
Reaccreditation report of NGO observers to COP10

Survey response 1

A. Contact details

A1. Name of organization
Framework Convention Alliance for Tobacco Control
A6. Website of organization
https://fctc.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:
Our mission statement is as follows: We unite the global tobacco control community and serve as the voice of civil society to accelerate progress on implementation of the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), while integrating tobacco control in the global health and development agendas
B4. Does your organization have regional branch(es) to enhance activities in different regions or groups of countries?
Yes
B5. If yes, please provide details
The FCA (now: GATC) employs a network of Regional Coordinators positioned in WHO Regions. Our Regional Coordinators are uniquely positioned to facilitate regional connections and provide a localized point of contact for engaging with the GATC. Our regional coordinators work to disseminate information, lead regional trainings, and play a crucial role in convening and coordinating civil society during COP/MOP.
B6. Does your organization regularly convene meetings or conferences for its membership?
Yes
B7. If yes, is tobacco control covered in these meetings?
Yes
B8. If yes, please provide details
We regularly hold webinars and townhalls for our members at both the global and regional levels and tobacco control and FCTC is almost always the main topic covered during the meetings. We cover a range of topics such as the COP as a whole or more detailed topics such as reporting on 3.a., shadow reporting, industry interference, budget advocacy, sustainable development and tobacco control etc. In the lead up to the COP and the MOP, we hold meetings and events for each region and globally and discuss the agenda in more detail and also discuss advocacy strategies and how we will collaborate during the deliberations. During the COP and MOP we also hold daily meetings and briefings with our membership to discuss strategies. We also provide tailored information and advocacy materials on tobacco control to our members on a regular basis.

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.)

8-13 November 2021 - Attended the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO FCTC
 October 2021 - Attended WPRO Pre COP9 & Pre MOP2
 October 2021 - Attended EURO Pre COP9 & Pre MOP2
 19-20 October 2021 - Attended EMRO Pre COP9 & Pre MOP2
 12-13 October 2021 - Attended AFRO Pre COP9 & Pre MOP2
 11-12 October 2021 – Attended SEARO Pre COP9 & Pre MOP2
 Week of October 4 2021 – Attended AMRO Pre COP9 & Pre MOP2
 1-3 April 2020 – Attended the 2nd meeting of the Article 13 working group as a NGO member of the WG
 Attended all Informal meetings with NGOs accredited as Observers to the Conference of the Parties to the WHO FCTC that were organized by the FCTC Secretariat between 2020 and 2022

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

17 November 2022 – Participated as a speaker in a webinar hosted by the Convention Secretariat to discuss SDG Target 3a. and the VNRs.

18-20 October 2022 - Attended, chaired and presented on several tobacco control streams at the World Cancer Congress

August 2022 - Attended the 72nd session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa - During the session on the global strategy to accelerate tobacco control 2019-2025 implementation in the African region, Fatou Diouf had a chance to speak on agenda item 17.4 where she advocated for the need to ensure that tobacco control is seen as a development issue at the global and regional levels and ensure its inclusion in national development plans. She also spoke about how tobacco control plays a major role in our ability to meet the SDGs.

28 July 2022 - Speaker during the NCD Prevention Accelerator Training Program 'Experiences in leveraging the WHO FCTC investment case to advocate for national policy change'

26 May 2022 - Attended the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific webinar "The Devastating Environmental Impact of Tobacco"

8 March 2022 - Co-hosted with ATCA an International Women's Day webinar to bring together women that have made a mark on the global tobacco control movement for an inter-generational exchange

26-28 October 2022 - Attended, chaired and presented during the Africa Conference on Tobacco Control and Development on increased financing for WHO implementation

21 October 2021 - Moderated an international panel entitled The Future of Tobacco Control: Is the end game possible in the Americas?

18 October 2021 - Attended and presented at the Tobacco Control Leadership Summit

7 July 2021 - Co-hosted a panel discussion on tobacco control prevention in COVID-19 response efforts, where the FCTC Secretariat was also a panellist

6 July 2021 – Participated as a panel member in the FCTC Secretariat-organized HLPF side event on Target 3.a of the SDGs on WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control: key to recovery from COVID- 19 and building back better

6 July 2021 – Presented during the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) Tobacco Control and Cancer Series on Building capacity for policy change

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

D1. Article 5 (General obligations)?

Yes

D2. If yes, please provide details

Organized a webinar on 'Maximizing Transparency in the lead up to COP9/MOP2 - Milestones & Challenges' to generate awareness of the importance of securing maximizing transparency and securing the implementation of the maximizing transparency decisions in the lead up to COP9 & MOP2 and to alert about tobacco industry interference attempts in the lead up to COP9 & MOP2.
 Established a civil society task force to monitor industry interference in the lead up to and during COP and MOP

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

D4. If yes, please provide details
Continued work with civil society organizations in Chad, Uganda, Senegal, Ghana and Nigeria to build capacity and carry out advocacy campaigns to increase tobacco taxes at the national level
Over the past few years, the Alliance has been investing in building the capacity of civil society to engage in budget advocacy as one way to help address the domestic funding and resources challenges and mobilizing decision-makers to recognize tobacco taxation as a sustainable development solution
Developed advocacy campaigns to promote the increase of tobacco taxes to build back better post-COVID

