

Reaccreditation report of NGO observers to COP10

Survey response 1

A. Contact details

A1. Name of organization
InterAmerican Heart Foundation
A6. Website of organization
https://interamericanheart.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:
The IAHF mission is to control cardiovascular diseases and related non-communicable diseases and their main risk factors TOBACCO, unhealthy nutrition, alcohol, physical inactivity and air pollution in the Americas.
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
It has affiliated organizations in Argentina, Bolivia and the Caribbean.
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
Among others, the organization has convened the Latin America and the Caribbean Tobacco or Health (LACTOH) conference in the past and a prestigious Award lecture where awardees have been staunch crusaders for tobacco control from different walks of life.

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.)
Attended as observer the past COP9 in 2021 (Nov 8-13) and MOP2 (Nov 15-18) with 6 representatives across the Americas in total. Attended previous NGO meeting.

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

To name some recent ones: Observer to the UNEP first intergovernmental negotiating committee towards a binding treaty for plastic pollution including in the marine environment, where IAHF also became part of the Stop tobacco pollution alliance (STPA) together with other tobacco civil society organizations looking to eliminate cigarette filters;

Observer to the "Accelerating implementation of MPOWER in the Americas" - PAHO and Bloomberg training series (June - July and another series in August- september of 2021) - members and affiliates participated as well (IAHF is in official relations with PAHO);

Observer to the PAHO-UK government training on implementation of Article 5 sections 1, 2 and 3 in the Americas (March 2021).

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

D1. Article 5 (General obligations)?

Yes

D2. If yes, please provide details

Our organization and affiliates constantly promote general obligations under Art. 5, especially monitoring protection from the TI interference; also recently participated with members organizations and affiliates in a PAHO-Bloomberg Phil. co-organized meeting for parties on Art.5.

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

Yes

D4. If yes, please provide details

Supported policies to raise taxes and demand studies in several countries (Argentina, Guatemala, Mexico, Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, Uruguay, etc) (and also campaigns to defend such initiatives).

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

Yes

D6. If yes, please provide details

Started supporting 100% smoke-free environments (SFEs) in Mexico city decades ago. Continues to do so, most recently in Bolivia, supporting passage of a comprehensive FCTC-aligned tobacco control law that among other things regulates SFEs (both traditional and new products of tobacco and nicotine) in public enclosed and also some open public spaces (parks, beaches). The law was approved but remains unimplemented and IAHF, affiliate and collaborators are supporting its implementation with specific research and advocacy activities and communications campaigns.

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)?

Yes

D10. If yes, please provide details

Recently support for passage of tobacco control law of Bolivia which includes warnings in 60% of package. Supports parties initiatives in LAC to increase graphic warnings and to adopt or defend maintenance of rules for plain packaging (when threatened). Years ago supported development of a database of graphic warnings used in Mercosur, etc.

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

Yes

D12. If yes, please provide details

Develops and supports communication campaigns yearly especially (but not exclusively) WNTD, World Heart Day, etc, using several communications channels including social media, a dedicated bimonthly e-newsletter, webinars, etc. Participated in development of training sessions on tobacco cessation for MOH members and trainings for healthcare providers, etc.

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

Yes

D14. If yes, please provide details
Most recently: involved in several research and advocacy projects to support implementation of the tobacco control law in Bolivia which includes TAPS bans (except at point of sale) and to promote development of appropriate strong regulatory documents. (Projects involved exposing tobacco industry tactics: promotion, advertising and sales strategies both online and in the surroundings of schools). Others: previously in other countries too.
D15. Article 14 (Demand reduction measures concerning tobacco dependence and cessation)
Yes
D16. If yes, please provide details
Trainings for MOHs delegates for convening and national strategy for tobacco cessation (Peru, Panama, Bolivia); training sessions specifically developed for healthcare providers to administer brief advice to patients to quit, etc.
D17. Article 15 (Illicit trade in tobacco products)?
Yes
D18. If yes, please provide details
Advice to countries and also research projects on illicit trade (ie.recently in Mexico to analyze viability of implementation of the ITP to face institutional barriers and restriction in the legal framework, functioning, and coordination of the agencies involved in the combat of illicit trade of tobacco).
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
Art. 18 - recently joined the STPA (Stop Tobacco Pollution Alliance) to join efforts with other tobacco and environmental organizations to ban tobacco filters as single use plastics polluting the environment and contributing to a deadly epidemic. Observer to UNEP INC-1 towards the development of a global binding treaty to eliminate plastic pollution in 2024.
D23. Article 19 (Liability)?
No
D24. If yes, please provide details
D25. Article 20 (Research, surveillance and exchange of information)?
Yes
D26. If yes, please provide details
Several research projects to support governments. Some recent examples described above.
D27. Article 22 (Cooperation in the scientific, technical and legal fields and provision of related expertise)?
Yes
D28. If yes, please provide details
Same as above.

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

E1. Please provide any other relevant information
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.
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Yes, I can confirm

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