

Reaccreditation report of NGO observers to COP11

Survey response 1

Date submitted
2025-02-28 14:10:07

A. Contact details

A1. Name of organization
Action on Smoking and Health
A6. Website of organization
www.ash.org

B. General information

B1. Please indicate if your organization would like to retain its status as observer to the Conference of the Parties
Yes
B2. Does your organization's mission statement specifically refer to tobacco control?
Yes
B3. If yes, please specify:
ASH's mission is to advocate for innovative legal and policy measures to end the global <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> tobacco epidemic.
B4. Does your organization have regional branch(es) to enhance activities in different regions or groups of countries?
No
B6. Does your organization regularly convene meetings or conferences for its membership?
No
B7. If yes, is tobacco control covered in these meetings?
N/A

C. Participation in WHO FCTC meetings and contributions to other tobacco control related events

C1. Please indicate the meetings organized by the Convention Secretariat at which your organization was represented (sessions of the Conference of the Parties, meetings of intersessional groups, NGO meetings, etc.)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resumed Tenth Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) to the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control Monday, February 2024 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Virtual Tenth Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) to the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control Monday, November 2023 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC), February 2025 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ASH staff were invited by the FCTC Secretariat to serve as expert reviewers for various FCTC COP11 expert reports

C2. Please list any other meetings or conferences with a focus on tobacco control attended by your organization

o[?]ASH participated and presented at a Law and Tobacco Control Workshop: Global and European perspectives (2024) in Geneva, Switzerland in September organized by the FCTC Secretariat and held after the UICC World Cancer Congress.

o[?]ASH was invited to hold an informal briefing with the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). The FCTC Secretariat was included in this briefing.

o[?]ASH attended the 56th Session of the Human Rights Council in June 2024 and submitted a written statement and two oral interventions in support of the FCTC; one on the right to health and one on business and transnational corporations.

o[?]ASH hosted a "virtual side event" with the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights (OHCHR), the governments of Panama and Ecuador, and numerous other co-sponsors on the topic of Tobacco, FCTC and Human Rights.

o[?]ASH participated in the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, in Ottawa in April 2024.

o[?]ASH participated in the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, in Korea in November 2024.

o[?]ASH launched a report on tobacco and human rights in Switzerland. In addition to the publication and the associated communications campaign, ASH co-hosted a workshop on the topic for Swiss advocates in which the FCTC Secretariat participated as a presenter.

D. Your organization's activities to support implementation of the WHO FCTC

D1. Article 5 (General obligations)?

Yes

D2. If yes, please provide details

[?][?]ASH Launched the 2024 edition of our U.S. Tobacco Industry Lobbyist and Lobbying Firm Registration Tracker. The tracker expanded to show past results from 2021 and 2023, allowing users to explore more of the trends in tobacco lobbying.

[?][?]ASH co-hosted a webinar with the Geneva Environment Network and major environmental groups on the topic Prioritizing Principles of Accountability, Transparency, and Justice in the Future Global Plastic Treaty and how to set up safeguards to protect from corporate conflict of interest in UN environmental treaties using the FCTC as an precedent.

D3. Article 6 (Price and tax measures to reduce demand for tobacco)?

No

D5. Article 8 (Protection from exposure to tobacco smoke)?

No

D7. Article 9 (Regulation of the contents of tobacco product) and/or Article 10 (Regulation of tobacco product disclosures)?

No

D9. Article 11 (Packaging and labelling of tobacco products)?

No

D11. Article 12 (Education, communication, training and public awareness)?

No

D13. Article 13 (Tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship)?

Yes

D14. If yes, please provide details

[?][?]ASH published a report on Human Rights Violations by Tobacco Multinationals in Switzerland, which included a significant discussion of TAPS.

D15. Article 14 (Demand reduction measures concerning tobacco dependence and cessation)

Yes

D16. If yes, please provide details

[?][?]ASH led a sign on submission to a call for input from the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health around harm reduction.

[?][?]ASH hosted a webinar called Access to Tobacco Cessation Treatment is a Human Right and Essential for the Endgame

D17. Article 15 (Illicit trade in tobacco products)?

No

D19. Article 16 (Sales to and by minors)?
No
D21. Article 17 (Provision of support for economically viable alternative activities) and/or Article 18 (Protection of the environment and the health of persons)?
Yes
D22. If yes, please provide details
<p>ASH co-chairs the GATC Expert Group on Article 18.</p> <p>ASH has been co-leading a global coalition of NGOs in support of integrating tobacco control goals in the negotiations of a UN treaty to end plastic pollution. During this process, ASH has been championing alignment with the FCTC. ASH participated in all negotiations of the plastic treaty including INC4 Kenya and INC5 in Korea.</p> <p>ASH hosted the webinar: Aligning the WHO FCTC and the UN Treaty to End Plastic Pollution</p> <p>ASH co-hosted a webinar with the Geneva Environment Network and major environmental groups on the topic Prioritizing Principles of Accountability, Transparency, and Justice in the Future Global Plastic Treaty and how to set up safeguards to protect from corporate conflict of interest in UN environmental treaties using the FCTC as an precedent</p>
D23. Article 19 (Liability)?
Yes
D24. If yes, please provide details
<p>ASH co-chairs the GATC Expert Group on Article 19.</p> <p>ASH joined AATCLC, the National Medical Association (NMA) and American Medical Association (AMA) in filing a second lawsuit against the FDA for their inaction on menthol cigarettes.</p> <p>ASH served as legal advisors for a lawsuit against Juul.</p>
D25. Article 20 (Research, surveillance and exchange of information)?
No
D27. Article 22 (Cooperation in the scientific, technical and legal fields and provision of related expertise)?
No

