世界卫生组织

世界卫生组织
烟草控制框架公约

世界卫生组织
烟草控制框架公约
缔约方会议

第二届会议

2007 年 6 月 30 日 - 7 月 6 日于曼谷

全体会议逐字记录

日 内 瓦
二 OO 八年

World Health Organization

WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON TOBACCO CONTROL

Second session

BANGKOK, 30 JUNE–6 JULY 2007

VERBATIM RECORDS OF PLENARY MEETINGS

CONFERENCE DES PARTIES A LA CONVENTION-CADRE DE L'OMS POUR LA LUTTE ANTITABAC

Deuxième session

BANGKOK, 30 JUIN–6 JUILLET 2007

COMPTES RENDUS IN EXTENSO DES SÉANCES PLÉNIÈRES

GENEVA
GENÈVE
2008

PREFACE

This section of the proceedings of the Second session of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control contains the verbatim records of plenary meetings.

In verbatim records, speeches delivered in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian or Spanish are reproduced in the language used by the speaker. The texts include corrections received up to 9 November 2007, the cut-off date announced in the provisional version, and are thus regarded as final.

AVANT-PROPOS

Cette section des actes de la deuxième session de la Conférence des Parties à la Convention-cadre de l'OMS pour la lutte antitabac contient les comptes rendus in extenso des séances plénières.

Les comptes rendus in extenso reproduisent dans la langue utilisée par l'orateur les discours prononcés en anglais, arabe, chinois, espagnol, français ou russe. Ces comptes rendus comprennent les rectifications reçues jusqu'au 9 novembre 2007, date limite annoncée dans leur version provisoire, et sont donc considérés comme finals.

ПРЕДИСЛОВИЕ

Данный раздел протоколов Второй сессии Конференции Сторон Рамочной конвенции ВОЗ по борьбе против табака содержит стенограммы пленарных заседаний.

В стенограммах заседаний выступления на английском, арабском, испанском, китайском, русском и французском языках приводятся в оригинале. Указанные тексты включают исправления, полученные Секретариатом до 9 ноября 2007 г., как о том было объявлено в предварительных протоколах, и потому настоящая редакция считается окончательной.

INTRODUCCIÓN

En esta sección sobre los debates de la segunda reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes en el Convenio Marco de la OMS para el Control del Tabaco se presentan las actas taquigráficas de las sesiones plenarias.

En las actas taquigráficas los discursos pronunciados en árabe, chino, español, francés, inglés o ruso se reproducen en el idioma utilizado por el orador. Las actas contienen las correcciones recibidas hasta el 9 de noviembre de 2007, fecha límite anunciada en la versión provisional, y por consiguiente se consideran definitivas.

مقدمة

يحتوي هذا القسم من مداولات الدورة الثانية لمؤتمر الأطراف في اتفاقية منظمة الصحة العالمية الإطارية بشأن مكافحة التبغ على المحاضر الحرفية للجلسات العامة.

وترد الكلمات التي ألقيت بالعربية أو الصينية أو الإنكليزية أو الفرنسية أو الروسية أو الأسبانية في هذه المحاضر الحرفية باللغة التي تكلم بها المتحدث؛ وهي تتضمن التصويبات التي تم تلقيها حتى ٩ تشرين الثاني/ نوفمبر ٢٠٠٧، وهو الموعد النهائي المعلن في النسخة المؤقتة، وهي بالتالي تعتبر نهائية.

序 言

世界卫生组织烟草控制框架公约缔约方会议第二届会议本部分的会议记录包含全体会议的逐字记录。

阿拉伯文、中文、英文、法文、俄文或西班牙文发言的逐字记录，用发言人使用的语言刊载。这些记录只采纳了2007年11月9日以前收到的更正，这是临时文本中宣布的截止日期，因而它们是最后的文本。

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VERBATIM RECORDS OF PLENARY MEETINGS

COMPTES RENDUS IN EXTENSO DES SEANCES PLENIERES

FIRST PLENARY MEETING

Saturday, 30 June 2007, at 16:10

President: Mr J. MARTABIT (Chile)

PREMIERE SEANCE PLENIERE

Samedi 30 juin 2007, 16h10

Président: M. J. MARTABIT (Chile)

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION
OUVERTURE DE LA SESSION

El PRESIDENTE:

Muy buenas tardes a todas las distinguidas delegaciones que nos acompañan en el día de hoy. Para mí es un alto honor declarar abierta esta segunda reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes en el Convenio Marco para el Control del Tabaco. A fin de inaugurar debidamente esta importante sesión me trasladaré al estrado de mi derecha.

The President moved from the rostrum to the lectern.
Le Président quitte sa place à la tribune pour s'installer sur l'estrade.

2. STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON TOBACCO CONTROL
ALLOCUTION DU PRESIDENT DE LA DEUXIEME SESSION DE LA CONFERENCE DES PARTIES A LA CONVENTION-CADRE DE L'OMS POUR LA LUTTE ANTITABAC

El PRESIDENTE:

Excelentísimo señor Paiboon Wattanasiritham, Viceprimer Ministro de Tailandia, doctor Anarfi Asamoa-Baah, Director General Adjunto de la Organización Mundial de la Salud, doctor Samlee Plianbangchang, Director Regional de la OMS para Asia Sudoriental, distinguidos ministros y ministras, distinguidas y distinguidos delegados, señoras y señores, tengo el gran honor de presidir nuevamente la Conferencia de las Partes en el Convenio Marco de la OMS para el Control del Tabaco y darles en esta ocasión una muy cálida bienvenida, confiando en que al final de esta reunión podremos exhibir resultados importantes.

Como es de público conocimiento, y todos nosotros lo sabemos muy bien, el tabaco es la principal causa de mortalidad prevenible en el mundo; hay cinco millones de muertes relacionadas con el tabaco cada año, es decir más de 13 500 personas mueren por día. La mitad de los niños del mundo están expuestos al humo del tabaco en sus hogares. No necesito mencionar los serios problemas que provoca a la salud el consumo de tabaco. Bien sabemos que ningún otro producto de consumo es tan peligroso o mata a tanta gente como éste.

Para prevenir estos males, y como una prueba de la conciencia que existe en el mundo acerca de este grave problema de salud pública, el Convenio Marco de la OMS para el Control del Tabaco tiene hoy día 168 Estados signatarios y 148 Estados lo han ratificado al 20 de junio recién pasado. El Convenio Marco, como sabemos, está orientado por los siguientes principios básicos: proteger a niños y jóvenes del tabaco, sobre todo evitar que los niños y jóvenes comiencen a fumar; ayudar a los fumadores para que dejen este hábito; tercero, proteger a los no fumadores frente a la exposición al humo ajeno; y, por último, reglamentar los productos del tabaco.

Desde febrero del año pasado hasta la fecha hemos logrado avances en la lucha contra el tabaco. Se han realizado al menos cinco talleres de implementación del Convenio Marco; se han creado dos grupos de trabajo para la elaboración de directrices de aplicación del Convenio, que se reunieron en numerosas oportunidades para preparar los instrumentos necesarios; se celebraron varias reuniones de expertos para la elaboración de los protocolos sobre comercio ilícito y sobre publicidad, promoción y patrocinio de productos de tabaco, cuyos resultados ya están en los documentos de trabajo de esta Conferencia y en los días siguientes tendremos ocasión de discutir extensamente en esta Conferencia.

Igualmente importante ha sido la contribución de la OMS a la creación de capacidad en los Estados Miembros para aplicar debidamente el Convenio Marco. Asimismo, el establecimiento del Sistema Mundial de Vigilancia del Tabaco, destinado a hacer un seguimiento de la prevalencia del consumo de tabaco y otros factores relacionados en diferentes poblaciones, ha sido una importante herramienta de control del consumo de tabaco en el mundo.

La labor de la OMS en materia comunicacional ha quedado de manifiesto en la celebración reciente del Día Mundial Sin Tabaco, cuyo tema central para este año 2007 son los ambientes totalmente libres de tabaco. Tengo el agrado de presentarles al nuevo Jefe de la Secretaría del Convenio Marco a partir de junio de este año, que nos acompaña también hoy. Luego de un largo proceso de selección, el Dr. Haik Nikogosian ha sido formalmente asignado en tal cargo por la Directora General hace un par de semanas. El Dr. Nikogosian es un profesional reconocido que tiene en su haber una riquísima experiencia de trabajo; ha sido Ministro de Salud de su país, Armenia, y ha participado en muchas actividades relacionadas con el propósito de nuestro Convenio. Vayan también mis felicitaciones al Dr. Nikogosian de quien sabemos que podemos esperar mucho en sus nuevas y delicadas funciones.

También me es grato y deseo expresamente felicitar al Dr. Douglas Bettcher por asumir en propiedad la jefatura de la iniciativa Liberarse del Tabaco, en la OMS, donde estoy seguro su vasta

experiencia y decidido compromiso, que todos conocemos muy bien, serán de importante ayuda en el trabajo que tenemos por delante.

Como recordarán, nuestra labor en la primera reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes fue esencialmente sentar las bases de funcionamiento del Convenio Marco. Durante esta segunda reunión de la Conferencia recibiremos los primeros informes sobre la implementación del Convenio Marco y deberemos decidir en torno a los dos modelos de protocolo sobre comercio ilícito de productos de tabaco y sobre publicidad transfronteriza del tabaco, así como sobre las directrices para la aplicación del Convenio. Al igual que en la primera reunión de la Conferencia, el trabajo por delante no está exento de dificultades, pero no tengo dudas de que concluirá de manera muy positiva gracias a la contribución de todos ustedes. Desde ya les manifiesto que la Mesa que me honro en presidir estará a disposición de las delegaciones para ayudarles en todo lo que sea necesario a fin de concluir exitosamente nuestro trabajo.

Deseo terminar estas breves palabras destacando el valioso trabajo que ustedes están realizando en sus respectivos países para implementar el Convenio Marco. Sé que no ha sido una tarea fácil. Hay poderosos intereses que han hecho esfuerzos no sólo para obstaculizar la ratificación de este instrumento, sino además para limitar su alcance cuando se intentan aplicar sus disposiciones a los proyectos de ley que se discuten en los parlamentos de nuestros países.

Hoy contamos cada día con aliados nuevos y dinámicos provenientes de todos los sectores de nuestras respectivas sociedades, sin distinción alguna; sobre todo, quiero destacar que los jóvenes, sin duda ninguna, desean mejorar su calidad de vida y disfrutar o desenvolverse en una atmósfera inmediata libre de contaminación. Muchos jóvenes están organizados y representados en diferentes organizaciones no gubernamentales que también hoy nos acompañan aquí. Quiero dejar dicho que reconocemos sus esfuerzos y deseamos que acrecienten sus iniciativas. Me parece también que ha llegado el momento de afianzar alianzas bilaterales entre los países, o incluso alianzas regionales, a fin de aunar esfuerzos con miras a alcanzar las metas que nos son comunes. A este respecto me es muy grato mencionar un taller de trabajo organizado en Santiago de Chile por la OPS/OMS en el cual se esbozaron lineamentos preliminares de lo que puede ser un programa regional dentro del Convenio Marco. Quisiera instar a todas las regiones a la búsqueda de iniciativas que vayan en ese sentido.

El esfuerzo realizado por los Estados ratificantes del Convenio, y por aquellos que esperamos lo ratifiquen, contribuirá a salvar la vida de millones de personas, ahorrar cuantiosos recursos en salud, mejorar la productividad que hoy día se desperdicia simplemente por razón de esto y, en definitiva, mejorar la calidad de vida de millones de personas, que mucho esperan de la realización de esta Conferencia. Muchas gracias a todos ustedes.

3. OPENING REMARKS BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL
REMARQUES LIMINAIRES DU DIRECTEUR GENERAL ADJOINT

El PRESIDENTE:

Tengo el agrado de ofrecer ahora la palabra al Dr. Asamoa-Baah, Director General Adjunto de la Organización Mundial de la Salud. Tiene usted la palabra, doctor.

Dr ASAMOA-BAAH (WHO Secretariat, Deputy Director-General):

Your Excellency, Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand, honourable ministers, excellencies, Dr Samlee, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, it is my pleasant duty to welcome you, on behalf of Dr Margaret Chan, Director-General of the World Health Organization, to the second session of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

For us in WHO, this is a very historic occasion. This is the first time since the late 1960s that a global WHO governing bodies meeting has been held outside Geneva. As you can imagine, the hotels and

restaurants in Geneva are not happy with us! But we are happy and grateful to the Government of Thailand for agreeing to host such a meeting, with all the joys and headaches it brings. In many ways, it is very fitting that this Conference is taking place here in Bangkok: over the past two decades, Thailand has been a leader and an inspiration in many areas of tobacco control – ranging from the use of excise tax to fund health promotion through the Thai Health Promotion Foundation, to the early use of large, graphic and effective warning labels on tobacco packages and a ban on point-of-sales tobacco advertising. Thailand has not only talked the talk, it also walked the walk. We are all proud of Thailand.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, we have cause for celebration. When I was growing up as a young man – this was many many years ago – smoking was very fashionable. Almost all the film stars and celebrities I knew smoked. In the language of today, we would say smoking was "cool". The ashtray was part of the furniture in almost every home, in offices, all public places, and even in cars. The situation today is very different. Now, in many parts of the world, smoking is no longer fashionable; smoke-free environments are spreading; ashtrays are disappearing and people are no longer proud to say "I smoke". This has not come about by accident. It has been a very painful journey for all of us. Allow me, therefore, to salute you and all who have been part of this unprecedented effort to stop this globalized epidemic. Last week, I mentioned to a friend of mine who used to smoke that I was attending this Conference, and he was surprised, because he said "I thought the battle had been won. Now it is accepted that smoking is bad, and smoking is going down. Why do you people continue to persecute and prosecute the tobacco industry?" For a moment I thought he had been paid by the tobacco industry. (By the way, that does not work for WHO!) I am sure he is not alone in thinking that way. Today, our greatest enemy in the fight against tobacco is not the tobacco industry, it is complacency. The progress we have made is not irreversible.

It is true that now there are 146 Parties to the Framework Convention and two more States will become Parties in the next few months, but it is also true that laws on the books are not laws on the street. It is true that the concept of a smoke-free environment is catching on, but it is also true that millions of children remain exposed to second-hand tobacco smoke at home. Workers in small and medium-sized enterprises are exposed at work. In far too many countries, taxes are still too low to have any impact on reducing tobacco consumption. Too many smokers, in developing countries especially, are still not receiving the advice they need about how to quit; nor are they able to access cessation products at affordable prices. The implications of this conspiracy of continued exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke, and the slow pace of progress in raising tobacco prices and taxes, mean that the projections of more than 8 million tobacco-related deaths a year by 2030 remain on track to become a tragedy, and a costly one – costly for families and for economies.

As we heard from our President, to make the progress we have made irreversible, we need to do more, and I want to echo some of what he said in respect to what we need to do in addition to making smoking unfashionable. One, we must make smoking objectionable; two, we must regulate tobacco products; and three, we must make tobacco production unprofitable. Let me explain. When someone decides to smoke, he or she has not only taken a conscious decision to kill himself or herself, but has also taken a conscious or unconscious decision to kill others through second-hand smoke. That is why we need to make smoking objectionable. We regulate medicines, even though their primary intention is to restore health. Medicines are regulated because we believe that what can cure you can also kill you. And yet, we do not regulate tobacco products whose proven effect for half of the people who use them is death. I am sure future generations will not understand us and will not forgive us. The fight against tobacco use will not succeed as long as the tobacco industry remains a profitable industry. It is for these reasons that the discussions scheduled for this Conference are very crucial. Protection from exposure to tobacco smoke, tobacco product regulation, stopping illicit trade, banning cross-border advertising, promotion and sponsorship and identifying alternative crops to tobacco, these are all central to our fight.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, you have over the years shown exceptional leadership and courage but the battle is not yet won. We need your perseverance and we need more partnerships. It is in light of this that we in WHO particularly welcome the increasing efforts of different partners to ensure that we scale up implementation efforts at country level. I have no doubt that you will have a very animated and passionate discussion over the next few days. But I just wish to leave you with a little plea. And my plea is: as you debate on templates, guidelines and protocols, action must increase on the ground. The 13

Framework Convention on Tobacco Control provides enough clear evidence-based guidance on what countries can and should do now. So, please, do not wait. Just do it!

Once again, on behalf of WHO, I wish you all success during this Conference. *Kob-koon krap.*

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias por su intervención, doctor.

4. OPENING REMARKS BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR, WHO SOUTH-EAST ASIA REGION
REMARQUES LIMINAIRES DU DIRECTEUR REGIONAL, REGION OMS DE L'ASIE DU SUD-EST

El PRESIDENTE:

Me es grato ahora ofrecer la palabra al Director Regional de la OMS para Asia Sudoriental, el Dr. Samlee Plianbangchang. Tiene usted la palabra, doctor.

DR SAMLEE PLIANBANGCHANG (WHO Secretariat, Regional Director for South-East Asia):

Your Excellency, Mr Paiboon Wattanasiritham**,** Deputy Prime Minister, the Royal Thai Government, Your Excellency, Ambassador Juan Marabit, President of the Bureau of the Conference, Honourable Deputy Director-General of WHO, Dr Asamoa-Baah, distinguished Parties of the Conference, honourable guests, ladies and gentlemen. It is really a privilege for me to be here at this august gathering and to welcome you all to the WHO South-East Asia Region. Indeed, it is a matter of great satisfaction that this important meeting is being held in this Region. This reflects the trust and confidence of the Parties in the ability and potential of the countries of this Region in tobacco control, and the ability and confidence of countries to take forward the crusade against tobacco use. The South-East Asia Region has a very high prevalence of tobacco smoking, especially among young adults. This situation contributes significantly to the already high disease burden in countries of the Region. To convene the Conference session here also highlights the commitment of the Royal Thai Government to the worldwide tobacco-control agenda.

The WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control is a very fast growing international convention. Within a short span of time, 146 Member States have become Parties to the Convention. All but one of the countries in the South-East Asia Region has joined the Convention. All countries in this Region have identified tobacco control as their priority in health development. The national tobacco-control programmes in this Region are comprehensive in scope, and based mainly on the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. I can assure the Conference that all countries in the South-East Asia Region are fully committed to the implementation of the various provisions of the Convention. Since the first session of the Conference, Parties in the South-East Asia Region have been actively engaged in activities to meet their treaty obligations. In this process, unwavering support has been provided by WHO to ensure that such obligations are met. In the South-East Asia Region, most countries have a national policy and plan of action for tobacco control, and several others have comprehensive tobacco control legislation. WHO is continuing its back-up support to ensure sustainable tobacco control in the countries of the Region. Distinguished Parties to the Conference, four countries in the South-East Asia Region have been selected for participation in the Bloomberg Global Initiative to Reduce Tobacco Use. WHO is making all efforts to avail itself of this opportunity in order to assist countries in their efforts towards this end.

Member States in the South-East Asia Region still need outside help in their tobacco control activities. I am glad that the session of the Conference will also discuss the subject of financial resources and mechanisms of assistance. An intercountry meeting held in Bangladesh last year agreed to the development of a needs assessment template. The template will help to map out the assistance that the countries need in implementing of the Convention. I am pleased to see that it will also be discussed at this meeting. It will be most helpful to measure the extent of the support that is needed by developing countries in fulfilling the treaty obligations. I am confident that deliberations at this session of the Conference will be fruitful on all agenda items. Before concluding, let me sincerely congratulate and thank the Royal Thai Government for hosting this very important event. And on behalf of the WHO South-East Asia Region, I wish this session of the Conference all success.

5. OPENING REMARKS BY THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER OF THAILAND
REMARQUES LIMINAIRES DU PREMIER MINISTRE ADJOINT DE THAILANDE

El PRESIDENTE:

Para concluir esta primera parte de nuestra reunión que constituye la sesión inaugural tengo el honor de invitar a hacer uso de la palabra al excelentísimo Sr. Wattanasirithan, Viceprimer Ministro de Tailandia.

Mr PAIBOON WATTANASIRITHAM (Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand):

Ambassador Juan Martabit, Deputy Director-General of the World Health Organization, excellencies, distinguished delegates, honourable guests, ladies and gentlemen, it is not often that we have such a large gathering of delegates from so many countries of the world. More importantly, this gathering is of people dedicated to preventing loss of life and promoting the health of people worldwide. So, on behalf of the Royal Thai Government and the Ministry of Public Health, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all delegates participating in the second session of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control from 30 June to 6 July 2007 at the United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok. It is my great honour and pleasure to have an opportunity to join with all of you at the precious moment of the opening ceremony of this Conference, which marks an important chapter in public-health history by showing our global power in tobacco control. I also would like to thank WHO for honouring Thailand, in providing Thailand and the Thai people with the opportunity to take part in the first occasion of conducting this Conference outside Geneva.

We all know that tobacco is the second major cause of death in the world and also the fourth most common risk factor for disease worldwide. Hence, it can be said that tobacco consumption can lead to loss of life and assets. I do believe that all Parties have mutually agreed that smoking is a very serious danger, which is expanding all over the world. As an example, let me take a few minutes to provide you with some information on this issue in Thailand. In 2006, based on a survey of the smoking rate of the Thai population aged eleven years and older conducted by the National Statistical Office, it was revealed that the number of smokers was about 11 million, or 20.1% of the population, and that the male smoking rate was 15 times higher than the female rate. In addition, the rate of smoking of the working-age population of 20 to 59 years was the highest, at 25%. It also indicated that the trend of smoking among the young continues to increase, with smokers starting at a younger and younger age. Moreover, smoking is the third most significant contributor to the disease burden, only slightly lower than sexually transmitted diseases and the other diseases caused by alcohol consumption. This is clear evidence of the rapidly spreading crisis caused by smoking in Thailand, which parallels that of many other countries worldwide.

The Royal Thai Government realizes that the tobacco consumption problem is becoming increasingly serious. Therefore, priority is given to best practices in providing knowledge, disseminating

information, implementing campaigns, fostering awareness and providing network development support for various population groups (such as youth groups, people's organizations, multidisciplinary health networks, women's groups, media personnel and people involved in different areas of science). This also includes the use of various legislative measures. Thailand also gives priority to implementation and development of measures related to any international tobacco law, and to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, which it ratified as the thirty-sixth country.

I am delighted to say that the results from being one of the Parties at that time have led to the development of better and more sustainable tobacco-control conditions in Thailand. It has also pushed us to achieve more easily the Thai development and execution of the Tobacco Product Control Act B.E. 2535 of 1992 and the Non-Smoker's Health Protection Act B.E. 2535 of 1992. Moreover, it has facilitated the acceptance of complex issues, such as encouraging entrepreneurs to accept the prohibition on tobacco product advertisements at selling points. In addition, it has strengthened expansion of the network of people in diverse sectors to provide support for those campaigns. Consequently, the rate of smoking of the Thai population is currently stable. Thailand can therefore take great pride in the achievements of tobacco control, as developments in tobacco control started from zero in 1990 and took almost two decades to achieve satisfactory success in the present. It should also be noted that a major factor contributing to the success in tobacco control is the awareness of the dangers of tobacco consumption and the cooperation of all sectors of Thai society. However, the most important contributing factor was the speech delivered in 2005 by our beloved Monarch, His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, expressing his concern about the increasing trend of smoking among the young. This speech energized social consciousness, resulting in increased commitment to prevention and control of tobacco consumption among the young. The Royal Thai Government and the Ministry of Public Health promise to continue to promote and develop other parts of the tobacco control programme. The short-term plan is to ensure more efficient execution of tobacco controls and to expand non-smoking workplaces up to 100%, together with laws to cover other public places, such as fresh-produce markets and prisons. As for the long-term plan, we will strongly implement alternative choices to encourage crop substitutes for tobacco farmers and push for a comprehensive ban on tobacco advertising.

I am confident that this Conference in Bangkok will achieve the expectations of all Parties. With the global community's commitment to prevention, control and reduction of tobacco consumption, we can certainly look forward to the improved health and well-being of the global population in the years to come. Furthermore, I would like to express my deep gratitude to all Parties for your moral support for Thailand in conducting this Conference. Let us take this opportunity to share our knowledge and experiences, not only in tobacco control but also in other new health challenges. These challenges will let us learn and develop collectively in order to accomplish our goals. It might be said that although we are from different regions, the language of public health is universal. I do hope that your stay in Thailand will be a productive and memorable one. Finally, I would like to invite all of you to visit Thailand again after you have left. We have a good share of the world's natural beauty and cultural values. More importantly, the Thai people are always willing to offer you a warm welcome and cordial friendship. Again, let me express my sincere thanks to WHO for your confidence in Thailand to be the host of this Conference. I wish all of you every success in your deliberations.

El PRESIDENTE:

Permítame usted, señor Viceprimer Ministro, antes que nada agradecerle su discurso en esta sesión inaugural, darle las gracias por haber compartido con nosotros las preocupaciones de su Gobierno sobre esta materia, que por lo demás se asemejan a las de muchos de nuestros países, como también la estrategia que ustedes están empeñados en llevar adelante sobre esta importante materia. También, señor Viceprimer Ministro, creo que es pertinente transmitirle, en nombre de todas las delegaciones presentes, el agradecimiento de los participantes en esta Conferencia por los arreglos efectuados por el Gobierno de Tailandia, especialmente a través de su Ministro de Salud, para el éxito de esta Conferencia; estoy seguro de que el encontrarnos aquí en esta vibrante y dinámica ciudad de Bangkok, llena de interés cultural, como usted muy bien ha dicho, constituye para nosotros una atmósfera muy estimulante para llevar con éxito

nuestros trabajos, de manera que le ruego, señor Viceprimer Ministro, que transmita nuestra gratitud a sus áreas del Gobierno.

Al levantar esta primera parte de la sesión les pediré, por favor, que permanezcan en sus asientos mientras acompaño un minuto al Viceprimer Ministro hasta la puerta antes de que continuemos con nuestros debates. Muchas gracias.

The President accompanied Mr Paiboon Wattanasirithan on his way out.
Le Président raccompagne M. Paiboon Wattanasirithan jusqu'à la porte.

El PRESIDENTE:

Bueno. Estamos de regreso y retomamos nuestros trabajos.

6. STATEMENTS BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WHO REGIONS AND BY PARTIES TO THE WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON TOBACCO CONTROL
DECLARATIONS DES REPRESENTANTS DES REGIONS DE L'OMS ET DES PARTIES A LA CONVENTION-CADRE DE L'OMS POUR LA LUTTE ANTITABAC

El PRESIDENTE:

Asiento, por favor. Conforme lo hemos estudiado en la Mesa, hemos resuelto en conjunto con los representantes de los grupos regionales. Continuaremos la sesión con la presentación que nos harán altos representantes de todas las regiones aquí presentes. Tengo inscritas en mi lista 11 representaciones. Les ruego que nos atengamos a un número de minutos razonable; estimo que cinco minutos es lo pertinente a fin de que todos podamos escucharnos unos a otros con el mayor interés. Dicho esto, tengo el agrado de ofrecer la palabra al Dr. Sory, Director General de Salud de Ghana. Tiene usted la palabra, doctor.

Dr SORY (Ghana):

Mr President, Deputy Director-General of the World Health Organization (formerly in the position I now occupy, heads of delegations, your excellencies, let me, on behalf of the Member States of the African Region, commend the Director-General on the recruitment of the Head of the Convention Secretariat in the person of Dr Haik Nikogosian. Let me also on behalf of Member countries thank the Government of Thailand for hosting this Conference. Indeed, it is a beautiful country and we will not only go away with decisions here, but learn about good things here to apply in our countries.

As of today, 32 African countries have signed and have become Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania being the latest countries in the Region to have done so.

There is strong commitment by African governments to implement the Framework Convention, as high tobacco use is already contributing to the double burden of communicable and noncommunicable diseases on the continent. That is why the African delegates actively participated in the first session of the Conference of the Parties, held in Geneva from 6 to 17 February 2006, and are equally present here at the second session.

Although African States are legally bound by the Convention treaty's provisions, some of our countries' laws require re-integration of international law into our domestic laws. The processes of promulgating these laws have delays which affect implementation of the Framework Convention. Despite these delays, various countries are still advocating with stakeholders in implementing tobacco-control activities.

The role of research cannot be overemphasized. The tobacco industry contends all over Africa that it provides a high-cash crop for tobacco growers and creates stable economies for impoverished regions. Unfortunately, this is a serious fallacy. We believe that health creates wealth; the high risk of tobacco to growers, consumers and indeed the generality of humanity, and the poverty cycle created by debt bondage contracts far outweigh this contention. Further research is still urgently needed on the costs of tobacco growing and the impact on the livelihoods of farmers, as well as the environmental and health impacts. That is why we strongly endorse the initiative being undertaken on agricultural diversification and alternative crops to tobacco for the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

Mr President, the African Region appreciates the continuous support given to it by WHO and other stakeholders, not only for kick-starting the Convention in our countries, but also continuously mobilizing funding and giving technical support to country programmes. This has added value to the existing tobacco-control efforts in social and political mobilization in our countries.

I cannot end this address without stressing the special reference to funding. Countries in our Region are more vulnerable to global economic upheavals. We therefore urge other multilaterals and bilaterals to directly support the African Region in addition to what WHO and other partners are already doing.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted, doctor. Me es muy grato ahora ofrecer la palabra a la Dra. Lilia Amarales, Viceministro de Salud de Chile. Tiene usted la palabra, doctora.

La Dra. AMARALES (Chile):

Gracias, Presidente. El 21 de mayo recién pasado se cumplieron cuatro años desde que en su 56ª Asamblea la OMS adoptó por unanimidad de sus miembros el Convenio Marco para el Control del Tabaco, el primer tratado de salud pública negociado al amparo de la OMS. La evidencia científica mundial acumulada señala en forma sólida y consistente que el consumo de tabaco es causa de enfermedad, incapacidad y muerte en el ser humano, y el Convenio Marco para el Control del Tabaco constituye la respuesta que los Estados hemos construido para dar respuesta a esta epidemia global que debe ser controlada. Hoy estamos reunidos para evaluar el camino recorrido desde el 27 de febrero de 2005, fecha en que entró en vigor el Convenio Marco y preparamos los pasos para seguir avanzando con el propósito trascendental de proteger a las generaciones actuales y futuras de las nefastas consecuencias de consumo de tabaco y de la exposición al humo de tabaco.

Chile, al que represento, es un país largo y angosto al sur de Sudamérica situado entre el Océano Pacífico y la cordillera de los Andes; su territorio llega hasta la Antártica y tiene algo más de 16 millones de habitantes; es Parte en el Convenio desde junio de 2005; de acuerdo a lo establecido, el Convenio está en vigencia en nuestro territorio desde el 10 de septiembre de ese mismo año. De esta forma nuestro país ha hecho manifiesta su determinación de dar prioridad a su derecho de proteger la salud pública y con paso firme ha dado inicio al proceso de implementación del Convenio Marco para el Control del Tabaco en el territorio nacional. En mi país, antes de la ley actualmente vigente, la epidemia de consumo de tabaco alcanzaba niveles alarmantes. El último mes, el 42% de los estudiantes entre 13 y 18 años consumían tabaco y seis de cada 10 estudiantes mujeres de 18 años fumaban. Nuestros niños, como lo mostró en 2003 la Encuesta Mundial sobre el Tabaco y los Jóvenes, comienzan a fumar muy tempranamente, el 17% lo hace antes de los 10 años, y a los 15 años de edad ya ha consumido tabaco alguna vez en la vida aproximadamente el 70% de nuestros escolares. En la población general, entre 12 y 64 años, el 43% declara que consume tabaco; se observa un aumento progresivo del tabaquismo en las mujeres y un acortamiento sostenido de la brecha que tradicionalmente separaba a hombres y mujeres. Para nuestro país, el control de consumo de tabaco es prioritario. Más del 63% de la carga de enfermedad está dado por las enfermedades crónicas no transmisibles. De ellas ocupan el primer lugar las patologías cardiovasculares y el segundo y cuarto lugares los tumores y las patologías respiratorias. Alrededor del 17% de la mortalidad que se registra cada año es atribuible al tabaco. La mortalidad por cáncer de pulmón en mujeres se ha duplicado en los últimos 15 años.

Basada en el Convenio Marco, en agosto del año 2006 en Chile entra en vigencia la modificación a la ley del tabaco vigente desde el año 1995, que introduce gran parte de las disposiciones contenidas en este Convenio. Ha sido el primer y gran paso en este proceso que esperamos nos conduzca al control del flagelo de consumo de tabaco, flagelo que hoy afecta a una parte importante de la población chilena, ocasiona dolor y empobrecimiento a nivel familiar y, al igual que en la mayoría de vuestros países, consume los recursos de que dispone el sector salud. Esta modificación de la ley forma parte de los objetivos sanitarios para la década 2000-2010, base de la Reforma de Salud iniciada en nuestro país por el Gobierno del Presidente Lagos. La meta sanitaria para el año 2010 es bajar los índices de prevalencia de consumo de la población en general un 25%, en estudiantes de 13 años un 33% y en mujeres de edad fértil un 11%; si bien la evaluación a mitad de periodo, es decir en el año 2005, nos muestra que no hemos logrado avances significativos en cuanto a cifras, somos conscientes de que haber pasado a ser Parte en el Convenio Marco ha generado un cambio en el escenario nacional y de que el tratado y el inicio de las modificaciones de la ley constituyen los mejores instrumentos para lograr nuestros ansiados objetivos. La implementación de las modificaciones a la ley desde agosto de 2006 ha sido progresiva, un proceso por etapas. Actualmente está en su tercera etapa de implementación; esto significa que hoy en Chile existen restaurantes, lugares públicos y ambientes de trabajo libres de humo de tabaco, no se fuma en los transportes públicos, en los centros de salud ni en las escuelas. Hoy en nuestro país no se vende tabaco a 100 metros de las escuelas y colegios donde se educan nuestros hijos ni se permite la publicidad del tabaco a 300 metros de estos lugares y no se venden cigarrillos sueltos a menores de 18 años. Los productos del tabaco y toda acción publicitaria de ellos debe incluir una advertencia que ocupe el 50% de ambas caras de los envases. La cuarta etapa establece la prohibición total de la publicidad en todo el territorio nacional a partir del l6 de noviembre de este año. Estamos conscientes de que, para lograr el impacto esperado, es necesario facilitar la implementación de la ley y fiscalizar y exigir su estricto cumplimiento. Por lo tanto, hemos desarrollado un intenso trabajo para educar y concienciar y apoyar a toda nuestra población respecto a los contenidos de la ley. Hemos elaborado instrucciones y orientaciones para la implementación y la fiscalización, hemos capacitado a los fiscalizadores y estamos trabajando para empoderar y fomentar la participación de la ciudadanía en la vigilancia del cumplimiento de todo lo determinado por la ley. Se han realizado más de 35 000 acciones de fiscalización en todo el país y se han notificado alrededor de 400 infracciones, es decir alrededor del 1% - o sea que en el 1% de los casos no se está cumpliendo la ley.

