

BAN INTERVENTION

Plastic Waste Guidelines

Thank you Mr. Co-chair. The Plastic Waste Technical Guidelines have been improved with the hard work of the working group. However, we fear that the guidelines still overall do not describe the real problems with plastic waste recycling technologies in contrast to true solutions provided by waste prevention methods.

In particular too much credence remains for chemical recycling when in fact such methods are untried and fraught with serious problems to the extent that they will likely not be able to be considered as Environmentally Sound Management. Descriptions of other recycling technologies also understate the problems inherent to the recycling of plastics. Just two examples include the issue of the transfer of toxic additives in the waste stream into the recyclate creating hazardous properties where they are not acceptable for the new recycled uses. Further other matters such as the vast consumption of water resources have not been described and indicated when plastic wastes have to be cleaned in recycling operations. We hope we can address these issues in the coming weeks with a view to adoption at COP16.

Thank you.