

**Follow-up to the political declaration of the
high-level meeting of the General Assembly
on the prevention and control of
non-communicable diseases**

**Strengthening synergies between
the World Health Assembly and the Conference of the Parties
to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control**

The Director-General has the honour to transmit to the Seventy-ninth World Health Assembly the report submitted by the Acting Head of the Convention Secretariat on behalf of the Eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (see Annex). The report also contains information on the outcomes of the Fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products.

Annex

Report by the Acting Head of the Convention Secretariat

1. Pursuant to decisions WHA69(13) (2016), WHA70(20) (2017) and FCTC/COP7(18) (2016), this report to the World Health Assembly describes the main outcomes of the Eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC). The main outcomes of the Fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products (the Protocol) are also described.
2. The Eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 17 to 22 November 2025. It was attended by representatives of 160 Parties to the Convention, four States non-Parties and one other observer, and by representatives of four international intergovernmental organizations and 21 nongovernmental organizations accredited as observers.¹ In accordance with Rule 32 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference of the Parties also agreed that accredited media would be entitled to attend the open meetings of its Eleventh session.
3. The Conference of the Parties adopted 14 decisions,² of which six related to proceedings and general matters, one to global progress in implementation of the WHO FCTC, three to treaty instruments and technical matters, and four to budgetary and institutional matters.
4. One key outcome was decision FCTC/COP11(11), whereby the Conference of the Parties adopted the Workplan and Budget for the financial period 2026–2027, aligned with the Global Strategy to Accelerate Tobacco Control: Advancing Sustainable Development through the Implementation of the WHO FCTC 2019–2025. The Global Strategy had been adopted in decision FCTC/COP8(16) (2018) and extended to 2030 in decision FCTC/COP10(15) (2024). The Conference of the Parties also adopted decision FCTC/COP11(7), urging Parties to pay their Assessed Contributions in full, at the beginning of the biennium, to ensure that adequate resources were available to implement the Workplan and Budget adopted by the Conference of the Parties.
5. Further, in considering global progress in implementation of the WHO FCTC, the Conference of the Parties adopted decision FCTC/COP11(12), which reaffirms that domestic resource mobilization is the core strategy for achieving long-term, sustainable and predictable funding for national tobacco control programmes. The Conference of the Parties urged Parties to consider strengthening implementation of Article 6 of the WHO FCTC (price and tax measures to reduce the demand for tobacco) and to consider voluntarily scaling up their international financial support for tobacco control.
6. Another milestone was decision FCTC/COP11(10), in which the Conference of the Parties encourages Parties to continue raising awareness about the environmental harms caused by tobacco in relevant forums, as appropriate, and invited Parties to consider strengthening implementation of Article 18 of the WHO FCTC (protection of the environment and the health of persons), as appropriate, in accordance with national laws and circumstances, through a number of measures.

¹ See [List of participants](#) of the Eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties (accessed 8 April 2026).

² Available at [Decisions](#) of the Eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties (accessed 8 April 2026).

7. Two significant outcomes related to decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties pursuant to reports prepared by subsidiary bodies established at its previous session.
8. In decision FCTC/COP11(5), the Conference of the Parties welcomed the report contained in document FCTC/COP/11/5 and prepared by the Expert Group on Forward-looking Tobacco Control Measures (in relation to Article 2.1 of the WHO FCTC), established in decision FCTC/COP10(12) (2024). It invited Parties to note the forward-looking tobacco control measures listed and described by the Expert Group, and to note that the list of such measures was not exhaustive and that other future forward-looking measures may be considered by Parties.
9. In decision FCTC/COP11(6), the Conference of the Parties welcomed the report contained in document FCTC/COP/11/6 and prepared by the Expert Group on Implementation of Article 19 of the WHO FCTC on Liability, re-established in decision FCTC/COP10(13) (2024), and invited Parties to undertake a number of actions to strengthen implementation of Article 19.
10. Further, the Conference of the Parties adopted decision FCTC/COP11(9), urging Parties inter alia to coordinate efforts towards updating United Nations General Assembly resolution 63/8 on smoke-free United Nations premises by expanding the scope of the ban to the use of novel and emerging nicotine and tobacco products at all United Nations indoor and outdoor premises.
11. The Conference of the Parties reiterated the importance of international cooperation and the contribution of nongovernmental organizations not affiliated with the tobacco industry and other vested interests to implementation of the WHO FCTC. In decision FCTC/COP11(2), the Conference of the Parties, acting in accordance with Rules 30 and 31 of its Rules of Procedure and pursuant to decision FCTC/COP8(1) (2018), granted observer status to two international intergovernmental organizations and one nongovernmental organization. Further, in decision FCTC/COP11(8), the Conference of the Parties, acting in accordance with Rule 31.3 of its Rules of Procedure, reviewed the accreditation of nongovernmental organizations with observer status to the Conference of the Parties and decided to maintain the observer status of the current 29 nongovernmental organizations.
12. The Conference of the Parties also welcomed and took note of document FCTC/COP/11/16, in which the Head of the Convention Secretariat transmitted a report from the WHO Director-General on resolutions and decisions of the Seventy-seventh and Seventy-eighth World Health Assemblies, the 157th session of the WHO Executive Board, and the WHO regional committees relevant to implementation of the WHO FCTC.
13. The outcomes of the Fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, which was held immediately after the Conference of the Parties, are outlined below, in keeping with past practice. As at 8 April 2026, the Protocol had 72 Parties.
14. The Fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 24 to 26 November 2025. It was attended by representatives of 60 Parties to the Protocol, 50 States non-Parties and one other observer, and by representatives of four international intergovernmental organizations and nine nongovernmental organizations accredited as observers.³ In accordance with Rule 32 of its Rules of Procedure, the Meeting of the Parties also agreed that accredited media could attend the open meetings of its Fourth session.

