



FCTC

WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION
ON TOBACCO CONTROL

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

Seventh session
Delhi, India, 7–12 November 2016

12 November 2016

DECISION

FCTC/COP7(8) Protection of public health policies with respect to tobacco control from commercial and other vested interests of the tobacco industry

The Conference of the Parties (COP),

Recalling its decision FCTC/COP6(14) entitled Protection of public health policies with respect to tobacco control from commercial and other vested interests of the tobacco industry, and recognizing the importance of implementing Article 5.3 of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) on both the global and local levels;

Recognizing that the tobacco industry continues to be an important barrier to implementation of the Convention, as noted in the 2016 global progress report on implementation of the WHO FCTC;

Noting with concern that the tobacco industry's tactics at the international level affects implementation of Article 5.3 at the country level;

Acknowledging that countering tobacco industry interference at the international level raises awareness of the tobacco industry's tactics globally, increases prominence of the WHO FCTC, and consequently aids in country-level implementation of the Convention;

Acknowledging also that Guidelines for implementation of Article 5.3 were adopted at the third session of the COP in its decision FCTC/COP3(7);

Reaffirming the obligations that Parties have to implement Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC;

Recognizing the work of the Convention Secretariat in establishing tobacco industry monitoring centers (observatories) and Knowledge Hubs in several content areas to facilitate the implementation of the WHO FCTC;

1. URGES Parties to intensify multisectoral actions and cooperation to address efforts by the tobacco industry to undermine or subvert tobacco control efforts, and the need to be informed of the tobacco industry actions that have a negative impact on tobacco control efforts;

2. CALLS ON Parties to use the Guidelines of Article 5.3 where appropriate and other available resources to strengthen the implementation of Article 5.3, and to remain vigilant of tobacco industry efforts to undermine the implementation of the WHO FCTC;
3. REQUESTS the Convention Secretariat to establish a Knowledge Hub for Article 5.3 that:
 - (a) coordinates the work of experts on Article 5.3 to develop international cooperation, including cooperation with other Knowledge Hubs, as appropriate, and with the Observatories;
 - (b) is responsive to regional economic groupings in the development of innovative ways to engage non-health sectors nationally, regionally and globally;
 - (c) assists Parties upon request in developing strategies to counter tobacco industry interference in bilateral, regional and global relations to promote global awareness of Article 5.3;
 - (d) supports Parties in developing strategies to counter the tobacco industry's misleading information related to the WHO FCTC and tobacco control;
 - (e) promotes mechanisms, including technical assistance and tools, to assist country-level implementation of Article 5.3;
4. REQUESTS the Convention Secretariat:
 - (a) to produce and disseminate best practices in the adoption and implementation of Article 5.3 and its Guidelines, including but not limited to, Article 5.3-specific codes of conduct;
 - (b) to continue to promote the use of the Model policy for agencies of the United Nations system on preventing tobacco industry interference, developed by members of the United Nations Interagency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of NCDs, in accordance with Article 5.3;
 - (c) to include media strategies to raise awareness about tobacco industry interference in the global communication strategy;
 - (d) to study the Guidelines on cooperation between the United Nations and the business sector, for their compatibility with Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC, and report to COP8;
 - (e) to increase awareness of existing tools to implement Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC.

(Fifth plenary meeting, 12 November 2016)

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