La opinión de la población es muy favorable a la ley. Más del 80% de las personas conoce la existencia de ésta. Más del 80%, incluidos fumadores y no fumadores, reconoce disfrutar de los ambientes libres de humo de tabaco, reconoce mayoritariamente, alrededor del 72%, que la ley protege a los niños y niñas y que es deber del Estado determinar medidas para el control del tabaco. Gracias a la ley ha aumentado el número de personas que dejan de fumar (de un 5% a un 14,5% los primeros seis meses de la ley). Una de cada tres personas conoce a personas que han disminuido su consumo de tabaco, y los no fumadores, alrededor del 20%, especialmente jóvenes menores de 18 años, se sienten más firmes en su decisión de no fumar. Nos preparamos para seguir avanzando en la implementación del Convenio Marco con una campaña comunicacional de cobertura nacional para educar y concientizar a la población de todo el país durante este segundo semestre. Luego vendrán un plan nacional de apoyo al abandono de consumo y un trabajo de prevención de consumo y de promoción del comportamiento no fumador. En este contexto hemos desarrollado hace 15 días el Taller Latinoamericano sobre la Implementación del Convenio Marco de la OMS e informes del progreso a esta Conferencia de las Partes, en Santiago de Chile. Nuestras conclusiones fueron las siguientes: respaldar el 100% los documentos de directrices elaborados para esta Convención en relación al artículo 8 (es decir sobre ambientes 100% libres de humo de tabaco), promover el trabajo en bloques regionales; y respaldar y alentar el trabajo del Presidente de la Conferencia de las Partes en el Convenio Marco, el Embajador Juan Martabit.

El Estado chileno ha asumido su compromiso de velar por la salud pública por sobre otros intereses legislando y vinculando planes estratégicos insertos en las políticas públicas del Ministerio de Salud y ejecutando acciones emanadas desde la Secretaría de Salud Pública, la cual dirijo. El Convenio Marco para el Control del Tabaco y nuestra ley del tabaco recogen el mandato de la Constitución Política que en virtud del Artículo 19 «… asegura a todas las personas el derecho a la vida y a la integridad física y

psíquica… y protege la vida del que está por nacer», y en virtud del inciso 8 de este artículo asegura «el derecho a vivir en un medio ambiente libre de contaminación», y nosotros, como autoridades comprometidas y responsables, velaremos por su cumplimiento. Es cierto que nos queda mucho por avanzar en este aspecto, pero somos optimistas porque es evidente que se está generando el cambio cultural que sin duda nos conducirá más temprano que tarde en Chile al Chile que tanto deseamos. Muchas gracias.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted doctora. A continuación tengo el agrado de ofrecer la palabra al Viceministro de Salud y Educación Médica del Irán, doctor Alarián. Tiene usted la palabra doctor.

Dr ALAVIAN (Islamic Republic of Iran):

In the Name of God the Compassionate the Merciful, Mr President, Mr Deputy Director-General, excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen. Allow me to congratulate you, Mr President, and the Bureau on your performance during your tenure of office. My word of felicitation also goes to Dr Haik Nikogosian for his appointment as the Head of the Convention Secretariat. I wish, moreover, to convey my gratitude to the Government of Thailand and the Secretariat for their professionalism and excellent preparations for the meeting.

The WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, since its adoption by the Health Assembly, has turned into one of the most widely embraced legal instruments in the history of the United Nations. The interest shown in the Framework Convention by Parties, joined by nongovernmental players, is exemplary. A Framework Convention-induced global network is already in place, indicative of the international community's wish and commitment to fight the menace of tobacco.

According to WHO, "tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death in the world today. With 4.9 million tobacco-related deaths per year, no other consumer product is as dangerous, or kills as many people, as tobacco. Unless countries successfully implement the measures of the new treaty, tobacco-related deaths could reach more than nine million by 2020." That prompts the Conference of the Parties to find itself in a responsible mood, in terms of its unique role in further evolution and elaboration of a treaty, with its decisive impact on decreasing tobacco-related burden of disease, mortality and morbidity.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, a major player in the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body, the Intergovernmental Working Group as well as Conference of the Parties deliberations and negotiations, on the basis of its own past experiences and being inspired by the Framework Convention, is committed to continue to work with the international community on the Convention's further elaboration, and is determined to rise to the challenge of implementing the treaty at the national level.

There is a history of Iran's performance in certain areas related to tobacco control, even before the commencement of the Framework Convention negotiations. A total ban on tobacco advertising, the Government's long-standing monopoly on tobacco production and import, as well as the culturally induced low rate of tobacco consumption among women and young girls are among its success stories.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has recently embarked on regulating control of tobacco use through enacting legislation. With active follow-up by the Ministry of Health and Medical Education, a comprehensive National Act on tobacco control was ratified by the Iranian Parliament. The Framework Convention provisions are reflected in this Act and its bylaws. Building on supporting legislation of the past decade in Iran, implementation of the National Act is considered an important step towards achieving the ambition of a tobacco-free society.

The Ministry of Health and Medical Education has already prioritized tobacco control measures on its agenda. Implementation of the Framework Convention and the National Act, provision of free consulting services on cessation of tobacco use, total prohibition of tobacco use and in particular water-pipes in public places, including recreation facilities, are among such measures. The Ministry is in

particular focusing at the moment on increasing the level of taxation for tobacco products and more importantly is making every effort to prevent relaxation of the Government's monopoly over tobacco production and import.

While the Framework Convention asserts the importance of demand reduction strategies, frameworks for supply reduction aspects are well established within the treaty. Successful demand reduction interventions are heavily dependent on the way we deal with the supply side. On the latter component, the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties has an extremely important undertaking to fulfil. Successful elaboration of relevant agenda items, in particular in the areas of elaborating protocols on illicit trade in tobacco products and cross-border tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship, require streamlined, focused, result-oriented and time-bound mechanisms, taking into account the alarming rate of tobacco-related diseases, mortality and morbidity. The example we set now guarantees the success of the future Conference of the Parties processes.

Trends in tobacco use within my country are indeed contingent on the situation in the region in which we are located. The accessibility and affordability of widely smuggled international tobacco brands, which easily evade restrictions and health regulations, is indeed a major preoccupation for my Government. Wars and occupation by big powers in parts of our region and the ensuing instability, insecurity and poverty in such areas, has accelerated the illicit trade in tobacco products. Without a comprehensive regional strategy and plan of action to eliminate illicit trade, illicit manufacturing, and counterfeiting of tobacco products, national efforts will become futile. We anticipate that the second session of the Conference of the Parties will address this alarming aspect through provision of policies and resources.

The Framework Convention has already inspired and convinced some circles to reconsider their policies on advertising, promotion and sponsorship. We welcome this move. Yet, a comprehensive and all-encompassing ban is indeed required. Nothing, including constitutional principles that allow some sort of advertising, promotion and sponsorship, justifies undermining the efforts of others in their fight against tobacco.

A novel feature of the Convention is its provision on liability issues, reflected in Article 19.5. Among supply-reduction aspects, we are of the firm view that the Conference of the Parties should take up the question of liability at this stage of its work. This should not turn into a forbidden area, and the tobacco companies should accept their responsibility in this issue.

Adoption and implementation of national acts on tobacco control depends on the support of the international community. Control of tobacco consumption is linked to addressing its wider, complex socioeconomic determinants, which require cross-sectoral policies and measures, indeed a tall order for many developing countries. Dealing with competing priorities on their poverty reduction and eradication agenda, developing countries, which are also exposed to cross-border effects, are in dire need of provision of technical and financial support. I should mention here the importance of the role of social determinants of health in the community. Our main task is to consider poverty, education, socioeconomic aspects, and unemployment, which can indirectly affect the rate of smoking and health. My Government has paid special attention to the social determinants of health and social equality.

WHO's support to States Party in the phase of implementation of the Framework Convention will have a decisive role in helping them to fulfil their obligations under the treaty. Let me at this juncture express my gratitude to WHO for supporting our national efforts. We are moved by the award that I received on behalf of the National Committee on Tobacco Control and those involved in the process of developing and implementing our National Act. Undoubtedly, we will all be rewarded in actuality, when this menace is uprooted all over the world and a tobacco-free world is attained. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted, doctor. Me es muy grato ahora ofrecer la palabra al Embajador Papadopulos, representante de Grecia. Tiene usted la palabra, Embajador.

Mr PAPADOPOULOS (Greece):

Ministers, excellencies, delegates, ladies and gentlemen, Mr President. I am honoured to speak on behalf of the European Region. First of all, let me congratulate you and your bureau on all the good work that has been achieved since the first session of the Conference of the Parties. We know that the appointment of the Head of the Convention Secretariat has demanded much effort. We are pleased with your final selection. Dr Haik Nikogosian has been a driving force for a tobacco-free Europe in his capacity as a WHO staff member for many years. He has shown good communication skills and has been able to create enthusiasm for tobacco-control work both at national and at local level. The European Region would like to express its support and readiness to work with Dr Nikogosian to build a strong and proactive Convention Secretariat. Mr President, your good work would not have materialized as efficiently as it has done without the continuous support of WHO and the Tobacco Free Initiative. We are particularly grateful to the Initiative and to Dr Bettcher for their excellent documentation and their never-resting activities in this interim period. On behalf of the European Region, I would like to thank our hosts the Royal Thai Government for their willingness to host this meeting and for the excellent reception we have already experienced in this beautiful country.

Tobacco work in Europe has accelerated over the past few years, both within the European Union as well as in the non-European Union countries. The Commission has launched a European Union-wide consultation on a Green Paper called "Towards a Europe free from tobacco smoke", giving policy options at the level of the European Union. Many nations have now introduced total bans on smoking in public places. This happened with remarkably positive acceptance by the population. Later this week, we shall return to several issues like cross-border advertising, tobacco product regulation and illicit trade, to which European colleagues will have fruitful inputs to give. We have created regional arenas for exchange of information for mutual support concerning implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. There is one issue that seems to create more and more concern in our Region. That is the clear epidemiological link between smoking and social inequalities in health. These inequalities have been connected to smoking as one important health determinant. We hope the deliberations this week can shed more light on this issue so that it can be brought forward at different political levels. We have to make sure that our strategies decrease the social inequalities and no longer increase them. We need to discuss such strategies further.

Mr President, let me finally thank you and the organizers for a good start of this session of the Conference of the Parties. We are looking forward to working with you during this week to further enhance the tobacco-control work in the world, which by the nature of the product we are dealing with, has to be done in an international as well as a national setting. A strong and proactive Framework Convention will function as a spearhead for national and regional legislation and activities. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted, Embajador. A continuación tengo el agrado de ofrecer la palabra al Sr Zafar Ullah Khan, Secretario General del Ministerio de Salud de Bangladesh. Tiene usted la palabra, señor.

Mr ZAFAR ULLAH KHAN (Bangladesh):

Mr President, Deputy Director-General of WHO, Regional Director for South-East Asia, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen. This is a unique opportunity and a privilege to be able to speak at this august gathering. We are proud that this important meeting is taking place in Thailand, one of the Member countries of our Region. We congratulate the Government of Thailand for hosting this meeting.

Like most countries in the Region, tobacco prevalence in Bangladesh is high and use of both smoking and smokeless products is widespread. However, Bangladesh is determined to tackle the tobacco epidemic in an effective way. The commitment of our country and the Region as a whole to tobacco control is reflected in the fact that all countries in the Region took an active part in the negotiations and adoption of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. We are now actively engaged in implementation of the Convention. In this connection, I would like to acknowledge the support to our tobacco-control efforts being provided by the WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia, under the able and dynamic leadership of our Regional Director. We also appreciate the support from WHO headquarters and the global tobacco-control community, including the Bloomberg Global Initiative to Reduce Tobacco Use. We expect this support to continue.

Bangladesh is the first country to sign the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and among the first 20 countries that ratified the Convention. Following the entry into force of the Convention, we are focusing on its implementation. We have developed our national tobacco control legislation, which is now being implemented. However, we need to make this legislation more comprehensive and fully compatible with the provisions of the Framework Convention. We need support from WHO and the global tobacco-control community for this. The countries in the Region are united to move the Convention forward. I am happy to share with you all that Bangladesh hosted the first Regional meeting on implementation of the WHO FCTC in July 2006 following the first session of the Conference of the Parties. All the Parties in the Region and also Indonesia, which is trying hard to join the Convention, attended the meeting. The meeting focused mainly on the mechanisms for implementation of the Convention, including developing a national plan of action for enforcement promotion and compliance. The meeting also stressed the need for finalization of the needs assessment template so that the needs of the Parties to the Convention, in particular those in the developing world, could be assessed and WHO and the global tobacco-control community could come up with the required support. I am also happy and proud that all Parties in our Region, including my own country Bangladesh, have submitted the reporting instrument on time. This reflects the commitment and sincerity of our countries to meeting the treaty obligations.

Bangladesh appreciates the support being provided by the Bloomberg Global Initiative for Tobacco Control. Bangladesh is one of the four countries in the Region that has been selected under the Bloomberg Initiative. We consider the support from the Initiative very useful for strengthening the public sector for effective tobacco control. However, the activities under the Bloomberg Initiative should be designed and developed in such as way that they supplement and complement the efforts of the Parties to meet their obligations under the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. In order to use the opportunity provided by the Bloomberg Initiative, Bangladesh has established the National Tobacco Control Cell as the functional arm of the Ministry of Health to steer all the national actions for tobacco control, including implementation of the Framework Convention in the country. The Cell hosts the Bloomberg country staff and the WHO country focal point for tobacco control. The Cell works closely with nongovernmental organizations and has made provisions for nongovernmental organizations to use its facilities for their tobacco-control activities. As you have seen in the programme of the lunch time Seminars, there will be a briefing on the Bloomberg Initiative on 4 July 2007. Experiences of the establishment of the Bangladesh national Tobacco Control Cell will be shared as a best practice in that briefing session. I welcome you all to join us there.

In conclusion, I should like to add that we have a long way to go for effective tobacco control and full implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. A least-developed country and Party like Bangladesh needs continuing support for its tobacco-control efforts. We need to strengthen the National Tobacco Control Cell to make it the centre point for guiding the process for development and implementation of tobacco-control programme and activities. We expect that both WHO and the Bloomberg Initiative will assist us in our endeavours. I thank you all for your attention.

El PRESIDENTE:

Gracias a usted, señor. Me es grato ofrecer la palabra a la Sra. Gidlow del Ministerio de Salud de Samoa. Tiene usted la palabra, señora.

Mrs GIDLOW (Samoa):

Your Excellency Mr President, the Deputy Director-General of WHO, Samoa is honoured to speak on behalf of the WHO Western Pacific Region, being one of the small island countries.

Each day, in the Western Pacific Region alone, more than 3000 people die prematurely from tobacco-use related diseases. In fact, our Region accounts for almost 20% of global tobacco deaths. We are also dealing with the double problem of increasing tobacco use among youths and young females. Not only is smoking an increasing burden in the Pacific islands, but betel nut use with tobacco appears to be a growing problem, especially among the young. In Samoa the problem of tobacco use is too high for its size and economic realities; and, of course, we sadly qualify for the many societal factors that make us a targeted developing country by the tobacco industry. Our youth are starting to smoke at young ages, our women are catching up with their male counterparts, and our tobacco-related health problems are on the increase. The tobacco use situation in Samoa is a big challenge for the health professionals and the advocates in health. Samoa, like many of the island countries, is having to deal with the long-term impact of trade agreements, both at regional and international levels, which we need to fully understand in the context of intellectual property rights. This is an area where we need lots of technical and legal help.

The costs of tobacco use to governments, businesses, communities and families far outweigh the profits. In the Western Pacific Region, this is especially true. In addition, millions of non-smoking adults and children in this Region are seriously harmed by exposure to tobacco smoke pollution. In the face of these challenges, our Region has made a significant commitment to implementing tobacco-control measures required by the Convention, and many of us are going well beyond those required by the Convention. Our multiagency advocacy work has done well with sports bodies, community groups, workplaces, professional associations and religious groups in some countries. A few Western Pacific Region Member States have already met Convention requirements, several more are making good progress in implementing Convention provisions, and some are seeing decreases in smoking prevalence through the enforcement of evidence-based tobacco control measures. We have many exemplary role models. Australia, Guam, China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, New Zealand, Palau, Republic of Korea and Singapore all have strong tobacco-control policies that have led to significant decreases in tobacco use. Many others are rapidly developing comprehensive legislation, such as Cambodia, Cook Islands, Niue, Viet Nam, and of course Samoa, where our developments in realizing the State obligations since we ratified the Convention, are nothing compared to the many countries whose success stories make us very slow developers in this area of health work.

In Samoa, we are progressing with our tobacco legislation, which has taken us quite a while to finalize. But we are getting there, and it should have its passage through Parliament in the next three months. I think Samoa may have been the first island country in the Western Pacific Region that declared a Smoke-free Parliament, way before the Convention was passed. Being imposed on politicians, it reflects well on political commitment. We have followed suit with Fiji's smoke-free example when hosting the last South Pacific Games. Samoa is hosting the same Games in late August this year. The Government has declared the South Pacific Games tobacco free, which was not an easy matter to facilitate in Cabinet. We have been privileged with the assistance of the United Nations community, especially WHO and our bilateral partners, in the realization of the Framework of this Convention, which I believe is WHO's first. I would like to thank them all whilst I have the chance.

