



MOP3 Side events

<p>Monday, 12 Feb 2024 13:30 – 14:45</p>	<p>Title: <i>Tracking and tracing of tobacco products</i></p> <p>Organizers: Secretariat of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control</p> <p>Description: For the purposes of further securing the supply chain and to assist in the investigation of illicit trade in tobacco products, the Parties agreed to establish, within five years of entry into force of the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products, a global tracking and tracing regime. This side event will present to Parties the global information-sharing focal point developed by the Convention Secretariat and the United Nations International Computing Center (UINCC) and experiences from Parties that have implemented a system or are in the process of doing so.</p>
	<p>Title: <i>Research on illicit trade in tobacco products: Challenges and findings</i></p> <p>Organizers: Global Alliance for Tobacco Control Co-organizers: Corporate Accountability</p> <p>Description: The event will provide evidence of recent findings from independent research on illicit trade in several countries with different levels of development and regions. The discussion will also discuss the methodology to conduct research and their advantages and disadvantages. In addition, the discussion will present evidence of the interference and misleading studies presented by the tobacco industry and how it can be counterargued. The event is designed to be attended by participants from parties and NGOs, as it will not have technical complexities.</p>
<p>Tuesday, 13 Feb 2024 13:30 – 14:45</p>	<p>Title: <i>The benefits of Parties' needs assessment for the implementation of the Protocol</i></p> <p>Organizers: Gabon, Ghana</p> <p>Description: The MOP to the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products, through decision FCTC/MOP2(7), requested the Convention Secretariat to support</p>

	<p>Parties in assessing their needs and obtaining appropriate assistance. In line with the decisions of the MOP, the Convention Secretariat developed a needs assessment process and methodology to assist Parties in identifying the objectives to be achieved under the Protocol, the resources available to achieve these objectives and any gaps in resources required for the implementation of the Protocol. This side event will present the experiences of the pilot needs assessments carried out in 2023.</p>
	<p>Title: <i>Assistance and Cooperation for the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products</i></p> <p>Organizers: Brazil</p> <p>Description: MOP2 recognized that the full and effective implementation of Articles relating to international cooperation and mutual assistance in aspects related to enforcement, investigation and prosecution of offences, administrative, legislative and scientific, technical and technological matters is crucial for the successful achievement of the objectives of the Protocol. This side event will discuss how Parties can utilize available mechanisms to strengthen international cooperation.</p>
<p>Wednesday, 14 Feb 2024 13:30 – 14:45</p>	<p>Title: <i>Tobacco industry interference and the Protocol</i></p> <p>Organizers: Smokefree Partnership (SFP)</p> <p>Description: The goal of the session is to discuss the perils of working with the industry and the need to respect Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC and Article 8 of the Protocol. In the Preamble to the Protocol, Parties are reminded “to be alert to any efforts by the tobacco industry to undermine or subvert strategies to combat illicit trade in tobacco products”. The Protocol stipulates in article 8 §2 that the tracking and tracing system is “controlled by the Party”. In addition, it was emphasized in article 8 §12 that obligations assigned to a Party shall not be performed by or delegated to the tobacco industry and in article 8 §13 that each Party shall ensure that its competent authorities interact with the tobacco industry and its allies only to the extent strictly necessary in the implementation of this Article.</p>
	<p>Title: <i>The role of international organization in the implementation of the Protocol</i></p> <p>Organizers: Secretariat of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control</p> <p>Description: MOP2 called on Parties to strongly encourage international and regional organizations in which they are represented to support the implementation of the Protocol and to acknowledge its role in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This side event will showcase example of collaborations with international organizations and showcase how the implementation of the Protocol interacts with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).</p>