

1 March 2025

We are following up on our original letter dated 30 November 2024 requesting that the consumers of safer nicotine products be given an opportunity to have consumer views considered in the process of developing your country's position in the run up to World Health Organization's 11th Conference of the Parties (COP11) of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) later this year in November. We implore you to consider that recent events make our request, as citizens and consumers, more urgent.

As you may be aware, recently there have been numerous reports on the successes in Sweden, Japan, New Zealand and the UK with regards to adults choosing not to smoke, but instead using safer nicotine products. ***These countries chose to regulate safer nicotine products, giving their citizens access, choice, and freedom to make the switch. In turn, the smoking rates in these countries have dropped significantly in the past two years, all because of countries who have chosen to embrace harm reduction for tobacco in order to improve health outcomes for their citizens, who would otherwise use deadly tobacco products. These countries engaged with their constituents and opened their doors to all relevant stakeholders to develop and implement these policies.***

The FCTC process needs to include relevant country experience and data, such as can be provided by from countries who have implemented tobacco harm reduction as part of their public health policies, as well as those who have chosen, for whatever reason, to severely restrict or prohibit safer nicotine products. ***There is opportunity in the legitimate FCTC process to discuss the possibilities with those countries who have yet embraced tobacco harm reduction, and explore the experiences of those delegations who have severely restricted or banned safer nicotine products. Both sides of the debate are of equal importance and deserve equal attention, as such, should be able to freely discuss their motivations without reprimand or backlash from NGO's and other outside parties who are not responsible for public health policy in your country.***

We would welcome the opportunity to answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your consideration and attention.

Sincerely,



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Coalition of Asia Pacific Tobacco Harm Reduction Advocates - CAPHRA - www.caphraorg.net

CAPHRA is not related to any industry or commercial interests, whether it be tobacco or e-cigarette, and has not been since its inception in 2018. CAPHRA is a grassroots consumer organization, advocating for consumer rights in Tobacco Harm Reduction (THR). It is composed of consumer advocates from the Asia Pacific Region, some of which belong to the low- or middle-income country (LMIC) bracket, where consumers face challenges when it comes to their rights as well as inclusion in discussions with regard those very rights. CAPHRA receives no funding, nor has it ever received such. We hope putting forward this information would clarify any doubt as to our interests and intentions.