If there is a lesson to be learnt from international conventions that countries have ratified and try to promote and implement, then we should look at the success stories from the women's global drive to promote and implement the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, both of which link very well with the Framework Convention on

Tobacco Control in spirit, and the human rights-based approach. Before I conclude, I wish to thank the Royal Government of Thailand for hosting this conference, and I want to thank my colleagues and friends in the Western Pacific Region for letting Samoa speak on your behalf. *Soifua*.

El PRESIDENTE:

Gracias a usted, señora Gidlow. A continuación tengo el agrado de ofrecer la palabra a la Sra. Motsan, de Sudáfrica.

Ms MATSAU (South Africa):

Thank you Mr President, WHO Deputy Director-General, excellencies, ambassadors here present, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen. It is my distinct honour and special privilege to address this second session of the conference of the Parties on the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control on behalf of the African Region, and to add to the remarks of my colleague, Dr Sory from Ghana.

The African Region would like to extend its congratulations to the Royal Thai Government for the honour of hosting this Conference, and to thank the Thai people, the people from the land of smiles, for their warm and generous hospitality.

In the last Conference of the Parties, the African Region stated its belief that one of the most effective tools in the struggle to decrease tobacco use, and to raise the level of health of its peoples, is the global health treaty, the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. As a Region, we seek to further strengthen our resolve to protect our people from the effects of tobacco smoke. We urge this session to make decisions on all instruments that have been developed by the working and expert groups because we need a firm and strong foundation to implement the Convention. We seek to use this Convention to protect our people, who, because of their limited knowledge and education, are being exploited and unwittingly being driven into tobacco smoking. Not only are they vulnerable because of their low educational level, but generally they are often of a very fragile economic status as well, tobacco use thus usually straining family finances significantly. This cycle of vulnerability, exploitation and poor economic status is often completed by the already poor countries themselves bearing the inordinate financial consequences of their tobacco-exposed populations.

We therefore welcome the draft guidelines on Article 8 that provide for the adoption of measures to protect people against exposure to tobacco smoke, and identify measures for reducing the health risks associated with exposure to second-hand smoke. As a Region, we hope that these guidelines will be adopted as they currently stand, as they form a critical component of the implementation of the Convention. We applaud and appreciate the work done by the expert groups on illicit trade in tobacco products and cross-border advertising. At our first meeting, we tasked them with drawing up draft templates for future possible protocols. The groups have produced informative documents that will guide us. We now urge this meeting to take up the work they have done, and use it to strengthen our international tobacco-control efforts. It is essential that we build on the momentum that we have created and move forward with strength. The African Region also welcomes the work of the ad hoc study group on alternative crops. We are not oblivious to the situation of those countries for which tobacco is a mainstay of their economies, and we certainly affirm and applaud their efforts at building viable economies through alternative crops, particularly for small farmers and their families, whose main source of income is tobacco-growing. Hence, we intend to put a significant amount of effort into addressing their issues.

We are fully aware of the costs of negotiating future protocols. However, if we are truly committed as Parties to tobacco control, we have to find a way to pay for those negotiations. Because we do not have all the funding we need, and we may never have all the funding at one time, we would like to urge this meeting to prioritize our work and to deal at least with one of the protocols and find a way of moving forward.

In the last Conference of the Parties we discussed extensively possible options for sustainable funding mechanisms. While we recognize that we agreed on a funding mechanism that calls on national plans to prioritize tobacco control and seek support from developed partners, we would like the Conference to reassess the funding mechanism that we agreed on; in particular on how it will support sustainable, comprehensive tobacco-control programmes. Let me once again reiterate the commitment of the African Region to setting up building blocks that will form a foundation that will allow the Convention to be effectively implemented by countries. A key building block for our Region is finding sustainable funding mechanisms.

On behalf of the African Region, let me congratulate Dr Haik Nikogosian for his appointment as Head of the Convention Secretariat. We look forward to your leadership and support in the Secretariat in implementing decisions of the Conference of the Parties in ways that draw partners who share the same goals and vision as the Parties themselves. As the Head of the Convention Secretariat, we hope that you will recall that in the first session of the Conference of the Parties we agreed that the staffing of the permanent secretariat should take into account the criteria of equitable geographical distribution, gender equity and balanced representation between developed and developing countries. We hope that, as Head of the Secretariat, you will implement this in keeping with the decisions of the first Conference of the Parties. We wish you well, Dr Nikogosian and the Secretariat.

Mr President, may I end by thanking Thailand again and by expressing the wish that we work well together over the coming days. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted, señora Motsan. Me es grato de ofrecer la palabra al Embajador Tezls Ribeiro, de Brasil. Tiene usted la palabra, Embajador.

Mr TELLES RIBEIRO (Brazil):

Ambassador Juan Martabit, President of the second session of the Conference of the Parties, delegates, representatives, members of nongovernmental organizations, friends of WHO, ladies and gentlemen. I have the honour to take the floor on behalf of the Region of the Americas to express our pleasure at seeing Your Excellency, Ambassador Juan Martabit, once again chairing a session of the Conference of the Parties. We feel confident that your leadership as always will guide us towards the common goals that we all wish to achieve.

Our congratulations also go to Dr Nikogosian for his appointment as Executive Secretary of the Convention, and our thanks would not be complete without a special reference to Dr Asamoa-Baah, WHO's Deputy Director-General, as well as Dr Douglas Bettcher, whose work at the Tobacco Free Initiative is well known to all of us.

In the Region of the Americas we are strongly committed to the adoption and follow-up of proposals for the implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. We are convinced that this treaty will serve, as it is serving, as an effective instrument to foster international cooperation in this domain. We are heartened by the fact that almost all countries in the Americas are part of the Convention, and wish to express our hope that those which have not yet ratified will soon do so. We are also firmly committed to the idea of sharing positive experiences deriving from the collaboration between governments and civil society. We believe that the Conference of the Parties provides us all with an opportunity to share our respective challenges and successes, and to learn from our tobacco-control counterparts around the world. We have all learned from experience that several efficient measures on tobacco control can be adopted with modest or reduced requirements in terms of funding. We should endeavour to explore these avenues for our common benefit.

We are encouraged by the progress undertaken in our Region. Briefly, just to name a few recent examples, among many that could be quoted, some Caribbean countries are preparing tobacco control bills, while in South America the smoking-free environment is fast becoming a well-accepted general

concept. And the situation was quite different, as we all know, only a few years ago. Another example is the creation of the Intergovernmental Committee on Tobacco Control within MERCOSUR's Ministers of Health meeting, which has provided a cooperation working plan for the assessment of needs and priorities in order to foster tobacco control within our Region. It is also worth mentioning the recent conclusions of the Latin American workshop, held in Santiago only a few days ago, which highlighted the serious matter of second-hand smoke, as well as the necessity of protecting people from the harms caused by this problem, including the adoption of measures to ban smoking in indoor public places.

Fortunately, we have not been alone in this work. We therefore thank the interim secretariat of the Convention and all delegations that contributed for the great intersessional work so far undertaken, which provided us with important documents on fundamental issues for the achievement of the Convention objectives: cross-border tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship; protection from second-hand smoke; the tobacco illegal market issues; and tobacco product regulations.

To sum up, Mr President, may I renew, on behalf of the countries of the Region of the Americas, our best wishes for a very constructive meeting on such a relevant domain as that of tobacco control in the world.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted, Embajador, por su declaración y a continuación tengo el agrado de ofrecer la palabra al Dr. Al-Saif, Subsecretario Adjunto del Ministerio de Salud de Kuwait. Tiene usted la palabra, doctor.

Dr AL-SAIF (Kuwait): الدكتور السيف (الكويت):

بسم الله الرحمن الرح

سيدي الرئيس، السيد نائب مدير منظمة الصحة العالمية، حضرات الإخوة والأخوات، السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.

أود في البداية أن أشكر مملكة تايلند التي استضافتنا لهذا المؤتمر الهام، مؤتمر الأطراف في اتفاقية منظمة الصحة العالمية بشأن مكافحة التبغ، كما أود أن أشكر السيدة مديرة منظمة الصحة العالمية وجميع العاملين في منظمة الصحة العالمية على اهتمامهم بوضع وتنفيذ هذه الاتفاقية الهامة والتي لاشك أنها ستحمي شعوب العالم من مخاطر التدخين المختلفة والتي تؤدي إلى الكثير من الأمراض الخطيرة والتي تودي بحياتهم، كما أود أن أشكر جميع دول العالم على اهتمامها بمكافحة التدخين وإني على يقين بأن التعاون الدولي سوف يمكن من مكافحة هذه العادة غير الصحية.

حضرات الإخوة والأخوات، يسعدني أن أنقل لكم تحيات زملائي أعضاء الوفود في المكتب الإقليمي لشرق المتوسط ولقد اهتمت دول الإقليم بمكافحة التدخين واتخذت عدة إجراءات لمكافحة التدخين في بلدانها. وأود أن أشكر هذه الدول على هذه الجهود، كما أود أن أشكر المكتب الإقليمي لشرق المتوسط على جهوده الكبيرة.

حضرات الإخوة والأخوات، بما أن دولة الكويت من دول إقليم شرق المتوسط فأود منكم أن تقاسموها تجربتها. وقد اهتمت دولة الكويت بمكافحة التبغ منذ مدة طويلة، حيث صدر قانون مكافحة التدخين في عام ١٩٩٥ كما كانت دولة الكويت من أولى الدول التي اعتمدت اتفاقية منظمة الصحة العالمية بشأن مكافحة التبغ وانضمت إليها. ولقد نص قانون مكافحة التدخين الصادر عن دولة الكويت عام ١٩٩٥ بمنع زراعة وصناعة التبغ في دولة الكويت ومنع هذا القانون بيع السجائر والتبغ ومشتقاته لمن يقل عمره عن ٢١ عاماً، كما حول وزير الصحة بتحديد الأماكن التي يمنع فيها التدخين ووضع الاشتراطات والمواصفات للسجائر والتبغ ومشتقاته والتي يتم استيرادها من الخارج كما تم وضع عقوبة على كل من يخالف أحكام هذا القانون. ولقد قام وزير الصحة بإصدار القرارات الوزارية لتنفيذ هذا القانون حيث يتم منع التدخين في المستشفيات والمراكز الصحية والجامعات والمدارس وأماكن العبادة. كما تم تحديد أماكن خاصة معزولة للمدخنين في المطاعم وفي

مطار الكويت الدولي. وتم منع إعلانات السجائر في وسائل الإعلام المختلفة من التليفزيون والباعة وتم منع إعلانات السجائر في الشوارع والمحلات وتم منع ماكينات السجائر. ولقد تم تشكيل لجنة لمكافحة التدخين لمتابعة تنفيذ هذه القرارات ووضع الاشتراطات والمواصفات للسجائر والتبغ ومشتقاته المستوردة من الخارج. كما تم إدخال معلومات عن مخاطر التدخين في المناهج الدراسية.

حضرات الإخوة والأخوات، أود أن أنتهز هذه الفرصة لكي أشكر مدير المكتب الإقليمي لشرق المتوسط التابع لمنظمة الصحة العالمية الدكتور حسين الجزائري وجميع العاملين في هذا المكتب على جهودهم لمكافحة التدخين وتنفيذ هذه الاتفاقية الهامة والعمل على عقد الاجتماعات الخاصة بمكافحة التدخين بصورة مستمرة. وشكري الخاص للدكتورة فاطمة العوا في المكتب الإقليمي على جهودها الكبيرة في هذا المجال وأود أن أنوه بمبادرة الكويت بالتعاون مع شقيقاتها في دول مجلس التعاون التي تقوم بمكافحة التدخين من خلال مجلس وزراء الصحة لدول مجلس التعاون. وقد تم تنفيذ قرار برفع الضرائب على التبغ ومشتقاته إلى مائة بالمائة في جميع دول مجلس التعاون. وفي نهاية كلمتي أود أن أشكر مملكة تايلند على استضافتها لهذا المؤتمر والجهود الكبيرة التي بذلتها لتسهيل جميع الأمور للمشاركين في هذا المؤتمر. وشكري موصول لكل وفود دول إقليم شرق المتوسط والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted, doctor, por su declaración y a continuación ofrezco la palabra al Dr. Jayantha, Subdirector General interino (Servicios Médicos) de Sri Lanka.

Dr JAYANTHA (Sri Lanka):

Mr President, Deputy Director-General of WHO, other distinguished guests, delegates from all regions of the world, ladies and gentlemen. It is my privilege and pleasure to address this extremely important second session of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, organized by WHO with the assistance of the Government of Thailand.

First of all, on behalf of Sri Lanka, I would like to thank all delegates of the WHO South-East Asia Region for giving me this opportunity to address this audience representing Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka, being one of the first countries in Asia to ratify the Convention, has now introduced national legislation to control tobacco and alcohol use. It is a very comprehensive piece of legislation, which provides for prohibition of sales and promotion to minors, prohibition of installing vending machines, prohibition of sale of tobacco products without health warnings, prohibition of tobacco advertisements and sponsorship, including free distribution of tobacco products and prohibition of smoking in public areas.

A major concern is the implementation of the countries' obligations under the WHO Framework on Tobacco Control, and Sri Lanka has overcome this problem by establishing an authority with powers to implement the provisions of the act. Similar to Sri Lanka, I wish to inform this assembly that other countries in the Region which have ratified the Framework have also taken meaningful steps to implement the Framework Convention. Under Article 7, the Conference Parties were to propose appropriate guidelines for the implementation of the provisions of this Article, and Sri Lanka wishes to bring to the attention of all Parties concerned that early action has to be taken to finalize guidelines that should provide best practice standards.

I hope that this second session of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control will be a success. Thank you very much for your kind attention.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted por su declaración, y a continuación ofrezco la palabra al último orador de este segmento, que es el Dr. Li Yangzhe, Subdirector General de la Oficina de Operaciones Económicas, Comisión Estatal de Desarrollo y Reforma de China.

Mr LI Yangzhe (China):
李仰哲（中国）

主席先生，中国代表团代表西太区向您和所有参会的代表致以亲切的问候，对于泰王国政府为本次会议所作的工作和贡献表示衷心的感谢。借此机会，祝贺Haik Nikogosian博士就任公约秘书处首长，相信在他的领导下，履行公约的工作将会更加卓有成效。我们赞赏临时秘书处为了落实第一次缔约方会议决议所采取的行动和开展的各项工作。

第一次缔约方会议以来，中国积极参与了拟订烟草制品非法贸易议定书、跨国界广告、促销和赞助议定书、公约第8条实施准则、烟草作物替代等专家组的工作，为有效地履行公约奠定了基础。2007年1月，经中国国务院批准，中国政府组建了由国家发展改革委、国家卫生部、外交部、财政部等八个部委组成的履行公约部际协调机制，协调各个部门履行公约的工作，确保切实有效地履行公约。

在修订《公共场所卫生管理条例》中，增加公共场所禁烟的条款。两周之前，修改后的《公共场所卫生管理条例》已由中国国务院向全社会公开，征求修改意见，以便下半年进一步修改完善，并正式宣布实施。中国香港特别行政区已经于2007年1月实现了室内公共场所、工作间、餐厅以及政府管理的室外沙滩、公园全面禁烟。目前，中国政府正努力把即将在2008年在北京召开的奥运会办成无烟奥运。为了加强对公约的宣传，提高公众对吸烟和被动吸烟危害的认识，中国政府还发布了《2007年中国控制吸烟报告》。中国的控烟工作得到了世界卫生组织等国际组织的一贯支持和帮助，借此机会，我们表示衷心的感谢。

再次谢谢主席先生。

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias, doctor, por su declaración. Vamos a dar por concluida esta primera parte de exposiciones realizadas ya sea a título de representación regional o nacional por los 11 distinguidos representantes que hemos escuchado. El lunes por la mañana continuaremos con las exposiciones de las distinguidas delegaciones que deseen hacerlas. Permítanme una observación de carácter personal: las 11 intervenciones que hemos escuchado nos permiten sacar algunas conclusiones preliminares que considero importantes. Primero, el Convenio tiene una enorme importancia para los países aquí presentes. Todos los representantes se han referido de manera muy destacada a la importancia de este Convenio en la vida pública nacional de cada uno de los países.

En segundo lugar, todos los países han realizado progresos y eso es una buena noticia. En tercer lugar, me parece también evidente que es necesario desarrollar mecanismos de cooperación eficientes y eficaces. Hay una necesidad indudable de desarrollar mecanismos de cooperación, especialmente para aquellas economías más frágiles. Creo que éste es un elemento de la mayor importancia y el Convenio en sus niveles pertinentes debe tratarlo en profundidad. Y en cuarto y último lugar, yo destacaría también la

necesidad de apoyar de una manera mucho más decidida especialmente a los pequeños productores que deben reconvertirse hacia otros sectores económicos. Éste es un tema crucial que en los debates de ahora y sucesivos de los Estados Partes en el Convenio debe ser abordado con creatividad y mucha decisión.

7. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK ADOPTION DE L'ORDRE DU JOUR ET ORGANISATION DES TRAVAUX

El PRESIDENTE:

Pasamos ahora al punto 1.1 de nuestro orden del día provisional contenido en el documento A/FCTC/COP/2/1. Espero que tengan todos frente a ustedes el documento A/FCTC/COP/2/1, orden del día provisional. Dejaremos de lado por ahora lo relativo al método de trabajo.

