technical assistance, and what elements could be considered under the financial mechanism to promote such a role?

3. What provisions related to technology transfer could foster international cooperation, considering the capacity differences between countries?

Cluster D:

- **Preamble**
- **Objective**
- **Principles and approaches**
- **Definitions**
- **Just transition**
- **Public information, awareness, education and research**
- **Secretariat**
- **Final provisions**

1. Which principles and approaches could be useful in guiding the effective implementation of the instrument, and how could these be best reflected in the instrument?

2. How can actions related to public information, awareness, education, and research support implementation?

3. Considering the progress achieved so far in the discussions related to issues such as the Secretariat and definitions, does the current formulation in the Aid to Negotiations reflect the level of detail required?