E. Other relevant activities to support the work of the WHO FCTC

E1. Please provide any other relevant information
<p>o Relevant Reports/Publications/Articles</p> <p>o ASH submitted a written statement, co-signed by 35 organizations, in support of the FCTC implementation to the 56th Session of UN Human Rights Council.</p> <p>o ASH released a report on World No Tobacco Day on Protecting Children from the Tobacco Industry</p> <p>o ASH published a report on Human Rights Violations by Tobacco Multinationals in Switzerland, which included a significant discussion of FCTC best practices and an interview the FCTC Secretariat staff.</p> <p>o ASH submitted 4 reports that were FCTC centric to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)- Japan, New Zealand, Canada, and Chile.</p> <p>o ASH continues to participate in the UN reform process, the Summit for the Future. During COP, we solicited support from other organizations for our comments on the zero draft and submitted it with their endorsement.</p> <p>o ASH publishes frequent blogs, including many that focus on the FCTC and its priorities. For example,</p> <p>ASH staff wrote 6 daily COP10 blogs for our website and published 6 articles in the GATC Bulletin, starting with COP10 Day 1: WHO Tobacco Treaty Negotiations</p> <p>FCTC COP10 Overviews of Key Decisions: Human Rights, Article 18: Environment, Article 2.1: Endgame, Article 19: Liability</p> <p>ASH staff and Stop Tobacco Pollution Alliance Members wrote 7 daily INC-5 daily blogs, starting with: INC-5 Day 1: UN Plastic Pollution Treaty Negotiations</p> <p>Strengthening Social Justice Worldwide World Day of Social Justice</p> <p>EU Due Diligence Law Approved by European Governments</p> <p>Protecting Women's Rights International Women's Day</p> <p>Renewed Momentum on Tobacco Endgame.</p> <p>1st National Tobacco Endgame Summit</p> <p>The Hidden Subsidy for the Tobacco Industry</p> <p>Key Highlights from the 2024 U.S. Surgeon General's Report</p> <p>A Human Rights-Based Approach to Tobacco</p> <p>A Handful of Volunteers are Kicking the Industry's Butt in Massachusetts</p> <p>o Other Relevant Activities</p> <p>o ASH has been asked by civil society organization including GATC to lead/chair/co-chair civil society on COP 11 agenda items linked to Articles 2.1, 18, 19 and Human Rights.</p> <p>o During COP, ASH staff wrote 6 daily blogs for our website, published 6 articles in the GATC Bulletin, co-hosted or participated in 5 side events, made 4 interventions from the floor during Plenary or Committees, many numerous interventions in regional meetings and co-signed onto numerous other interventions.</p> <p>o ASH staff presented about the importance of including the FCTC in SDG Voluntary National Reviews in a webinar organized by the Global Alliance for Tobacco Control (GATC).</p> <p>o ASH continued our successful Webinar Series, hosting 15 webinars with prominent co-hosts, such as United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, Mision Permanente De Panama Ante Las Naciones Unidas Y Ostros Organismos Internacionales Ginebra Suiza, Ecuadorian Ministry of Public Health, OxySuisse, Swiss Association for Tobacco Control, Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. Having trained 3,003 advocates in 2024, ASH continues to receive positive feedback on and strong attendance at our substantive training webinars.</p> <p>COP10 Outcomes and Next Steps</p> <p>WHO FCTC: How We Got Here and Where We're Going</p> <p>Access to Tobacco Cessation Treatment is a Human Right and Essential for the Endgame</p> <p>2025 Priorities and Opportunities</p> <p>Tobacco Control Advocacy at CEDAW: Past, Present, and Future</p> <p>Tobacco Endgame Landscape: Global to Local</p> <p>Human Rights Council Virtual Side Event: Tobacco and Human Rights</p> <p>World No Tobacco Day: Protecting Children from Big Tobacco Using the Convention on the Rights of the Child</p> <p>Exposing Big Tobacco's Influence: Tools for Public Health Advocates</p> <p>Increasing Cooperation between the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and the Treaty to End Plastic Pollution</p> <p>Tobacco and Racism Around the World International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD)</p> <p>COP10 Outcomes and Next Steps</p> <p>Aligning the WHO FCTC and the UN Treaty to End Plastic Pollution</p>
E2. Please attach any other relevant file(s)
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F. Declarations

F1. 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 assistance 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 confirm

F2. By electronic signature I confirm that the above information is accurate and completed to the best of our abilities.

Laurent Huber

2/28/2025

F3. Please confirm that the activities of your organization are in conformity with the 17th and 18th preambular paragraphs and Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC.

Yes, I confirm