Este orden del día se preparó de conformidad con los artículos 7 y 13 del Reglamento Interior de la Conferencia de las Partes; la Mesa lo analizó detalladamente y le dio su visto bueno antes de que se lo distribuyera a todos ustedes. Si no hay objeciones, damos por aprobado este orden del día provisional contenido en el documento A/FCTC/COP/2/1. Como no veo objeciones, se da por aprobado.

Pasamos ahora a la organización de los trabajos. En cuanto a nuestro método de trabajo, la Mesa ha acordado proponer que examinemos los puntos 2 y 3 del orden del día en forma conjunta. El punto 2 se refiere al informe de la Secretaría del Convenio y situación del Convenio Marco de la OMS para el Control del Tabaco y el tercer punto al informe de la secretaría interina. Dada la proximidad evidente que hay entre estos dos informes, hemos propuesto que sean examinados en forma conjunta. Si no hay objeciones a este procedimiento de que los dos informes sean considerados en forma conjunta, lo damos por aprobado.

A continuación sugiero que adoptemos la propuesta de la Secretaría sobre el método y la distribución del trabajo que figura en el orden del día provisional anotado en el punto 1.1. Concretamente, se propone que, continuando con la práctica de la primera reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes, la Conferencia establezca dos comisiones que trabajen en paralelo a fin de llevar a cabo el ingente trabajo que tenemos por delante.

A la primera comisión, que denominaremos Comisión A, se le podrían encomendar las cuestiones sustantivas del orden del día. Éstas son la elaboración de directrices y protocolos y el establecimiento de un grupo de estudio sobre cultivos alternativos; me refiero a los puntos 5.3, 5.4, 5.5 y al punto 6 del orden del día provisional. La segunda comisión, que la denominaremos Comisión B, podría ocuparse de las cuestiones de procedimiento e institucionales tales como las fuentes y mecanismos de asistencia para cumplir los objetivos del Convenio, la presentación de informes, el presupuesto y el lugar de la tercera reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes, enunciadas en los puntos 5.1, 5.2, 7 y 8 del orden del día provisional que tienen frente a ustedes. Si no hay comentarios, objeciones ni sugerencias diferentes a lo que he señalado, se da por aprobado.

A continuación me referiré a los miembros de la Mesa de las dos comisiones, la Comisión A y la Comisión B. Tengo conocimiento hasta ahora de que se siguen celebrando consultas y que, en todo caso, son las propias comisiones las que elegirán a los miembros de cada una de las respectivas Mesas. Sin embargo, me permito recordar a los delegados que, siguiendo el precedente de la primera reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes y para garantizar la debida representación regional, puede que las comisiones deseen elegir a un Presidente y dos Vicepresidentes, con lo cual el número total de miembros de la Mesa podría elevarse a seis. Creo sinceramente que en estas materias hay que ser pragmáticos y flexibles. Son las comisiones quienes deben resolver, conforme a las discusiones que tengan los distintos grupos, cuál es la mejor alternativa para ellos.

Paso ahora a otro punto. Me refiero a la distribución de los asientos en esta sesión que, como ustedes saben, se realiza conforme a las prácticas de la OMS, según la cual todas las Partes ocupan sus asientos por orden alfabético. Este año según su nombre en inglés y, según el sorteo que se realizó en la

Mesa, se comienza por la letra «E»; entiendo que es la distinguida delegación del Ecuador la que comienza el orden alfabético de los asientos en esta reunión.

También quiero señalarles que la Secretaría ha recibido una solicitud de la Comunidad Europea de que su delegación ocupe asientos próximos al de la Presidencia del Consejo de la Unión Europea. En este caso, como ustedes saben, será Portugal el que tenga esa representación y esta solicitud se debe, al igual que en la Conferencia anterior, a la necesidad de proximidad para hacer consultas entre las dos partes, lo que me parece muy natural. Por consiguiente, a menos que haya alguna objeción, propongo que a partir del lunes por la mañana mantengamos el rigor de los tiempos y se permita a la delegación de la Comunidad Europea ocupar lugares próximos al de Portugal; creo sinceramente que esta práctica debiera darse por sentada de aquí en adelante. No veo objeciones, sugerencias ni ninguna otra opinión al respecto y, de ser así, se da por aprobado.

Con esto, estimadas delegadas y estimados delegados, concluimos la consideración del punto 1.1 del orden del día.

8. CREDENTIALS OF PARTICIPANTS
POUVOIRS DES PARTICIPANTS

El PRESIDENTE:

Paso a continuación al punto 1.2, relativo a las credenciales de los participantes. Al respecto propongo que, de conformidad con el artículo 19 del Reglamento Interior, la Mesa examine las credenciales de los delegados que participan en esta reunión e informe por escrito a la Conferencia en una próxima sesión plenaria. Recuerdo a las delegaciones que aún no hayan presentado sus credenciales oficiales emitidas en debida forma, y todos ustedes saben lo que eso significa, que por favor lo deben hacer a más tardar en la noche del próximo día lunes. Creo que ésta es una formalidad importante respecto de la cual hay que observar siempre el rigor que corresponde. Si es así, entonces damos hasta el día lunes por la noche como la fecha indicada para que todas las delegaciones tengan sus credenciales al día y procuren que éstas llegan a la Secretaría a más tardar en la noche del próximo día lunes. Si no hay objeciones, así queda acordado. Concluimos entonces el punto 1.2 del orden del día.

9. PARTICIPATION OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
PARTICIPATION DES ORGANISATIONS INTERGOUVERNEMENTALES ET NON GOUVERNEMENTALES

El PRESIDENTE:

Pasamos a continuación al punto 1.3, relativo a la participación de organizaciones intergubernamentales y no gubernamentales. Con respecto a la participación de organizaciones intergubernamentales tenemos que considerar dos cuestiones diferentes. La primera es examinar las solicitudes recibidas de organizaciones intergubernamentales para obtener la condición de observador que, de conformidad con el artículo 30 del Reglamento Interior, puede ser otorgada por la Conferencia teniendo en cuenta los párrafos 17 y 18 del preámbulo y el artículo 5.3 del Convenio.

A este respecto la Secretaría ha preparado el documento A/FCTC/COP/2/15, en el que se indica que se han recibido solicitudes de la Organización Mundial de Aduanas y de la Secretaría de la Comunidad del Pacífico. Me parece que la labor de estas dos organizaciones intergubernamentales es de interés para los trabajos de la Conferencia de las Partes, y que sus metas y objetivos son conformes a los del Convenio Marco de la OMS para el Control del Tabaco, y ello me lleva a proponerles que se les otorgue la condición

de observadores que han solicitado. Si no hay objeciones, comentarios o algo que agregar a esta propuesta, la damos por aceptada. Así se aprueba.

La segunda cuestión se refiere a la acreditación como observadores en la Conferencia de las Partes de aquellas organizaciones intergubernamentales que participaron en el Órgano de Negociación Intergubernamental sobre el Convenio Marco de la OMS para el Control del Tabaco o en el Grupo de Trabajo Intergubernamental sobre el Convenio antes mencionado. A este respecto quiero pedir al Asesor Jurídico de la OMS, que exponga a la Conferencia los detalles de este asunto así como las opciones posibles, y todo ello con la mayor brevedad y capacidad de síntesis que tiene. Señor Burci, tiene usted la palabra.

Mr BURCI (WHO Secretariat, Legal Counsel):

Thank you, Mr President. As you just recalled, in the case of nongovernmental organizations, Rule 31 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties provides for the automatic accreditation of all the nongovernmental organizations that have participated in previous processes linked to the Framework Convention. Paragraph 2 of the Rule sets the elements for the accreditation of other nongovernmental organizations that have not participated in previous work. This paragraph indicates a number of criteria that the Conference of the Parties should follow in accepting or not accepting requests from nongovernmental organizations. It also requests the Secretariat to make a report on these applications. So the Rule contains two requirements. First, a number of criteria that nongovernmental organizations that request accreditation must fulfil, and, second, the process, which is largely focused already in the report by the Secretariat. The first session of the Conference of the Parties did not have time to elaborate on this Rule, which was actually adopted halfway through the session. In the view of the Secretariat, it would be appropriate to fill this gap now so as to set a simple, but at the same time transparent and fair process to allow the Conference of the Parties to take a well-informed decision on whether or not to accept requests for accreditation by nongovernmental organizations in the future. If the Conference is prepared to go along with this proposal once again, we will be happy to prepare a short note with an explanation of the issue and with the proposed decision to elaborate on Rule 31, paragraph 2. Thank you, Mr President.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias por su explicación señor Burci; para resolver este tema importante, porque creo que estas cosas deben ser llevadas con la mayor claridad y transparencia, propongo que adoptemos la decisión de acreditar como observadores en la Conferencia de las Partes a aquellas organizaciones intergubernamentales que participaron en el Órgano de Negociación Intergubernamental del Convenio Marco, en el Grupo de Trabajo Intergubernamental sobre ese mismo Convenio y en la primera reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes. Si esta solución es en principio aceptable, pediría, tal como él lo ha propuesto, que la Secretaría preparara una breve nota con un proyecto de decisión para su aprobación por esta Conferencia dentro de unos días, junto con la lista de los organismos intergubernamentales que se han de acreditar. Si no hay objeción, comentarios, o nada adicional al respecto, lo damos por aprobado.

El último asunto relacionado con este punto es la admisión de organizaciones no gubernamentales que no quedan automáticamente acreditadas en virtud de lo previsto en el párrafo 1 del artículo 31. Al respecto, creo que sería pertinente una nueva explicación de parte suya, señor Burci. Tiene usted la palabra.

Mr BURCI (WHO Secretariat, Legal Counsel):

Thank you, Mr President, I will do my best. The issue that you asked me to explain has already been raised by the Secretariat in paragraphs 3 and 4 of document A/FCTC/COP/2/INF.DOC./1, which we are considering under this agenda item. The issue is the following: unlike in the case of nongovernmental

organizations, Rule 30 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties does not grant automatic accreditation to intergovernmental organizations that have participated in the negotiations of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control or in the working group that set up this Conference of the Parties. And, to my recollection, as I participated in the drafting of the Rules of Procedure, that was not done on purpose, it was not with the intent of somehow discriminating against intergovernmental organizations. It was, in my recollection, rather an oversight. Even though the Secretariat has invited intergovernmental organizations to apply for participation as observers, as you recalled, we have received only two requests. Most of the organizations that have actually cooperated with WHO in previous work have not applied, so there is a concern that this situation under Rule 30 has discouraged a number of important partners from participating in this session of the Conference of the Parties. So in the light of the fact that there is actually an automatic accreditation for nongovernmental organizations, and in light of the circumstances that I just recalled, the Secretariat would like to propose to the Conference of the Parties to follow the same approach for intergovernmental organizations as has already been adopted in the Rules of Procedure for nongovernmental organizations; that is to say, to automatically accredit as observers all the intergovernmental organizations that participated in the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control or in the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group before the first session of the Conference of the Parties or in the first session of the Conference of the Parties. If the Conference of the Parties is prepared to go along these lines, there are two ways to achieve this. One would be to amend the Rules of Procedure, the second would be to take an ad hoc decision since we are dealing with fundamentally a transitional issue that can be solved pretty easily; the Conference of the Parties may wish just to adopt an ad hoc decision without reopening the Rules of Procedure. If the Conference is prepared to follow this suggestion, the Secretariat would be happy to prepare a document for later during the session, proposing a draft decision to this effect. Thank you, Mr President.

El PRESIDENTE:

Bien, sugeriría que, al igual que lo hicimos con los organismos intergubernamentales, posterguemos una decisión sobre este asunto para los próximos días, previa presentación por parte de la Secretaría de una nota y de un proyecto para ser debidamente examinado por la Conferencia. Si no hay objeciones, comentarios, nada más que agregar, se da por aprobado. Por lo tanto, mantenemos abierto el examen del punto 1.3 del orden del día a la espera de estas dos propuestas que nos hará llegar la Secretaría.

Y llegamos al final de la sesión del día de hoy, pero antes de clausurar esta sesión plenaria quiero hacerles saber cómo tenemos pensado continuar el día lunes. El día lunes por la mañana, a partir de las 10, retomaremos la sesión plenaria (seguramente antes habrá reuniones regionales, pero ese es otro tema). Repito: a las 10 de la mañana el plenario estará funcionando, escucharemos declaraciones generales de las delegaciones que deseen hacerlas, para lo cual disponemos solamente del lunes por la mañana; el lunes por la mañana también examinaremos los puntos 2 y 3 del orden del día de manera conjunta y el punto 4 del orden del día. Creo que ese método de trabajo nos mantendrá en tiempo; esperamos constituir las Comisiones A y B para que en la tarde del lunes, después del almuerzo, comiencen su importante trabajo; les recuerdo que, tan pronto clausuremos esta sesión, tenemos una gentil y generosa invitación del Gobierno de Tailandia para disfrutar, entiendo a las siete de la tarde, o a partir de ahora mismo, un cóctel, una recepción en este mismo edificio. Que tengan una buena fiesta y que mañana domingo lo pasen bien; el lunes a las 10 de la mañana retomamos nuestros trabajos. Se levanta la sesión.

The meeting rose at 18:35.
La séance est levée à 18h35.

SECOND PLENARY MEETING

Monday, 2 July 2007, at 10:15

President: Mr J. MARTABIT (Chile)

DEUXIEME SEANCE PLENIERE

Lundi 2 juillet 2007, 10h15

Président: M. J. MARTABIT (Chile)

1. STATEMENTS BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WHO REGIONS AND BY PARTIES TO THE WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON TOBACCO CONTROL (continued) DECLARATIONS DES REPRESENTANTS DES REGIONS DE L'OMS ET DES PARTIES A LA CONVENTION-CADRE DE L'OMS POUR LA LUTTE ANTITABAC (suite)

El PRESIDENTE:

Muy buenos días a todos. Tomen asiento, por favor. Espero que hayan pasado un buen domingo. Tenemos una semana con bastante trabajo, de manera que tratemos de aprovechar bien nuestro tiempo. Vamos a continuar esta mañana, como lo señalé el día sábado, con declaraciones de carácter general por parte de aquellas delegaciones que deseen hacerlo; ya tengo inscritas cuatro delegaciones hasta este momento: Brasil, Portugal, México y Qatar. Veo ahí otro país, por favor, Sudán. En fin, nos hacen saber quienes desean hacer uso de la palabra y no hay problema; por allá veo más, de manera que les recuerdo que es conveniente ceñirnos a un tiempo prudente. No quiero ser de un rigor excesivo, pero me parece que un máximo de cinco minutos es extensamente suficiente y, si hablan menos, mejor todavía; les voy a solicitar que, por favor, hablen desde sus asientos. Tenemos un excelente sistema de audio, de manera que desde el asiento no habrá problemas. Comenzando entonces con la lista de oradores, me es grato ofrecer la palabra a la distinguida representación de Brasil. Brasil tiene la palabra.

Mr TELLES RIBEIRO (Brazil):

Thank you, Mr President. As a country strongly committed to the adoption and to the follow-up of proposals for the implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, Brazil is indeed very pleased to take the floor in this meeting. By taking part in the process of adoption of this multilateral initiative – and the first agreement taken under the auspices of WHO – Brazil has reiterated its priorities in the field of national and international public health, as well as sustainable development and social justice. The role undertaken by Ambassador Celso Amorim, who today is our Minister of Foreign Relations, as well as Ambassador Luiz Felipe de Seixas Correa was representative of Brazil's engagement and has deeply honoured our country by their leadership during the negotiation of the Convention itself.

Further, the chairmanship of the working group that submitted the initial recommendations for its consolidation to the Conference of the Parties has reflected the trust invested in Brazil, in light of its own engagement. On this opportunity, Brazil manifests its acknowledgement of the work developed by the interim secretariat of the Conference of the Parties during the intersessional period, by producing important documents and valuable contributions, which will surely contribute to accelerate the global implementation of the Convention. While we remain extremely satisfied, we must not accommodate ourselves with the tasks undertaken so far. Among the 168 WHO Member States, more than 140 countries are already legally committed to the Convention. Such commitment must be carried further, in the defence of the Convention's objectives.

In Brazil, the negotiation and ratification process of the Framework Convention in 2005 contributed to strengthen and give impulse to many ongoing initiatives on tobacco control. One of the positive results achieved in the past four years was the decline in the prevalence of smokers in the population above 18 years old. According to the official estimates, the prevalence was 34% in 1989, and went down to 22% in 2003 and is now around 16%. In the follow-up of the first session of the Conference of the Parties, Brazil has been engaged in the challenge of initiating the implementation process of the treaty. Among the progress achieved, I would like to highlight the creation and strengthening of the National Commission on the Implementation of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, which is composed of representatives from 16 ministries and is chaired by the Minister of Health. This initiative by the Government of Brazil is in line with our commitments to the principles and general obligations of the Convention. Some of the Government bodies that are members of this Commission are represented here today in the Brazilian delegation. In 2006, this National Commission was responsible for the elaboration of a proposal for a State agenda for the fulfilment of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, which identifies, in the text of the Convention, the actions and activities pertinent to each ministry represented in the Commission, with a view to delineate their responsibilities for implementing the Convention in Brazil. In a further step taken in 2007, the ministries that are part of the National Commission started to identify financial resources needed for meeting the Convention's requirements and guidelines. This represented an important step for integrating prospective intersectoral working plans for implementation of the Convention. This agenda expresses the commitment of the Brazilian Government to the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. The initiative has fostered several projects to be incorporated into budget proposals and in the Government's pluriannual programme of work.

