



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING BODY
ON THE WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION
ON TOBACCO CONTROL
Second session

A/FCTC/INB2/6
9 April 2001

Participation of nongovernmental organizations

1. At the first session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body on the WHO framework convention on tobacco control, Member States approved the recommendations of the open-ended working group on the participation of nongovernmental organizations in the work of the Negotiating Body. Bearing in mind that the negotiation of the framework convention would be limited in time, the Negotiating body encouraged the Executive Board to expedite review of applications by nongovernmental organizations seeking to participate in the negotiations.¹

2. Following this recommendation the Executive Board at its 107th session (January 2001) decided on the following measures to be taken to facilitate the participation of nongovernmental organizations in the work of the Negotiating Body:²

The Executive Board, having considered the report of its Standing Committee on Nongovernmental Organizations, authorized the Chairman of the Executive Board, acting jointly with the Chairman of the Standing Committee, to admit provisionally nongovernmental organizations into official relations. The facility established by the present decision will apply to nongovernmental organizations that request official relations solely or also for the purpose of participating in the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body on the WHO framework convention on tobacco control, subject to the following conditions and requirements:

- (1) *nongovernmental organizations must be in working relations with WHO at the time of submission of their application, so that approximately two years of working relations will have elapsed by the time the Executive Board formally reviews their applications under point (3) below, and must otherwise meet the criteria established in section 3 of the Principles Governing Relations between the World Health Organization and Nongovernmental Organizations;*
- (2) *the mandates of the nongovernmental organizations concerned must be relevant to the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body;*
- (3) *the Executive Board will review nongovernmental organizations in provisional official relations at its January session subsequent to their admission into provisional official relations, for the purpose of confirming or terminating such relations in accordance with normal procedures.*

This decision will remain applicable, unless terminated or revised by the Board, until the adoption of the WHO framework convention on tobacco control.

¹ See document A/FCTC/INB1/PL/SR/9.

² Decision EB107(2).

3. Nongovernmental organizations which meet the conditions and requirements of the above-mentioned decision have been informed of its implications. There are several such organizations, and further action depends on the provision of supplementary information. Applications for provisional official relations will be transmitted to the Chairman of the Executive Board and the Chairman of the Executive Board's Standing Committee on Nongovernmental Organizations, and will be accompanied by WHO's assessment of the value of the relationship. Arrangements will be made with the Chairmen to expedite the decision-making process.

4. In those cases where a nongovernmental organization is admitted into provisional official relations during 2001, the application will be submitted to the WHO Executive Board at its 109th session (January 2002) for the purpose of confirming or terminating such relations.

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