



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

DECISION

FCTC/COP8(4) Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interest for the Members of the Bureau and the Regional Coordinators of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and on proposed measures preventing and addressing possible conflicts of interest at the Convention Secretariat

The Conference of the Parties (COP),

Taking into account the 18th preambular paragraph and Article 5.3 of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC);

Taking also into account Rules 6, 9, 19, 21–24, 24 bis, 24 ter and 24 quarter of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO FCTC;

Recognizing the central role Members of the Bureau of COP and Regional Coordinators play during the intersessional periods;

Acknowledging that Members of the Bureau of the COP and Regional Coordinators, by virtue of their role in providing guidance to the Convention Secretariat on the implementation of the workplans and budgets adopted by the COP, have access to privileged information in relation to the work of the Convention Secretariat and the implementation of the WHO FCTC;

Recognizing the central role of the staff members of the Convention Secretariat in supporting the implementation of the WHO FCTC and their access to privileged information needed for this task;

Noting that current Members of the Bureau of the COP and Regional Coordinators have already signed, on a voluntary basis, the Declaration of Interest form;

Having considered the report FCTC/COP/8/23 submitted by the Convention Secretariat,

1. URGES Parties:
 - (a) to accelerate and strengthen implementation of Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC and its guidelines;
 - (b) to remain vigilant of tobacco industry efforts to undermine implementation of the WHO FCTC;
 - (c) to nominate the candidates to be elected as Members of the Bureau of COP and Regional Coordinators, in line with Article 5.3 and recommendations 4.9 and 8.3 of its Guidelines;

2. DECIDES:
 - (a) to adopt the Code of Conduct for the Members of the Bureau and Regional Coordinators of the COP and the Declaration of Interest form therein contained, as proposed in document FCTC/COP/8/23;
 - (b) that upon their election, Members of the Bureau and Regional Coordinators of the COP shall abide by the provisions of the above-mentioned Code of Conduct during all of their tenure;
 - (c) that upon their election, Members of the Bureau and Regional Coordinators of the COP shall submit, on a mandatory basis, the Declaration of Interest form contained in document FCTC/COP/8/23;

3. REQUESTS the Convention Secretariat:
 - (a) to keep the Parties to the Convention informed on the status of implementation of this decision by members of the Bureau and Regional Coordinators;
 - (b) to work and consult with WHO on the development of a Declaration of Interest form or appendix to the existing form applicable to all Convention Secretariat staff and personnel and agree on measures to be taken with respect to potential or actual conflicts of interest with the tobacco industry and its front groups and other vested commercial interests as appropriate;
 - (c) to keep records of the submitted Declaration of Interest forms and report to the Bureau any potential conflict of interest emerging from the Declaration of Interest forms;
 - (d) to report to the Ninth session of the COP and Second session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products (MOP), on the progress of the implementation of this decision.

(Fifth plenary meeting, 6 October 2018)

===