In the health sector, the momentum created by the Framework Convention has encouraged the objective of "tobacco control" to move even further, in a network process with health secretaries in local states and municipalities, while integrating this objective into the recently issued national policy for the promotion of health. In the economic sector, a new law will enter into force in July 2007 to significantly increase taxes on tobacco products, which will result in higher prices and further contribute to reducing consumption. Brazil has also recently issued a law that obliges all cigarette manufacturers to install equipment to account for the production, which will enable us to control and also to trace products in all the national territory. It will also enable correct use of the seal of control to suppress the production and illegal importation of seals, as well as falsifications. By signing and ratifying the Framework Convention, Brazil, as a tobacco-producing country, believes that the treaty can offer opportunities for the development of alternatives for social sectors that today are dependent on tobacco production for their survival. As happens in most tobacco-producing developing countries, tobacco growing poses significant sanitary, social and economic vulnerabilities to thousands of small farmers and their families.

We understand that as there is no magical trick to quit smoking; there is no magical solution to put into practice ideal alternative crops to tobacco. It is not a simple task. This is a very complex matter that demands strong efforts from all Parties involved. Most developing countries that are also tobacco producers have been victims of the two tobacco cycles: production and consumption. Alternative crops to tobacco are an initiative that is in line with measures recommended by the United Nations Economic and Social Council. In its 2004 and 2006 reports, the Council highlighted tobacco consumption and production as important obstacles to tackling poverty, and recommended that its Member States adopt measures to face this problem in their development agendas. There is no simple alternative. Many elements from different dimensions have to be considered. Brazil has already embraced this challenge of responding to

the demand for alternative activities posed by small farmers involved in the productive chain of tobacco. The Ministry of Agrarian Development and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply have thus launched a programme to support production diversification in the tobacco growing areas, which aims at encouraging a gradual shift from tobacco to other crops and activities. It is important to highlight that one of the main axes of this programme is the development of studies and research on viable alternatives, as well as the promotion of access to technical assistance, insurance, agricultural credit and markets for the new products and related activities. A seminar on the programme was organized in the city of Porto Alegre in the south of Brazil at the beginning of this year. The seminar was useful to deepen understanding on the dynamics of the issue, such as: the functioning of the production chain; the impact of the Framework Convention on the demand-supply system; public policies to support diversification initiatives; and the Brazilian agricultural outlook and family-based agriculture. The Brazilian Government was honoured to support the interim secretariat of the Framework Convention by hosting the Framework Convention's first meeting of the adhoc study group on alternative crops in February 2007, which was preceded by an international public hearing organized by WHO. The meeting highlighted the need to keep this matter on the agenda of the Conference of the Parties, a fact that Brazil strongly supports.

Considering the interdependence of all nations, cooperation is a core element in this process. By signing and ratifying the Framework Convention, Brazil also believes that the treaty may offer opportunities and alternatives for the social sectors that, today, are dependent on tobacco for their survival. With reference to the implementation of Article 8, Brazil recognizes the importance of banishing smoke from closed collective environments, as established in Canada, Ireland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, among other no less important countries. Brazil reaffirms its commitment to collaborate with the entire ongoing process of building knowledge that may generate guidelines for the implementation of Articles 9 and 10, related to the regulation of tobacco products. Concerning Articles 9 ("Regulation of the contents of tobacco products") and 10 ("Regulation of tobacco products disclosures"), Brazil considers such issues of a complex nature, with great gaps of knowledge that have to be filled, before we have solid guidelines that may guide countries in the adoption of such measures. In this sense, we appreciate and support initiatives by WHO to create expert groups such as TobReg and TobLabNet to pave the way to be followed in the future by the Parties to the Convention in the implementation of such provisions. Regarding Articles 11 and 13, Brazil reaffirms its commitment to the development of a protocol on illegal marketing, as well as to collaborate on the development of protocols or guidelines that may generate mechanisms to protect societies from the negative effect of advertising, promotion and sponsorship of tobacco products. Concerning the remaining provisions to be implemented by directives, we understand that the issue of "sanitary warnings" deserves special attention, so that we might have guidelines on best practices for the adoption of such measures.

Brazil understands that this second session of the Conference of the Parties is of crucial importance for future follow-up of the implementation process of the agreed measures of the Convention. We need to leave a legacy for the present and future generations, as an example of union for building a better world for all. Thank you very much, Mr President.

El PRESIDENTE:

Gracias a usted, señor Embajador; deseo asociarme a las expresiones que usted ha hecho respecto al rol jugado por mi querido amigo, el Embajador Celso Amorim, hoy Canciller de su país en este proceso. Muchas gracias. Ofrezco ahora la palabra a la distinguida representación de Portugal.

Mr MENEZES (Portugal):

Thank you, Mr President. On behalf of the European Union I have the honour to deliver the following statement.

The European Union thanks the Secretariat for their reports and for the preparation of the second session of the Conference of the Parties and welcomes Dr Haik Nikogosian as the Head of the Convention Secretariat.

The European Union would like to see the following three substantive topics given priority; these priorities were also reflected in the opening statements of many delegations yesterday. We think the second session of the Conference of the Parties should push forward the development of the illicit trade protocol in order to contribute to this essential component of tobacco control. The European Union considers that the template presented by the group constitutes a good basis for further discussions without prejudice to the content of the protocol itself. Secondly, implementation of comprehensive bans on tobacco advertising by all Parties should be given high priority. To this end, it is important to ensure that the Conference of the Parties adopt a protocol on cross-border advertising in the future. However, at this stage, the European Union would like to propose as a first step the development of guidelines on tobacco advertising to assist Parties in the implementation process. In order to organize our work here in Bangkok, we suggest that this alternative approach be discussed with the Parties before starting to work on the text itself. Thirdly, the European Union would like to congratulate those involved for the excellent preparatory work on the smoke-free guidelines, and we are prepared to adopt them as they have been drafted. The text constitutes a non-binding gold standard for all Parties to aim at. No additional drafting exercise is needed in our view.

As a significant contributor to the Framework Convention budget, the European Union would like to see time and resources efficiently managed. Therefore, on financial matters, the budget and the work programme should be planned in line with the priorities to be set by the Conference of the Parties. Current budgeting structures need to be discussed in more detail at this Conference before any significant budget proposals can be adopted for the future. In addition, all parties should make sure to set their payments as soon as possible in order to allow the Framework Convention Secretariat to guide the future work in a meaningful manner. The European Union recognizes that preparation for this Conference of the Parties has presented considerable logistical challenges for the Secretariat. In order to facilitate our work the European Union would urge timely and clearer identification of the follow-up to previous decisions of the Conference of the Parties.

The European Union recognizes that there are a number of challenging issues on the agenda for this second session of the Conference of the Parties, and expects that it will be a major step forward in the implementation process. In order to maximize our efforts here and in the future, it is important to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the Convention Secretariat and the WHO Tobacco Free Initiative in implementation of the Framework Convention. The Convention Secretariat should primarily assist the Convention of the Parties in the preparation and follow-up of its meetings and decisions and to ensure efficient and robust implementation. The Tobacco Free Initiative has great expertise in tobacco control and it has an essential role in providing technical assistance. The Health Assembly recognized this by making provisions in its programme budget for this purpose. It is important to understand how exactly these resources can be used. Finally Mr Chairman, the European Union is fully committed to the implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control as we were to its establishment. We look forward to a successful Conference of the Parties achieving the greatest possible impact in tobacco control at global level. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Gracias a usted, señor representante de Portugal; me es grato ahora ofrecer la palabra al distinguido representante de México.

El Dr. JARAMILLO NAVARRETE (México):

Muchas gracias, señor Presidente, distinguidas delegadas y delegados; tengo la oportunidad de hablar en esta importante tribuna de la salud pública mundial en nombre del Gobierno mexicano y de su Secretario de Salud, el Dr. José Ángel Córdova Villalobos.

Para México es de gran relevancia participar en esta segunda reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes en el Convenio Marco de la Organización Mundial de la Salud para el Control del Tabaco. El Convenio constituye un bien público global de gran alcance que debe contribuir a la protección de la salud de la población de todo el mundo y, en concordancia con esto, para ser viable, debe encontrar una expresión concreta en la vida cotidiana de cada país. Esto requiere un compromiso inequívoco por parte de los Estados signatarios en la implementación de cada una de las acciones que el Convenio señala.

Los avances logrados entre la primera reunión de la Conferencia, celebrada en febrero de 2006, y la presente son relevantes y significativos. No hay duda de que esta estrategia exitosa se ha basado en el puntual cumplimiento del mandato del Convenio. Sin embargo, aún requerimos un esfuerzo para alcanzar los objetivos pendientes y así poder ofrecer a nuestras poblaciones un mundo libre de tabaco.

En cumplimiento de lo anterior, me es grato informar a esta Conferencia, que el nuevo Gobierno mexicano, electo para gobernar desde diciembre de 2006 hasta diciembre de 2012, ha procedido a cancelar en todos sus términos y de manera definitiva e irrevocable, el Convenio que se había suscrito con la industria tabacalera en el año 2004. Es así como honramos nuestros compromisos internacionales, anteponiendo el valor de la salud pública de nuestra población por encima de otros intereses.

He recibido instrucciones de la Secretaría de Salud para dar un claro mensaje en esta Conferencia: afirmar el deseo del Gobierno mexicano de tener un posicionamiento coherente con el espíritu del Convenio y acelerar de manera libre, firme y decidida los términos de su implementación en cada una de sus cláusulas. Debo señalar que nuestro Programa Nacional de Salud para el periodo 2007-2012 incorpora de manera clara el mandato del Convenio Marco. Su inclusión en las políticas públicas de salud de México muestra el compromiso del Gobierno mexicano en la consolidación de una política integral contra las adicciones basada en la acción colectiva nacional, regional e internacional, toda vez que este lacerante problema tiene una dimensión global que requiere acciones inmediatas.

México reitera su convicción de avanzar en la reducción del consumo de tabaco y de manea particular refuerza las acciones de reducción de la oferta y de la demanda, tal y como lo señala una de las cláusulas del Convenio Marco. En ese sentido apoyamos la aprobación de los lineamientos elaborados por el grupo de expertos en relación con el artículo 8, sobre los ambientes libres de humo, así como la puesta en marcha inmediata de un órgano de negociación del protocolo relacionado con el comercio ilícito de productos de tabaco. Con este ánimo instamos a las distinguidas delegadas y delegados a que no perdamos tiempo, ya que en la lucha contra el tabaco cada minuto cuenta a favor o en contra de la salud de nuestras poblaciones. Muchas gracias.

El PRESIDENTE:

Gracias a usted por su declaración, y a continuación me es grato ofrecer la palabra a la distinguida representación de Qatar.

Dr. QOTBA (Qatar):

Thank you, Mr President. This statement is on behalf of the countries of the Eastern Mediterranean Region.

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

السيد الرئيس، الإخوة الأعضاء، ممثلو الدول في مؤتمر الأطراف، الإخوة ممثلو المنظمات غير الحكومية، السادة الحضور، يطيب لي باسم إقليم شرق المتوسط أن أتقدم بالتهنئة للدول المشاركة بانعقاد المؤتمر الثاني للأطراف.

سيدي الرئيس، الإخوة الأعضاء، إن إقليم شرق المتوسط قد خطى خطوات جادة في وضع الاتفاقية الإطارية موضع التنفيذ حيث صادقت على الاتفاقية الإطارية سبع عشرة دولة من جملة دول الإقليم وستلحق البقية في القريب العاجل بإذن الله تعالى. وبناءً عليه فقد تم سنّ وتحديث التشريعات في مجال مكافحة التبغ في أغلب دول الإقليم حيث كانت هذه التشريعات متوافقة ومستوحاة من بنود الاتفاقية. كما نرى تبني التعليمات المقترحة لتطبيق المادة ٨ من الاتفاقية دون إحالتها للمناقشة.

فقد تم تشكيل ودعم عدد من الجمعيات والمنظمات غير الحكومية للمساعدة في تطبيق الاتفاقية الإطارية في الدول الأعضاء في الإقليم والتي كان لها عظيم الأثر في تحريك المجتمعات والموارد.

وفي مجال البحث العلمي قامت الدول الأعضاء بإجراء الدراسات والبحوث الميدانية وسط الشباب والمعلمين في الحقل الصحي وعامة المجتمع. وقد أسهمت تلك الدراسات في التعرف على حجم المشكلة، وبالتالي إعداد السياسات اللازمة للحد من انتشارها.

السيد الرئيس، الحضور الكريم، فيما يخص البرامج العلاجية، تم إنشاء وتطوير الخدمات العلاجية الموجودة في الدول الأعضاء أما في مجال أنشطة التوعية الصحية، فنجد أن دول الإقليم أصبح لها برامج توعوية فاعلة ونشطة ومنظمة تستهدف جميع فئات المجتمع، وتعمل في شراكة مع الوزارات والقطاعات والمؤسسات التعليمية والمنظمات غير الحكومية والجمعيات.

سيدي الرئيس، لا يخفى عليكم أن لإقليم شرق المتوسط خصوصية في استخدام الشيشة والنرجيلة والتمباك (التبغ الممضوغ)، والتي استشرت كظاهرة مؤرقة للدول والحكومات والعاملين في مجال مكافحة التبغ حيث قُدمت بواسطة المنتجين والمروجين لها على أنها البديل الآمن والأخف ضرراً من السجائر، وأصبح المجتمع كالمستجير من الرمضاء بالنار. كما لوحظ في بعض دول الإقليم انخفاض نسبة استيراد السجائر في الوقت الذي زاد فيه استهلاك البدائل الأخرى من التبغ وزيادة الاتجار غير المشروع.

سيدي الرئيس، تقدر دول إقليم شرق المتوسط جهود منظمة الصحة العالمية وشركائها، والأمانة العامة لمؤتمر الأطراف وتخص بالشكر ملك مملكة تايلند، لاستضافة المؤتمر والحفاوة البالغة التي تم استقبالنا بها. والشكر لوزارة الصحة التايلندية التي كانت من أوائل الدول في مجال مكافحة التبغ، لاستضافتها المؤتمر الذي نتمنى له كل النجاح، وتحقيق الأهداف المرجوة منه.

والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted, distinguida representante de Qatar, y a continuación ofrezco la palabra a la distinguida representación de Sudán.

الدكتور سعيد (السودان): Dr. SAEED (Sudan):

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

السيد مدير الجلسة، الإخوة الأعضاء في مؤتمر الأطراف، الإخوة المشاركون من المنظمات غير الحكومية، الضيوف الكرام، يطيب لي أن أكون ممثلاً لحكومة السودان في هذا الحدث التاريخي المهم. وأود في البدء أن أتقدم بالتهنئة لمنظمة الصحة العالمية ومبادرة التحرر من التبغ ولأمانة المؤتمر ولكل الأعضاء المشاركين في هذا المؤتمر بالنجاح الكبير والإنجاز العظيم والعالم يستشرف فتحاً جديداً في مجال الصحة العمومية ومكافحة التبغ على وجه الخصوص.

اليوم أصبح الحلم حقيقة وهاهي اتفاقية منظمة الصحة العالمية تخطو خطواتها الفاعلة وهاهي الأطراف الموقعّة والمصادقة ترفع تقاريرها الأولى إيذاناً وإعلاناً بإلحاق القول بالعمل بعد دخول الاتفاقية حيز التنفيذ منذ

٢٧ شباط/ فبراير ٢٠٠٥. فالتحية لكل من أسهم في هذا العمل حكومات وأمماً وشعوباً. والتحية لمملكة تايلند ولوزارة الصحة على الكرم والاستضافة الكريمة لفعاليات المؤتمر.

السيد الرئيس، لعب السودان دوراً أساسياً في دعم الاتفاقية الإطارية لمكافحة التبغ منذ بداية الفكرة، وذلك لقناعة المسؤولين التامة بضرورة مكافحة أنشطة التبغ في العالم. حيث شارك ممثلوه في الدورات الأولى لمناقشة بنود الاتفاقية، كما شارك السودان في كل دورات الانعقاد للفريق العامل الحكومي المفتوح العضوية المعني بهذه الاتفاقية، والمؤتمر الأول للأطراف.

سيدي الرئيس، إن حكومة السودان تثمن الدعم الفعال الذي تقدمه منظمة الصحة العالمية – إقليم شرق المتوسط – في بناء قدرات الأُطر والبرامج العاملة في مجال مكافحة التبغ. إذ شارك السودان في عدة دورات لبناء القدرات للعاملين في مبادرة التحرر من التبغ في الإقليم. كما شارك بفعالية في مجموعة الدراسة المعنية بالمحاصيل البديلة والتي عُقدت في البرازيل في السابع والعشرين من شباط/ فبراير ٢٠٠٧.

سيدي الرئيس، الإخوة الأعضاء، لقد كللت أنشطة العاملين والناشطين في مجال مكافحة التبغ في السودان بنجاحات عديدة تمثلت في الآتي:

- تمت مجموعة من حملات التوعية الصحية والترويج مصاحبة لاحتفالات السودان باليوم العالمي لمكافحة التبغ في السنوات الست الماضية ضمت مشاركة فاعلة من تحالفات كل العاملين في مجال مكافحة التبغ في السودان.
- توجت هذه الأنشطة بإجازة "قانون مكافحة التبغ لعام ٢٠٠٥" بواسطة مجلس الوزراء والمجلس الوطني ورئاسة الجمهورية وقد ضمت مواد هذا القانون كل ما دعت إليه بنود الاتفاقية الإطارية لمكافحة التبغ. وهذا القانون قيد المراجعة وقد تم التأكيد عليه بما يتماشى واتفاقية السلام التي تتنسم السودان عبيرها.
- تمشياً مع روح الاتفاقية بدأت حكومة السودان في تطبيق قانون مكافحة التبغ وذلك بإعلان المؤسسات الصحية والمطارات منطقة خالية من التبغ ابتداءً من هذا العام. وسيتم تعميم هذه الفكرة على كل المؤسسات الحكومية والخاصة.

