



## Section A: A. Contact details

### A1. A1. Name of organization

*Mandatory question*

Smoke Free Partnership (SFP)

### A2. A2. Mailing address

*Mandatory question*

Chaussée de Louvain 479  
1030 Brussels, Belgium

### A3. A3. Contact person responsible for the report

*First name, Family name.*

*Mandatory question.*

Luk Joossens

### A4. A4. Telephone

*Please enter the full number (example: +41 123 456 7890)*

*Mandatory question*

+32486889122

### A5. A5. Email

*The e-mail format is "xxxx@yyyy.zzz"*

*Mandatory question*

joossens@gmail.com

### A6. A6. Website of organization

*The URL format is "http://xxxxx".*

https://www.smokefreepartnership.eu/



## A7. A7. Email

The e-mail format is "xxx@yyy.zzz"

Mandatory question

info@smokefreepartnership.eu, lilia.olefir@smokefreepartnership.eu

## Section B: B. General information

### B1. B1. Please indicate if your organization would like to retain its status as observer to the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products

Yes ☒

No ☐

### B2. B2. Does your organization's mission statement specifically refer to tobacco control or to countering/fighting illicit trade in tobacco products?

Yes ☐

No ☒

### B3. B3. If yes, please specify:

### B4. B4. Does your organization have regional branch(es) to enhance activities in different regions or groups of countries?

Yes ☒

No ☐

### B5. B5. If yes, please provide details

The SFP Coalition is a network comprising of independent EU and national advocacy organisations with technical expertise in tobacco control policy. Led by SFP, Coalition partners work together to promote and support smoking prevention through the development of advocacy towards EU tobacco control policies through the development and implementation of the FCTC, its protocols and guidelines.

The main priority of the SFP Coalition is to promote forward-looking and evidence-based tobacco control legislation in order to implement the FCTC in specific and cross-cutting policy areas, with an overarching goal of improving health and reducing health inequalities among EU citizens.

The SFP Coalition currently has 54 partners across Europe including SFP Main partners, Associate partners and Advocacy partners. The Coalition communicates regularly and meets annually to discuss and agree advocacy priorities at EU and national level on specific areas.

SFP Coalition partners recognise the fundamental importance of strengthening cooperation on tobacco control policy in the EU through better communication of our actions and capacity-building regarding specific areas of the FCTC at European and national level.



**B6. B6. Does your organization regularly convene meetings or conferences for its membership?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

**B7. B7. If yes, please indicate frequency:**

Monthly ☐

Quarterly ☒

Biannually ☐

Annually ☐

Biennially ☐

Others (not on a regular basis, meet when required, etc.) ☐

**B8. B8. If Others, please provide details**

**B9. B9. If yes, is tobacco control or countering/fighting illicit trade in tobacco products covered in the meetings/conferences?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

## Section C: C. Participation in meetings organized under the auspices of the Protocol and contributions

Participation in meetings organized under the auspices of the Protocol and contributions to other tobacco control related events

**C1. C1. Please indicate the meetings organized by the Convention Secretariat at which your organization was represented (sessions of the Meeting of Parties, meetings of inter-sessional groups, working groups, NGO events, etc.)**

*Title and date*

SFP attended as an observer the virtual meeting of the working group on tracking and tracing in July 2022 and the physical meeting in October 2022 at the WHO headquarters in Geneva. SFP met the Head of the FCTC secretariat in Brussels to discuss progress on the FCTC and the Protocol on the 30 March 2022. SFP made presentations on the Protocol at the webinar of World Conference on Tobacco or Health in April 2021 and on tracking and tracing systems at the PAHO webinar in May 2022. On 22 February 2023, a new presentation on the global illicit tobacco trade is planned at the webinar of the international conference on Tobacco and Health in Iran.



**C2. C2. Please list any other meetings or conferences with a focus on tobacco control or countering/fighting illicit trade in tobacco products attended by your organization.**

*Title and date*

On the 2nd December 2022 SFP and partners launched a Tobacco Control Scale Report launched at the ICO-WHO Symposium. This report describes the results of a survey of tobacco control activity in 37 European countries in 2021, using the Tobacco Control Scale (TCS), first described by Luk Joossens and Martin Raw in the 2006 paper The Tobacco Control Scale: a new scale to measure country activity. The data used for the 2021 survey refers to legislation in force on the 1 January 2022. Among the key recommendation, SFP urges the European countries that did not yet ratify the Protocol for “Ratifying the WHO FCTC Protocol to eliminate the illicit trade in tobacco products and adopt tracking and tracing standards in line with the Protocol”. Moreover, the score is given to those countries that ratified the Protocol to raise awareness that the Protocol is an international instrument to tackle the issues of illicit trade .

**Section D: D. Work encouraging Parties to the WHO FCTC to become Party to the Protocol**

**D1. D1. Have you supported any Party or Parties to the WHO FCTC to become Party to the Protocol?**

Yes ☒

No ☐

**D2. D2. If yes, please indicate which one(s):**

Through the publication and dissemination of the Tobacco Control Scale Report SFP encouraged the European countries that did not yet ratify the Protocol to ratify the WHO FCTC Protocol to eliminate the illicit trade in tobacco products and adopt tracking and tracing standards in line with the Protocol.

