



To: eStatements@UN.org

Re: On behalf of 344 civil society organizations and experts worldwide

I am summarizing a joint statement supported by 344 civil society organizations and experts worldwide, available at <http://HealthScienceAndLaw.ca/> We call on member states to:

1. clearly establish the **primacy of human rights** of natural persons over commercial rights of companies;
2. adopt a **UN Code of Conduct** to ensure, among other things, that negotiations like this are transparent to NGOs and the news media;
3. mandate **product warning labels** to inform consumers of risks to health those products that cause nearly half of all deaths worldwide and financial harm equivalent in value to nearly half of the global commercial economy;
4. fulfill the commitment for high-income countries to dedicate at least **0.7% of gross national income to official development assistance** with the same enthusiasm that NATO embraces seven-fold higher commitments to military spending; and
5. **fund for civil society organizations to effectively hold governments to account.**

It is important for world leaders to even *discuss* reducing rates of NCDs caused by tobacco, unhealthy diets, alcohol, pollution with toxic chemicals & burning fossil fuels. But the member states proved more adept concealing their slow progress and negotiating compromises from the public and media than actually improving health outcomes for their citizens. The three negotiated texts were not shared with the public. The total number of deaths due to NCDs actually rose from 36 million to 43 million of 57 million non-COVID deaths in 2021, faster than population growth. WHO analysis indicates that the share of deaths due to dying prematurely (under age 70) from NCDs fell from 18.4% to 17.8%, a decline of 3%, far short of the 33% reduction expected by 2030.

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