سيدي الرئيس، في الختام أحب أن أؤكد لكم التزام حكومة السودان بالآتي:

- توفير مناخ مجتمعي يستنكر التدخين ويعتبر عدم التدخين هو التصرف الطبيعي للإنسان، وحظر تعاطي التبغ في الأماكن العامة وذلك بنشر القانون والتبشير به في أجهزة الإعلام الرسمية المختلفة.
- توفير الدعم المادي واللوجستي للبرنامج القومي لمكافحة التبغ بالسودان على كل المستويات.
- إنشاء مراكز للإقلاع عن التبغ بالمركز والولايات وتوفير الإمكانات والموارد للإعلام والتثقيف الصحي ضد استعمال التبغ.
- جمع المعلومات والبيانات، ورصد الاتجاهات العامة في استخدام التبغ وإمكانية توفير البدائل الزراعية والصناعية للباعة والمنتجين.
- وضع سياسات تسعيرية (فرض ضرائب ورسوم) تهدف إلى تقليل تعاطي التبغ بكل أشكاله وتخصيص جزء منها لأنشطة المكافحة.

وشكراً جزيلاً.

El PRESIDENTE:

Gracias a usted, distinguido representante de Sudán. Y ahora me es grato ofrecer la palabra a la distinguida representación de Pakistán.

Mr SHEIKH (Pakistan):

Thank you, Mr President. Honourable delegates, representatives of nongovernmental organizations, it is indeed an honour for me to deliver this statement on behalf of the Government of Pakistan.

Pakistan was one of the first 40 countries to ratify the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. There was a cogent reason for Pakistan to go ahead and become a Party to the Convention. In Pakistan, the use of tobacco has taken the shape of an epidemic. There are about 22 million tobacco users in the country. More than half (55%) of the households have at least one individual who uses tobacco in one form or another. Every third adult male is a smoker. A matter of great concern is that there is an increasing trend of smoking in young girls. Unfortunately, tobacco use is higher amongst the population belonging to poor socioeconomic strata. Smoking is considered a norm of the society and a recreational activity. Its health hazards are ignored due to illiteracy. Research studies in Pakistan have also shown that most of the smokers are less educated. These poor people often remain away from their jobs due to increased sickness. The misery is further intensified by high and recurring cost on health care due to diseases like tuberculosis and acute respiratory infections. And, unfortunately, in many instances, unaffordability and debilitating illnesses like cancers and heart disease lead the only bread earner to his natural destiny, at a much younger age, leaving behind sorrow and woes for the family. The poor people spend a larger share of their earnings on buying tobacco. They live in small houses with poor hygienic conditions and lack of ventilation.

The man-made and self-inflicted epidemic, with severe health implications and socioeconomic consequences, has posed a serious public-health problem in Pakistan. The situation called for immediate measures to put a stop to the widespread menace of smoking. That is why the Federal Ministry of Health under the leadership of Federal Health Minister, Mr Nasir Khan, has taken many bold and positive measures for tobacco control including the quick ratification of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. Pakistan has done well in the implementation of some of the articles of the Framework Convention. Effective legislation has been made and promulgated for tobacco control, that is, the banning of smoking in public places and public transport. The sale of tobacco products to minors has been prohibited; and there is a prohibition on storage, sale and distribution of cigarettes or any other tobacco product within 50 metres of a school, college or any other educational institution. Restrictions on tobacco advertising are so stringent that the tobacco industry has voluntarily decided not to use electronic media. Press restrictions on tobacco advertisements are also in place. We have been able to create mass awareness about the health hazards of smoking and other usages of tobacco. As a result of a strong advocacy and awareness initiative launched by the Ministry of Health, civil society has realized the need to play a proactive role and has joined hands with the Government. A number of nongovernmental organizations are now working in Pakistan in the area of tobacco control.

Lately, the Supreme Court of Pakistan, taking cognizance of the need to ensure fast-track implementation of the anti-tobacco law in the country, has intervened and is now getting periodic reports from Federal and provincial government officials, who are required to appear before the Supreme Court and apprise it of the progress in implementation of the Prohibition of Smoking and Protection of Non-Smokers Ordinance 2002. Recently, the Youth Parliament of Pakistan joined hands with the Government in raising awareness on the issue and reporting on violations of the law. The Youth Parliament has been established with support of the nongovernmental sector and has representation of young leaders from all over the country. The achievements are indeed significant, but a lot still remains to be done. There is a wide gap in the knowledge and the real practices relating to use of tobacco. Smoking in public is not uncommon.

The tobacco industry has invented indirect advertisement of tobacco products. The lobby of tobacco growers and retailers is being used by the industry to slow down the implementation of the tobacco control law in Pakistan. We have no hard data to show that the revenue generated by the tobacco industry may not be enough to offset the cost of treatment of the diseases caused by tobacco use. We in Pakistan have neither experience nor resources to motivate tobacco growers to grow alternative crops. There is a lack of expertise to file liability suits. In short, we need help in the areas of crop diversification, prevalence research and research on cost of treatment of diseases caused by tobacco use. We need to bridge the gap

between knowledge and practice relating to tobacco hazards, and remaining away from the habit of smoking. There is also a need to rebut the myth of revenue generation by the tobacco industry. Let me conclude by saying that the developing countries will need both technical and financial assistance for the implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. There is an urgent need that the second session of the Conference of the Parties consider and devise ways and means to provide this needed help, which has been badly ignored after the coming-into-force of the Framework Convention. I, on behalf of the Government of Pakistan, would like to place on record our appreciation for the role that WHO has been playing in tobacco control in Pakistan. Dr Khalif Bile, WHO Country Representative's commitment and untiring front-line efforts have helped us to coordinate and enhance tobacco-control measures. I thank you, Sir.

El PRESIDENTE:

Gracias a usted, distinguido representante de Pakistán. Y ahora ofrezco la palabra a la distinguida representación de Palau.

Mr OTTO (Palau):

Mr President, thank you for giving us the floor. I bring greetings from the President of the Republic of Palau to you, to our host the Government of Thailand and to all the distinguished delegates and members of the civil society who are participating in this second session of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. We count it our privilege to be participating with all of you in this noble work of saving lives from the devastation of tobacco use. You may all recall that Palau participated actively in negotiating a very strong public health treaty and was among the very first to ratify the treaty. We are also on the verge of passing legislation that will implement all the provisions of the treaty. All of these activities are required because, even as we speak, an unacceptable number of our people are suffering from diseases, disabilities and emotional devastation resulting from tobacco use. This is in addition to the psychological insult by the tobacco industry through its continued targeting of our people because of the colour of our skin, the low level of economic development of our nation, the low level of understanding by our people of the effects of tobacco use and because we have young people. We will continue to work with all of you to fight the tobacco industry's unconscionable assault on people, because we, the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control are, to paraphrase Mr Charles Krauthammer's words in the most recent issue of Time magazine, "in a position to reshape norms, alter expectations and create new realities". And we will do this, as he says, "by unapologetic and implacable demonstrations of will". We have an opportunity at this Conference of the Parties to demonstrate this will, by ensuring our forward progress through the adoption of the guidelines which have been developed to implement Article 8 of the treaty and by committing to work on the protocols for illicit trade and smuggling as well as the protocols on promotion, sponsorship and cross-border advertising of tobacco products. The issue of health risks from exposure to secondhand smoke is very real to us, the small Pacific island countries, because we have among the highest rates of smoking among our women and our young people. Our women need to be the forces that keep our families together in accordance with our traditional Pacific way of life, not the source of illness, disability, death and sorrow in our families and communities. The issue of illicit trade and smuggling is more than an issue of tobacco control for loss of revenue or health consequences. To us, any activity that contributes to corruption and poor governance is of paramount importance to the economic, political and social development of our small and, in many instances, very young nations. The issue of promotion and advertisement of tobacco products, especially cross-border advertisement, is just another concrete way of illustrating the assault and victimization of our people, especially our young people, by outside forces too strong for us to combat. Without our collective action on this issue, many of our people, especially the young and women might express themselves as one lady in Palau said to me, "when I was a little girl, I

could hardly wait to grow up so I can wear a black dress, put lipstick on my lips, cross my legs and smoke Salem".

Tobacco consumption and the consequent devastation it bestows on individuals, families, communities, and nations' lives are very serious concerns to us in Palau as well as the rest of the Pacific island nations. This is why the President of Palau issued a statement the day before we left to come to this Conference that indicates his personal support for the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and all of our work. Let me quote a line from this statement which says, "Palau will strongly support the guidelines for Article 8 at this Conference, and we urge our colleagues to adopt them as drafted, without reservations. Today I am proud to affirm my support for the FCTC, an initiative that can improve quality of life for millions of people around the world; an initiative that can begin to condemn an entirely preventable cause of premature death and illness to history books." In addition, the Association of the Pacific Island Legislatures, consisting of members from the law-making bodies of American Samoa, Hawaii, Guam, the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia and Palau, passed a resolution during their 26th session in American Samoa last week, saying, among other things, that the Association "urges its FCTC, especially to adopt the guidelines prepared by the Conference of the Parties for Article 8".

Mr President, we apologize that this intervention has been a bit lengthy, but we wanted to let you all know that tobacco still inflicts much sadness on our lives in Palau and throughout the rest of the Pacific island nations. We wanted to let all of you know that we look up to you for assistance and encouragement, through our united action on second-hand smoke, on the protocols on illicit trade and smuggling and on promotion and cross-border advertising. We thank all of you who have taken courageous actions on the issues of labelling and second-hand smoke, such as Australia, Brazil, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, Norway, Thailand and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, to name a few. We look up to you during this Conference of the Parties as we tackle these important issues. Together and united, also with our partners, the responsible nongovernmental organizations, we can save lives, and as our President says, "relegate tobacco to history". Thank you very much, Mr President.

El PRESIDENTE:

Gracias a usted por su declaración; me es grato ahora ofrecer la palabra a la distinguida representación de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela.

El Sr. PADRÓN PAREDES (República Bolivariana de Venezuela):

Buenos días, señor Presidente, estimados delegados, organizaciones no gubernamentales. Es para el Gobierno Bolivariano de Venezuela un honor expresar aquí algunos de los logros alcanzados en materia antitabáquica en la aplicación del Convenio Marco de la OMS para el Control del Tabaco en la República Bolivariana de Venezuela.

Entre los aspectos más relevantes del Convenio Marco en la República Bolivariana de Venezuela tenemos en primer lugar que señalar la ratificación del Convenio Marco el 27 de junio de 2006, siendo ese un compromiso del país y del Gobierno en su totalidad. La promoción de ambientes libres de humo de tabaco, tanto en lugares públicos como privados, a través de leyes, ordenanzas, estadales y municipales. Asimismo, se realizó una evaluación de la calidad del aire, por parte de la OPS/OMS y el Ministerio del Poder Popular para la Salud, a fin de evaluar la resolución ministerial sobre ambientes cerrados libres de humo de tabaco.

Tenemos también una regulación de publicidad y promoción a través de la resolución 012 del Ministerio del Poder Popular para la Salud, por la que no se permite la colocación permanente ni transitoria de publicidad exterior que incite, promueva o estimule cualquier forma de consumo de productos derivados del tabaco en todo el territorio de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela. Tenemos una campaña contra la publicidad de las empresas tabacaleras para evitar la iniciación del consumo de productos derivados del tabaco, especialmente en jóvenes. Los lemas son: «Fumar es malo y punto» y

«Prender un cigarrillo apaga tu vida». La campaña está siendo desplegada en miles de sitios, transporte público, administración pública en todo lo ancho y largo del país.

En nuestro país tiene éxito la resolución 110, por la que se obliga a las empresas tabacaleras a colocar advertencias sanitarias a las cajetillas de cigarrillos. Estas advertencias deben ocupar el 100% de una de las caras frontales, el 70% de la cual estará destinado a un pictograma y el 30% al texto de la advertencia. Asimismo, se prohíbe la utilización de términos tales como: «suave», «light», «soft», «liviano» y cualquier otra alusión cualitativa en cuanto a niveles de productos tóxicos contenidos en los cigarrillos. Aplicamos medidas para evitar la iniciación del consumo. Hasta el momento, en nuestro país se ha capacitado a 2100 docentes multiplicadores a través del programa Escuelas Libres de Humo de Tabaco. Queremos lograr un impacto inicial de 42 000 docentes incorporados al programa y tener más de 1 260 000 niños escolarizados receptores del programa. Se ha capacitado a más de 450 profesionales de la salud en técnicas de cesación tabáquica, lo cual está siendo multiplicado a lo largo y ancho del país. Se ha creado una Comisión Presidencial anticontrabando que ha logrado en tan sólo dos años reducir el contrabando de tabaco del 17% al 8% en el año 2007. En 1998 el contrabando representaba el 28% del consumo. Tenemos medidas y leyes que luchan de manera contundente contra el contrabando para lograr la destrucción de éste, y se castiga de manera ejemplar a los infractores. Asimismo, aunque estamos en los primeros pasos de incrementar de manera sustancial los impuestos a tabaco y cigarrillos, la recaudación por este concepto ya pasó, en tan sólo dos años, de US$ 300 a US$ 600 millones en el año 2006.

Quiero ratificar en nombre del Gobierno Revolucionario de Venezuela el total apego al Convenio Marco para el Control del Tabaco, como parte de los cambios que en materia de salud está llevando a cabo nuestro Gobierno. Señor Presidente, delegados, muchísimas gracias.

El PRESIDENTE:

Gracias a usted, señor delegado. A continuación, tengo inscritas cuatro delegaciones: Turquía, Micronesia, Malasia y Australia, más tres organizaciones no gubernamentales. Serán los últimos oradores inscritos. Agreguemos Jamaica a la lista. Bueno, éstos serán los últimos oradores. Después de escuchar todas estas intervenciones muy útiles e interesantes, porque da gusto escuchar los progresos que se realizan en cada país, bien interesantes en muchos de ellos, pasaremos a otros asuntos que tenemos que tratar en este plenario. Me es muy grato entonces ofrecer la palabra a la distinguida representación de Turquía.

Mr ETENSEL (Turkey):

Mr President, Turkey is a European Union candidate country and I would like to express my delegation's support for the statement made by the distinguished representative of Portugal on behalf of the European Union. Although we are a large producer of tobacco, Turkey was among the first countries to sign and ratify the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and become a Party to the Convention. Turkey has shown a strong commitment to create a legislative and policy environment that supports protocols on cross-border advertising, promotion and sponsorship and a protocol on illicit trade of tobacco products.

Turkey already has strong legislation on direct and indirect tobacco advertising. There are also stronger taxation and price policies on cigarettes than in neighbouring countries. Although Turkey already has legislation on smoke-free workplaces, except in restaurants, bars and cafés (as is currently the case in Geneva), there is a lack of clarity and enforcement, with many exceptions, including smoking rooms in most buildings. In the same way that Turkey has implemented a successful advertising ban, with increased capacity, Turkey will be in a favourable position to implement and enforce a complete smoking ban in public places and workplaces.

The Turkish Ministry of Health has a great deal of experience in tobacco control. In a country which produces a large amount of tobacco, the Ministry of Health has already made important progress on key tobacco-control areas. This includes the successful implementation of a ban on both direct and indirect

advertising. The Ministry was a key participant in the Framework Convention process. Turkey has already formed a national tobacco-control programme, which collaborates with more than 100 experts from relevant academic and government institutions and nongovernmental organizations. The programme has been designated by the Prime Minister as an official entity within the country.

Two years ago, in 2005, the Ministry of Health formed a working group, with participants from nongovernmental organizations, universities and other relevant institutions, to develop goals and objectives for a national tobacco control programme for Turkey. The working group produced these objectives concerning prevalence of tobacco use: first, to reduce the prevalence of tobacco use among the population of those aged 15 and over to 20% by 2010; and secondly, to reduce the prevalence of tobacco use among the young, meaning those aged less than 15, to 0 % by 2010.

Turkey's national tobacco control programme has been developed with the joint efforts of more than 100 national counterparts (from public institutions, and academia) under the leadership of the Ministry of Health, and this was published in the Turkish Official Gazette nine months ago. I would like to underline that for the first time an official Turkish document has acknowledged the negative effects of tobacco. The Turkish Official Gazette, which referred to the programme, accepted that tobacco use has an enormous negative impact on health and the economy, and that annually tobacco use is responsible for about 100 000 premature deaths, and an economic loss which is evaluated at the level of US$ 17 billion.

The Turkish Ministry of Health has formally established a tobacco control office which will have responsibility for coordination and implementation of tobacco-control activities. In Turkey, tobacco-control initiatives are taken by the Office of Tobacco Control under the Ministry of Health General Directorate of Primary Health Care. The Directorate gives the highest priority to preventing children from starting to smoke, protecting non-smokers from second-hand smoking, helping adults to make informed decisions, and supporting those who want to stop smoking. Fulfilling these targets and raising public awareness of healthy lifestyles, including encouraging the use of sports facilities, will be among the priorities of the Ministry of Health in the next years.

