



WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION  
ON TOBACCO CONTROL

**Conference of the Parties to the  
WHO Framework Convention  
on Tobacco Control**

Eighth session  
Geneva, Switzerland, 1–6 October 2018

**6 October 2018**

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**DECISION**

**FCTC/COP8(16) Measures to strengthen implementation of the Convention  
through coordination and cooperation**

The Conference of the Parties (COP),

Recalling Article 23.5 of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC), which stipulates that the COP shall keep under regular review the implementation of the Convention and take the decisions necessary to promote its effective implementation;

Recalling also that decision FCTC/COP7(13) established a working group to develop a medium-term strategic framework (MTSF) to guide the development of biennial workplans, budgets and implementation support;

Recalling further the report of the expert group on reporting arrangements under the WHO FCTC (document FCTC/COP7/15) to make recommendations for the review of Parties' support and assistance needs for consideration of the COP;

Noting with satisfaction the outcome of the working group resulting in the draft MTSF, and thankful for the work of Parties that participated in the consultation processes;

Recognizing that strategic plans for treaties evolve over time, and that a treaty's strategic plan cannot introduce new obligations for Parties, participation in the review is voluntary and the results are non-binding,

1. **ADOPTS** the MTSF as contained in Annex 1 of document FCTC/COP/8/11 as a living document to be reviewed as necessary;
2. **INVITES** Parties:
  - (a) to consider utilizing the MTSF as a guide in setting national priorities and developing programmes and plans;
  - (b) to assess implementation of the programmes and plans deriving from the MTSF by utilizing the appropriate indicators proposed in the MTSF;

3. REQUESTS the Convention Secretariat:

- (a) to draft the workplans and budgets proposed to the COP so that they are aligned with the MTSF;
- (b) to collect baseline data for the range of indicators identified in the MTSF;
- (c) to conduct, through the voluntary participation of up to 12 Parties, a pilot project exercise for an Implementation Review Mechanism, and the development of its terms of reference, as appropriate, and to report to the Ninth session of the COP on the outcome of the pilot project and present a costed strategy, and related terms of reference, for its further consideration;
- (d) to report, on a biennial basis, on the progress in implementation of the MTSF, as part of its regular biennial global reports on the implementation of the Convention.

(Ninth plenary meeting, 6 October 2018)

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