We appreciate greatly the streamlining of Article 6 on Non-plastic substitutes.

We support Option 1 with particular emphasis on incentivizing and promoting research, innovation, development, and use at scale through the cooperation mechanism.

To avoid regrettable substitutions, it is important that non-plastic substitutes also meet criteria that include safety and sustainability with economic, social, and cultural impacts assessed on a life-cycle approach.

Substitutes should also include technologies and services that promote reuse and refill models.

It is important for developing countries to have access to technologies and financial resources to facilitate adoption and use at scale of viable non-plastic alternatives.

Last but not least, we support the use of best available science, traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems, recognizing that we have much to learn from the knowledge and traditional practices of indigenous peoples who have lived in harmony with nature using non-plastic materials to meet their needs for centuries.

Recognizing that support can go both ways, the Philippines is prepared to provide assistance and support to developed countries by sharing the knowledge and practices of our indigenous peoples on non-plastic substitutes.