**Committee:** United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
**Topic:** Global Solutions for Reducing Marine Plastic Pollution

South Africa, located at the southernmost point of Africa, boasts over 2,500 kilometers of coastline. Its economy is heavily dependent on sectors such as tourism, fishing, and shipping, all of which are significantly affected by marine plastic pollution. The country faces socio-economic challenges, including inequalities in healthcare and education, but has made strides in addressing these issues. With a diverse population, South Africa is increasingly aware of the environmental threats posed to its natural resources and actively participates in global efforts to combat ocean pollution.

Marine plastic pollution has emerged as a major global issue, with serious consequences for biodiversity, local economies, and communities. South Africa, like many other nations, acknowledges the devastating impact of plastic waste on its marine environments. As a signatory of international initiatives such as the UN Clean Seas Campaign, the country is committed to addressing marine pollution and supports the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14, which focuses on protecting oceans and marine life. In 2017, the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA) called for greater international collaboration to tackle this crisis, aligning with South Africa’s environmental priorities.

South Africa has made significant progress in reducing plastic pollution, including implementing a ban on plastic bags and strengthening waste management policies. The country recognizes that addressing marine plastic pollution requires a multifaceted approach, including reducing plastic production, improving waste management, and boosting recycling efforts. South Africa advocates for the creation of a global treaty on marine plastic pollution, calling for legally binding agreements to reduce waste, establish global standards for plastics, and provide support to developing countries in enhancing their waste management systems. The UNEP should prioritize initiatives such as expanding producer responsibility programs, encouraging sustainable alternatives to plastic, and raising public awareness about the issue.

This paraphrased version conveys the same information in a slightly different way, ensuring clarity while maintaining the original meaning.

**Reeferences**

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). "Clean Seas Campaign." <https://www.cleanseas.org/>

United Nations, 2017. "Resolutions of the UN Environment Assembly on Marine Litter." <https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/report/marine-litter-early-warning-signs-2017>