

MINI-MODEL UN TOOLKIT

UNEA

SIMULATION

ANNEX: 6) SAMPLE OPENING STATEMENT

UNITED NATIONS DEPARTMENT OF GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS
WORLD FEDERATION OF UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATIONS



United Nations
Department of Global
Communications



World Federation of United Nations Associations

2025

MINI-MODEL UN TOOLKIT

UNEA

SIMULATION

ANNEX: 6) SAMPLE OPENING STATEMENT

Thank you (Mr. or Madame) President,

Kenya welcomes this important debate on marine plastic litter and microplastics. The UN stands at a pivotal moment in environmental action — inaction now carries grave risks for humanity and the planet. While plastics are convenient and widely used, Kenya firmly believes that protecting environmental and human health must take precedence over ease.

We are deeply concerned about the humanitarian and ethical consequences of marine plastic pollution. These plastics persist indefinitely in our oceans, disproportionately impacting the Global South — who are neither the primary users nor producers of these materials. This imbalance undermines global efforts toward equality and sustainable development, repeatedly harming the most vulnerable.

Kenya supports an international framework that ensures plastic litter is minimized and handled responsibly, with specific consideration of how these plastics remain in our world and where they have historically ended up. We advocate for a step-by-step approach: first, by establishing a clear understanding of the full life cycle of plastics and a clear understanding of the threat of microplastics to our environment and health; second, recognize the effect marine plastic pollution has on our oceans and the disproportionate impact on member states in the global south; third, by promoting transparency and awareness of the over-production and improper disposal of plastics into the ocean; and fourth, create a comprehensive plan to end marine plastic litter and combat the growing impact of microplastics in our waters.

Our position is clear: marine plastic pollution must end, and microplastics must be taken seriously. Kenya is committed to working constructively with all members of this Assembly to reach consensus on measures that safeguard our oceans, environment, our health, and our future.

Thank you, (Mr. or Madame) President.