**Section E: E. Your organization’s activities to support the Parties in their implementation of the Protocol**

E. Has your organization conducted any work/activity in relation to the following provisions of the Protocol? E1. Part II: General obligations

E2 Part III: Supply chain control

E3 Part IV: Offences

E4. Part V: International cooperation

E5. Part VI: Reporting

E6. Part VII: Institutional arrangements and financial resources

**E1. E1.a. Article 4: General obligations:**

Yes ☐

No ☒

**E2. E1.b. Article 5: Protection of personal data:**

Yes ☐

No ☒



**E3. E1.c. If you responded YES to any of above, please provide details:**

--

**E4. E2.a. Article 6 (Licence, equivalent approval or control system):**

Yes ☐

No ☒

**E5. E2.b. Article 7 (Due diligence):**

Yes ☐

No ☒

**E6. E2.c. Article 8 (Tracking and tracing):**

Yes ☒

No ☐

**E7. E2.d. Article 9 (Record keeping):**

Yes ☐

No ☒

**E8. E2.e. Article 10 (Security and preventive measures):**

Yes ☐

No ☒

**E9. E2.f. Article 11 (Sale by Internet, telecommunication, or any other evolving technology):**

Yes ☐

No ☒

**E10. E2.g. Article 12 (Free zones and international transit):**

Yes ☐

No ☐

**E11. E2.h. Article 13 (Duty free sales):**

Yes ☐

No ☐

**E12. E2.i. If you responded YES to any of above, please provide details:**

On the 1st December 2022 SFP drafted and submitted a response to the European Commission on tobacco product traceability - targeted revision of EU system. SFP welcomed the review of EU system for the tracking and tracing of tobacco products, however SFP finds it difficult to provide feedback as the reports on the real functioning of tracking and tracing system and its results have not been published by the Commission.

SFP recommended that, in line with Article 8 of the Protocol, industry involvement in the EU's tracking and tracing system should be limited strictly to absolutely necessary involvement and we suggest the following steps for achieving this:

- ☑strengthening the independence criteria for data storage facilities and companies who
- ☑generate the unique identifiers;
- ☑selecting auditors and data storage facilities by Member States or the Commission;
- ☑publishing the audit reports and the names of the auditors;
- ☑extending the scope of audits to assess the way unique identifiers are generated
- ☑particularly without the use of questionable software.

**E13. E3.a. Article 14 (Unlawful conduct including criminal offences):**Yes ☐No ☒**E14. E3.b. Article 15 (Liability of legal persons):**Yes ☐No ☒**E15. E3.c. Article 16 (Prosecution and sanctions):**Yes ☐No ☒**E16. E3.d. Article 17 (Seizure payments):**Yes ☐No ☒**E17. E3.e. Article 18 (Disposal or destruction):**Yes ☐No ☒**E18. E3.f. Article 19 (Special investigative techniques):**Yes ☐No ☒**E19. E3.g. If you responded YES to any of above, please provide details:****E20. E4.a. Article 20 (General information sharing):**Yes ☐No ☒





**E30. E5.a. Article 32 (Reporting and exchange of information):**

Yes ☐

No ☒

**E31. E5.b. If you responded YES to any of above, please provide details:**

**E32. E6.a. Article 36 (Financial resources):**

Yes ☐

No ☒

**E33. E6.b. If you responded YES to any of above, please provide details:**

## Section F: F. Other relevant activities to support the work of the Protocol

**F1. F1. Please provide any other relevant information that does not fit under the questions above.**

The Senior Advisor to SFP, Luk Joossens, has been active on illicit trade over the last 20 years by attending the discussions on article 15 of the FCTC in October 2002, being one of the rapporteurs of the WHO expert group on the illicit tobacco trade in 2007, attending the negotiations on the protocol from 2008 to 2012 and being an observer in the working group on tracking and tracing in 2009-2010 and 2019-2023. At MOP 2, in November 2021, Smoke Free Partnership was accredited an observer status to the MOP 2. SFP wrote an article in the FCA bulletin for MOP2 on 15 November 2021 on the need for more technical assistance and financial resources to support the Protocol. SFP developed and shared the FCTC secretariat in April 2022 with suggestions on questions for the survey of the tracking and tracing systems

## Section G: G. Attachments

**G1. G1. Please attach any file relevant to any of the activities reported above.**

*File name, file size limited to 10 MB*





## Section H: H. Declarations

**H1. H1. Please confirm that your organization does not receive, has not received and will not receive in the future, either directly or indirectly, any financial or other contributions or assistances from the tobacco industry or its affiliates. Please also confirm that neither your members nor your partners are affiliated directly or indirectly with the tobacco industry or its affiliates or those furthering the interests of the tobacco industry.**

Yes, I can confirm

☒

No, I cannot confirm

☐

**H2. H2. Please confirm that the activity of your organization is in conformity with the Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC and the 15th and 16th preambular paragraphs of the Protocol.**

Yes, I can confirm

☒

No, I cannot confirm

☐

**H3. H3. Through my electronic signature, I confirm that the above information is accurate and complete, to the best of our knowledge and abilities:**

*Signature of the Head of the organization*

Lilia Olefir

**Thank you for submitting the report.**