

6F Victoria 1 Building
1670 Quezon Ave. cor. EDSA
Quezon City, Philippines 1103



t: (+63) 2 709 6503
e: healthjustice.ph@gmail.com
w: www.healthjustice.ph

Statement of HealthJustice, a Member of the Stop Tobacco Pollution Alliance (STPA)

INC-5.2 – Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution
Closing Plenary
Geneva, August 14, 2025

HealthJustice delivers this statement as a member of a movement co-convened by [Global Center](#) for Good Governance in Tobacco Control, the [Stop Tobacco Pollution Alliance](#), which comprises over 100 organizations from both public health and environmental sectors that seek the alignment of the plastics treaty with the tobacco control treaty.

With the drafts released, we find ourselves to be very far from the ambition we set out at the start. We appreciate those that continue to truly fight for an ambitious outcome. Regardless of how high or low this ambition is defined, it cannot stand without the floor: Tackling one of the most pervasive sources of toxic plastic pollution --cigarette filters.

Evidence already exists to justify [eliminating](#) these toxic plastics, which are known to significantly contribute to [hazardous plastic waste](#) and the destruction of [marine ecosystems](#). And the WHO and the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) have provided guidance to address

- tobacco product [components](#) like filters,
- tobacco industry [greenwashing](#) that is disguised as [tobacco extended producer responsibility](#) (EPR),
- tobacco industry [liability](#) and
- tobacco industry [exclusion](#) from policy-making.

Simply including safeguard clauses that align this treaty with relevant agreements like the FCTC would meet a fundamental legal necessity as well as address the most littered plastic item on earth --- that also causes the highest number of preventable deaths worldwide.

Even before we take the next steps on addressing the plastics crisis globally, national action can already be taken: Banning cigarette filters and holding tobacco companies liable for costs.

The science is settled. The solutions exist. Let's start protecting the planet and saving lives while we are at it.

Delivered by [Healthjustice Inc.](#), a member of the [Stop Tobacco Pollution Alliance](#)