³ See [List of participants](#) of the Fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties (accessed 8 April 2026).

15. The Meeting of the Parties adopted 13 decisions,⁴ of which six related to proceedings and general matters, one to global progress in implementation of the Protocol, three to Protocol instruments and technical matters, and three to budgetary and institutional matters.

16. In decision FCTC/MOP4(10), the Meeting of the Parties adopted the Workplan and Budget for the financial period 2026–2027, aligned with the Strategy for mechanisms of assistance and mobilization of financial resources to support the implementation of the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products. The Strategy had been adopted by the Meeting of the Parties in decision FCTC/MOP2(11) (2021) and remained relevant for implementation without adjustment at this stage, as noted by the Meeting of the Parties. The Meeting of the Parties also adopted decision FCTC/MOP4(8), urging Parties to pay their Assessed Contributions in accordance with decision FCTC/MOP2(12) (2021), to ensure that adequate resources were available to implement the Workplan and Budget adopted by the Meeting of the Parties.

17. In considering global progress in the implementation of the Protocol, the Meeting of the Parties adopted decision FCTC/MOP4(11), in which it reiterated that information sharing, in accordance with Articles 20, 21 and 22 of the Protocol, will contribute to the strengthening of implementation of the Protocol by its Parties and in which it provided for further coordination with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Customs Organization in respect of information sharing relating to seizures of tobacco, tobacco products or manufacturing equipment by individual Parties.

18. The Meeting of the Parties adopted two decisions establishing subsidiary bodies.

19. In decision FCTC/MOP4(6), pursuant to a report prepared by the Convention Secretariat in accordance with decision FCTC/MOP3(16) (2024), the Meeting of the Parties decided to establish a Working Group on Article 6.5 of the Protocol, on key inputs that are essential to the manufacture of tobacco products.

20. In decision FCTC/MOP4(7), in addition to reminding Parties of their obligations contained in Articles 20 to 31 in relation to international cooperation under the Protocol, and to urging Parties to implement measures such as those outlined in decision FCTC/MOP2(7) (2021) and to strengthen cooperation in the provision of training, technical assistance and collaboration on scientific, technical and technological matters, the Meeting of the Parties decided to establish a Working Group on Article 24 of the Protocol, on international cooperation in the investigation and prosecution of offences.

21. Another outcome related to the adoption of decision FCTC/MOP4(5), in which the Meeting of the Parties urged Parties to strengthen and prioritize implementation of Article 6 of the Protocol in relation to licensing, and invited Parties to cooperate in the implementation of licensing-related measures and to continue to monitor and collect licence fees for the support of effective administration and enforcement of the licensing system, or for public health or other related activities, in accordance with national law.

22. On the matter of observers to the Meeting of the Parties, in decision FCTC/MOP4(3), the Meeting of the Parties, acting in accordance with Rules 30 and 31 of its Rules of Procedure and pursuant to decision FCTC/MOP3(7) (2024), granted observer status to two international intergovernmental organizations and two nongovernmental organizations. Further, in decision FCTC/MOP4(9), the Meeting of the Parties, acting in accordance with Rule 31.2 of its Rules of

⁴ Available at [Decisions](#) of the Fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties (accessed 8 April 2026).

Procedure, reviewed the accreditation of nongovernmental organizations with observer status to the Meeting of the Parties and decided to maintain the observer status of the current 11 nongovernmental organizations.

23. Lastly, in respect of matters of joint interest, the Conference of the Parties and the Meeting of the Parties adopted decisions FCTC/COP11(13) and FCTC/MOP4(12), respectively, to hold their next sessions in Armenia, with dates to be confirmed after agreement between the host country and the Bureaus elected at the Eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties and at the Fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties, and with the support of the Convention Secretariat.