D5. Article 8 (Protection from exposure to tobacco smoke)?
No

D6. If yes, please provide details

D7. Article 9 (Regulation of the contents of tobacco product) and/or Article 10 (Regulation of tobacco product disclosures)?
No

D8. If yes, please provide details

D9. Article 11 (Packaging and labelling of tobacco products)?
No

D10. If yes, please provide details

D11. Article 12 (Education, communication, training and public awareness)?
No

D12. If yes, please provide details

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

D14. If yes, please provide details
Hosted an event on 'Regulating Cross-border Tobacco Advertising: Preventing Tobacco Use Initiation Among Youths' to discuss why governments should step up on measures to shield the next generation from harmful tobacco products and how Article 13 of the FCTC outlines cross-border tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship measures that can help prevent tobacco use initiation among young people and counter the tobacco industry's efforts to entice new consumers.

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

D16. If yes, please provide details
19 August 2020 – We organized an event for the EMRO region on "How to use FCTC Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Control, Increase Tax Revenue and Control Crime "
Developed a Guidebook on Implementing Article 8: Tracking & Tracing in English and French (commission by FCA and prepared by Sovereign Border Solutions)

D17. Article 15 (Illicit trade in tobacco products)?
No

D18. If yes, please provide details

D19. Article 16 (Sales to and by minors)?
No

D20. If yes, please provide details

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
22 May 2022 - Organized a joint event/webinar with ATCA on 'Tobacco's environmental impacts in recognition of World No Tobacco Day 2022' 15-16 June 2021 - Co-hosted with SFP a side event during EU Development Days on the intersection of tobacco control, the environment, and sustainability

D23. Article 19 (Liability)?
No

D24. If yes, please provide details

D25. Article 20 (Research, surveillance and exchange of information)?
No

D26. If yes, please provide details

D27. Article 22 (Cooperation in the scientific, technical and legal fields and provision of related expertise)?
No

D28. If yes, please provide details

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

E1. Please provide any other relevant information

In 2020 the FCA began developing a comprehensive report entitled: Options for sustainable funding mechanisms for FCTC implementation which was launched in 2021 and includes four key sections and creates an evidence-based narrative to address the funding shortfall challenge.

In 2021, the WHO FCTC Secretariat officially launched a guide for WHO FCTC Parties on including SDG Target 3.a and 3.4 in Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs). The Alliance was the lead author of the report and was instrumental in the guides creation. We are happy to continue working alongside the Convention Secretariat on promoting this important initiative. Throughout 2021 and 2022, we continued creating and circulating new resources to stakeholders and partners in the tobacco control community in support of this initiative.

Over the course of 2022, the Alliance undertook several initiatives to better align tobacco control with global health and development. We achieved this through Alliance led projects and by participating in several leading initiatives to raise the profile of tobacco control in this space

At COP9 and MOP2 decisions were made to establish an Investment Fund for each respective area. In 2022 the organization supported the establishment of the Investments Funds by:

- Liaising with the FCTC Secretariat and developing key messages around the importance of adopting the proposal for the Investment Funds
- Coordinating a meeting for all NGO Observers to the COP to discuss which Observers would sit on the Oversight Committee for the Investment Funds
- Assisting applicants in completing their applications to sit on the Oversight Committee
- Circulating of a letter of support from the NGO Observers to endorse the candidacy of the applicants

Through its participation in COP9 and other WHO FCTC related meetings, FCA has provided coordination for civil society participation in, and support of, the negotiations and implementation of the WHO FCTC. FCA continues to provide evidence-based background and policy briefing materials, produced in all six official WHO languages, and conduct research and provide technical expertise. Through its global reach, FCA has been able to enlist the expertise necessary to develop recommendations for sound policies to assist Parties to the WHO FCTC during their deliberations. FCA, through its member representatives at FCTC COP9, contributed actively to the development of the FCTC by organizing the following:

- the development and distribution of FCA policy papers on key issues of the decisions;
- providing a daily bulletin newsletter covering topical issues and policy positions

In addition, FCA used Alliance resources to support participants from low- and middle-income countries who would not have otherwise been able to attend COP9.

Other organizational notes:

As per our ongoing discussions with Sabina Timco Iacazzi and Dominique Nguyen, the Framework Convention Alliance on Tobacco Control (FCA) has taken important steps to dissolve the FCA in Switzerland and incorporate in to Canada. In consultation with our Members, we have also taken steps to rebrand the organization and continue operations as the Global Alliance for Tobacco Control (GATC).

Given that nothing of substance in our applications for the status of observer to the Conference of the Parties (COP) and Meeting of the Parties (MOP) has changed, we kindly request that the FCTC Secretariat maintain our observer status for both the COP and MOP under our new name, the Global Alliance for Tobacco Control (GATC).

A letter to this effect is being prepared and will be sent to the FCTC Secretariat to formalize the request and changes.

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 can confirm

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

Leslie Rae Ferat, Executive Director

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