

END OF NEGOTIATIONS INC-2 ON THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLASTIC POLLUTION:

SURFRIDER FOUNDATION EUROPE'S REACTION

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At the end of this week of negotiations for an international treaty to put an end to plastic pollution, Surfrider Foundation Europe reacts to the conclusions adopted by the 175 negotiating countries.

INC-2, the second round of negotiations for an international treaty on plastic pollution, ended on Friday June 2 at UNESCO headquarters in Paris.

This INC-2, which was to have led to the **creation of a first draft treaty**, in line with the [option paper proposed by UNEP](#) on May 16, was initially the scene of interminable exchanges on the rules of procedure linked to voting, giving the impression that certain countries were deliberately slowing down negotiations.

Indeed, although this second session of negotiations in Paris began with a shared view about the urgency to act, it was quickly slowed down by a few blocking countries (Saudi Arabia, China, India and Russia), via discussions on procedural issues: could this be to avoid the emergence of an ambitious treaty?

With these procedural issues set aside, the 175 negotiating countries were finally able to give their views on the **content of the treaty**, and bring out points of

convergence on **objectives, obligations** and **implementation measures**, such as oppositions.

While the States agree on the need to reduce pollution, the actions to be implemented are divided on the **reduction of production** or voluntary commitments to optimize collection and recycling.

In the end, the result was a **strong action**: a mandate was given to draw up a "zero draft" (a **first version of the treaty**) and work on **technical issues** before INC-3.

Some states tried to block the process, but the majority is moving forward!

Diane Beaumenay-Joannet, Plastic Waste Advocacy Manager for Surfrider Foundation Europe, comments:

« The second session of the International Negotiating Committee (INC-2) has taken a step towards preserving the ocean from plastic pollution! A wave of countries in favor of combating this scourge was able to prevail over the lobbying of other blocking countries, ready to drown negotiations in procedural discussions.

This opens the door to more technical and concrete negotiations on the content of the treaty! »

About Surfrider Foundation Europe

The Surfrider Foundation is a collective of positive activists who take concrete action on the ground every day to pass on a preserved ocean to future generations. Our mission: To be the voice of the Ocean! Our weapons? Raising awareness and mobilising citizens, children and adults alike (thanks to 48 volunteer branches throughout Europe), using our scientific expertise to lobby and transform companies. Find out more about the association at <https://surfrider.eu/en> or via this video

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