Turkey's first national report was submitted on time, two weeks ago, and it contains in detail all the information that I have tried to summarize.

Mr President, finally I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to express the gratitude of my delegation to the Thai Royal Government for the kind hospitality which has been extended to us. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted. Para ponernos al día con respecto a la lista de oradores, debo señalar que los inscritos son los siguientes: Micronesia, Malasia, Australia, Jamaica, Argelia, Arabia Saudita y Honduras. Después tenemos tres organizaciones no gubernamentales y enseguida tenemos que analizar doce informes que nos presentará la Secretaría, y todo esto antes de las 13 horas del día de hoy, de manera que les rogaría que tratemos de ser, de ahora en adelante, lo más breves posible para poder atender todos los temas de nuestra agenda. Me es grato entonces ofrecer la palabra a la distinguida representación de los Estados Federados de Micronesia.

Mr SAMO (Federated States of Micronesia):

For the record, Micronesia would like to associate itself with the excellent remarks raised by the distinguished delegate for Palau.

Mr President, first please also allow me to thank you and the rest of the officers on the Bureau for your excellent leadership in spearheading our work from the first session of the Conference of the Parties to now. I know there are many countries, agencies and civil societies in this room today who have done exemplary work in the war against the tobacco epidemic, but you, Sir, and the Bureau should also be congratulated for your guidance and excellent leadership.

Mr President, honourable ministers and delegates, distinguished representatives, ladies and gentlemen, today I am proud to join you again to reaffirm my country's support for an initiative that can improve quality of life for millions of people around the world, an initiative that can begin to relegate an entirely preventable cause of premature death and illness to the history books. The public-health scourge I am speaking of is tobacco. As you know, tobacco is predicted to kill 1 billion smokers and non-smokers in the twenty-first century unless effective countermeasures are adopted. Exposure to second-hand smoke in workplaces, homes and public areas kills tens of thousands of non-smokers every year. In my country, the Federated States of Micronesia, nearly one third of adult males are smokers and over half of all high-school students had experimented with tobacco use in the last year. And a lot more today are chewing betel-nut with tobacco, making our fight against tobacco even more challenging. Many of these young and productive citizens will silently fall ill or die early because of their tobacco and betel-nut use while the innocent non-smokers will suffer the well-documented consequences of exposure to second-hand smoke. And make no mistake, tobacco smoke harms workers, children and anyone exposed to second-hand smoke. Tobacco smoke contains more than 4000 chemicals, with at least 69 of these known to cause cancer. Second-hand smoke increases the risk of lung cancer and heart attacks up to 30%.

To me, this risk to our people is not acceptable. We cannot allow an entirely preventable cause of illness and death to go unaddressed. And we must set an example for others. Seven out of every 10 deaths are expected to occur from tobacco in the developing world by 2020. That is why the Federated States of Micronesia has taken the lead with other visionary countries in adopting strong smoke-free laws, and I am urging other countries, particularly the developing countries in the Western Pacific, to follow suit. The Federated States of Micronesia has been an enthusiastic participant in signing and ratifying the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

Today, all of us, the signatories of the international tobacco-control treaty, gather in this majestic and vibrant city of Bangkok to discuss and reaffirm what we have promised our children to do for them: to get rid of tobacco so that they can lead a healthier and more productive life. This is our quest as a global public health authority, and we must act now. I recall the statement made by Director-General Margaret Chan last month at the Health Assembly in Geneva. And her statement goes to the effect that she will not negotiate with the tobacco industry. This profound statement is what we are all about as world health leaders. We know that tobacco use and exposure kill. The tobacco industry exploits and preys on human lives – the same lives, our own lives, we are trying to save from tobacco industry abuse.

I am pleased that discussion during this session of the Conference of the Parties will focus on producing guidelines on smoke-free laws, protocols and other important measures. These guidelines will save many millions of lives around the world if they are adopted as written and implemented by all nations that are party to the treaty. The guidelines contain provisions to instruct countries on which areas (including workplaces, public places and transport) should be smoke-free, how to protect people in places from tobacco smoke, how to educate the public about these measures and how to enforce them. The Federated States of Micronesia strongly support these guidelines and urge other colleagues to adopt the guidelines, as drafted, without reservations. I call on the leaders of the nations of the Western Pacific to join me this month in publicly proclaiming these smoke-free guidelines to be a singularly important opportunity to save lives.

The Federated States of Micronesia's anti-smoking laws alone protect 134 000 people from second-hand smoke. If the signatories to the treaty will do likewise, untold millions around the world will gain protection from a leading cause of throat cancer, respiratory conditions and heart disease. I can think of no other single health initiative with the potential to be an equal humanitarian, economic and social boon to the world. And I look forward to a day where illness and death unfairly caused in workers, children and others exposed to second-hand smoke will be a relic of the past. Lastly, I thank the Government of Thailand for the excellent arrangements and support that they have given to my delegation.

Thank you, Mr President.

El PRESIDENTE:

Gracias a usted, señor. Ofrezco ahora la palabra al distinguido representante de Australia, por favor.

Ms HART (Australia):

Thank you, Mr President, distinguished colleagues and nongovernment colleagues.

The Government of Australia does not wish to make a country statement today, although we are progressing well with tobacco-control initiatives. Instead, Australia would like to announce today that it will make an extrabudgetary contribution to the work of the Conference of the Parties in the amount of US$ 200 000. Australia provides this funding to support the development of guidelines and protocols generally; however, the specific application is a matter for the Conference of the Parties to decide in line with the priorities determined at this session. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias por su corto y muy productivo anuncio. Ojalá todos fueran así. Muchas gracias a usted, distinguida representante de Australia. Ofrezco ahora la palabra a la distinguida representación de Malasia.

Dr ZAINAL ARIFFIN BIN OMAR (Malaysia):

Thank you, Mr President, and a very good morning to distinguished ministers, delegates and participants at this second session of the Conference of the Parties.

Malaysia is very pleased with the progress made since we last met in Geneva, with most decisions of the first session of the Conference of the Parties carried out by the Bureau and the interim secretariat. We would hereby like to acknowledge the hard work of the Bureau and the Tobacco Free Initiative as interim secretariat of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. Malaysia has come a long way in its effort to curb the tobacco menace. Strategies to raise public awareness through healthy lifestyle campaigns and numerous other health education channels have gathered encouraging support from the public. Tax on tobacco and tobacco products has been continuously increased. Important steps have been taken to control smuggling of tobacco products across our borders by introducing security ink, duty stamps on products and of course increased enforcement activities.

The Malaysian Government is very committed and is quite advanced in getting a replacement for tobacco cultivation with a high-potential crop, namely, leenaf. The draft of the Control of Tobacco Products Act is now completed and awaiting to be tabled in Parliament. This legislation includes provisions on graphic health warnings, a total ban on tobacco advertising and the expansion of smoke-free areas. All these are consistent with our commitment to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

As Chair of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, Malaysia has also had the advantage of using this international platform to move tobacco control forward. At the recent meeting of the health ministers of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in Kuala Lumpur, the Kuala Lumpur Declaration clearly acknowledges the importance of tobacco control and that the Framework Convention should be fully supported by members of the Islamic Conference; and it called on Member States of the Islamic Conference to introduce stronger tobacco-control legislation to protect present and future generations from the devastating health, social and economic consequences of tobacco consumption and exposure to tobacco smoke.

We would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr Haik Nikogosian for his appointment as Head of the Convention Secretariat. We wish you well and want to express our full support to you. Finally Mr President, we want to thank the Royal Thai Government for their generous hospitality. It is right that we are gathering in Bangkok for the second session of the Conference of the Parties, as Thailand

has been a leader in tobacco control for the ASEAN countries and the world in general. Thank you very much.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted, señor. Ahora me es grato ofrecer la palabra a la distinguida representante de Jamaica.

Dr LEWIS-FULLER (Jamaica):

Thank you, Mr President. Jamaica is pleased to be represented at this second session of the Conference of the Parties and would like to thank WHO for making this possible. We would also like to thank and extend sincere gratitude to the people and Government of Thailand for making such excellent preparations for this meeting. We also thank the WHO Secretariat, the Bureau and you, Mr President and fellow delegates for the selfless sacrifices made towards making this session a reality.

Jamaica demonstrated its commitment to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and its related and intended impact through its participation in the intergovernmental negotiation process, the climax of which was the adoption and then ratification of the Framework Convention in July 2005. We have continued to work on the enactment of comprehensive legislation to reflect the articles of the Framework Convention. While this process has been longer than expected, we have found ways, however, of implementing the principles and obligations of the Framework Convention wherever possible. For example, taxes on cigarettes have been increased annually over the past three years. Earlier this year there was a 20% increase in the special consumption tax on cigarettes; smoking has been banned in health facilities and some other government buildings, and we regard the creation of a smoke-free environment as a key strategy towards reducing the devastating effects of tobacco smoke on the smoker, as well as those forced to inhale second-hand smoke; we took the opportunity on World No Tobacco Day May 31 to have a very vibrant youth forum in order to inculcate knowledge of the undesirable effects of tobacco in young people and to speak about the bidi, which is a very cheap form of tobacco that has flooded the Jamaican market and is proving to be quite attractive to the youth. Therefore, we must congratulate those who worked on Article 8, and clearly state that Jamaica supports the guidelines.

Jamaica was represented on the expert panel that examined illicit trade but, unfortunately, could not attend the last meeting due to a public health emergency in the country.

Public education has been one of our main areas of focus, and we have made strides, demonstrated by the number of people who have come on board, assisting the Ministry of Health in spreading the word about the ill effects of tobacco, and we must thank the local nongovernmental organizations in this regard. We would also like to thank the international nongovernmental organizations that have supported us, and we recall how they supported the intergovernmental negotiating body process leading to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

Advertisements for tobacco have been banned on the electronic media in Jamaica and in cinemas; sale of tobacco to minors is also prohibited.

The Jamaican Standards for the Labelling of Tobacco and Cigarettes were amended and gazetted on 12 October 2006. This now requires larger, bolder health warnings on tobacco packages and cartons. Work on a CARICOM standard, spearheaded by Jamaica with the permission of fellow Member States, is well advanced, and with this standard we will see picture-based warnings taking up at least 50% of the cigarette packages.

The National Council on Drug Abuse participated on behalf of the Ministry and the country in the multi-country research activity, the Global Youth Tobacco Survey, and the data show that we still have much work to do, although we have made some strides forward. What is good, however, is that 70% of the youth who smoke would like to stop.

We have collectively and individually worked very hard at the national, regional and international levels in the prevention and control of tobacco use and we are making strides. We know, however, that there are other entities that are studying our strategies and actions and seek to cancel out the effects we intend. The effects of tobacco and the actions of its promoters are subtle and insidious, so we cannot be complacent in our effects to protect the population from death, disease and disability. We hope that this second session of the Conference of the Parties will sharpen our vigilance, skills, our knowledge, insight and wisdom so that we will succeed in this global public-health fight to have a better world, a healthier world. Jamaica is committed to being a part of this global movement. Thank you, Mr President.

El PRESIDENTE:

Gracias a usted, señora, por su declaración. A continuación ofrezco la palabra a la distinguida representación de Argelia.

Le Professeur NAFTI (Algérie):

Monsieur le Président, Mesdames, Messieurs, chers collègues représentants des différents pays à cette réunion, je vous remercie de m'accorder la parole pour exposer le problème du tabagisme en Algérie qui présente un véritable problème de santé publique. Les actions contre ce fléau ont commencé depuis de nombreuses années, depuis au moins les années 80, et ceci par la mise en place d'un dispositif législatif très important qui a permis bien sûr la promulgation de nombreuses lois. Malheureusement, ces lois, si elles existent sur le papier, ne sont pas suivies d'effets sur le terrain, car vous connaissez un peu le problème de la mise en place de ces dispositifs. Les dispositions qui ont été mises en place ont permis bien entendu l'interdiction de fumer sur les lieux publics, dans les entreprises et bien sûr de taxer les cigarettes, d'éviter l'emploi de la cigarette dans les structures de santé et bien sûr d'interdire tout usage de publicité. Un programme national a été mis en place depuis 2002 et il vise à réduire un peu le problème de ce tabagisme dans au moins 10 % de la prévalence au cours des dix prochaines années. Ce programme national mis en oeuvre actuellement est piloté par un comité national qui a été officiellement installé en Algérie et qui permet bien sûr essentiellement de réunir tous les représentants des différents départements ministériels afin de conjuguer leurs actions pour plus d'efficience et d'efficacité de cette action.

Tout ceci a trouvé un essor considérable depuis que mon pays a ratifié la Convention-cadre en mars 2006 et, parmi les actions prioritaires, nous avons bien sûr essentiellement mené des actions contre le tabagisme chez les enfants et particulièrement dans le milieu scolaire par des actions de sensibilisation dirigées vers ce milieu.

Dans mon pays, il meurt chaque année 15 000 personnes du fait du tabagisme. Il n'y a pas eu de causes connues responsables de tant de décès. Aussi se pose de manière vraiment inquiétante le problème de la lutte contre ce fléau. Ces décès sont attribués pour trois quarts des cas pour des maladies cardio-vasculaires respiratoires, et c'est pour cela que la mobilisation de mon pays vise à réduire un peu l'ampleur de ce problème. L'autre action à laquelle est confronté mon pays est celle de la lutte contre le commerce illicite auquel l'Algérie, immense pays du nord de l'Afrique avec plus de sept pays riverains et frontaliers, ne peut pas assurer une surveillance efficace contre les trafiquants et tout autre trafiquant du commerce illicite de ce tabac. De toute façon, des dispositions sont également prises pour essayer d'en limiter l'ampleur car en plus de la contrebande, nous subissons aussi l'action de la contrefaçon. Car dans beaucoup de multinationales sont implantées des usines fabriquant des tabacs de très mauvaise qualité dans les pays subsahariens qui nous sont ensuite bien sûr livrés. Aussi, l'Algérie attache une grande importance au mécanisme de la mise en oeuvre de la Convention-cadre comme elle accorde aussi une importance prioritaire à la mise en place d'un organe de négociation pour la lutte globale et efficiente contre le commerce illicite du tabac. Cela donc représente la priorité des priorités dans mon pays et j'espère que les résolutions à l'issue de cette réunion de Bangkok puissent être suivies d'effets pour permettre enfin d'être concrétisées sur le terrain et qu'à notre prochaine réunion les actions seront encore plus appréciables. Je vous remercie, Monsieur le Président.

El PRESIDENTE:

Merci à vous. Merci au délégué de l'Algérie. A continuación ofrezco la palabra a la distinguida representación de Arabia Saudita.

Dr AL-BIDAH (Saudi Arabia): الدكتور البداح (المملكة العربية السعودية):

سعادة رئيس المؤتمر، الزملاء الكرام، السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته، اسمحوا لي في البداية بتهنئة كل من الدكتور دغلاس باتشارد على تسلمه رئاسة المبادرة والدكتور حايك على قيادته لأمانة الاتفاقية الإطارية متطلعين لمزيد من التعاون والعمل المشترك متمنين لهما التوفيق في مهامهما وكلاهما بلا شك مكسب إيجابي للمهام والوظائف المطلوبة منهما.

سعادة رئيس المؤتمر، أحييكم من المملكة العربية السعودية وفي البداية، هناك حقيقة علمية يجب أن تكون أمامنا حاضرة في كل لحظة من لحظات حياتنا وعملنا. تقول الحقيقة العلمية لقد قتل التبغ في القرن الماضي مائة مليون إنسان وسيقتل في هذا القرن ألف مليون إنسان بعضهم من المملكة العربية السعودية ودول مجلس التعاون وإقليم شرق المتوسط ما لم تتخذ إجراءات جادة أكثر للحد من جائحة التبغ. لقد أصبحت المملكة العربية السعودية الدولة الخامسة والستين العضو في الاتفاقية الإطارية وعملت من قبل ذلك وبعده للالتزام بالاتفاقية ومتطلباتها وأكثر. أخيراً قبل أربعة أشهر صدر قرار مجلس الوزراء الموقر برئاسة خادم الحرمين الشريفين بتشكيل اللجنة الوطنية لمكافحة التبغ برئاسة معالي وزير الصحة وعضوية وكلاء الوزارات والقطاع غير الحكومي. ونأمل أن يكون لها دور في دعم الاتفاقية وتفعيلها وتحقيق أهدافها ويجري العمل حالياً على وضع خطة استراتيجية طويلة المدى لمكافحة التدخين في المملكة العربية السعودية وتتعاون المملكة العربية السعودية مع بقية دول مجلس التعاون لتطوير مواصفات ومقاييس المنتجات التبغية خاصة وضع الصور ويؤمل أن ينتهي العمل منها في هذا العام مع أن صناعة التبغ بدت في مقاومة هذا المشروع والتدخل المبكر لإجهاضه أو تحجيمه.

سعادة الرئيس، التزاماً ببعض بنود الاتفاقية بادرت وزارة الصحة، كخطوة رائدة على المستوى المحلي والإقليمي، برفع قضية ضد صناعة التبغ تنظر فيها محكمة إسلامية كما هو الحال في كل القضايا وقد حدد موعد الجلسة الأولى لهذه القضية يوم تاريخي مشهود على مستوى العالم هو غرة أيلول/ سبتمبر لهذا العام. تدعو المملكة الجميع لتشجيعها في هذه القضية ومساندتها معنوياً وفنياً والتعاطف معها وتقدير هذه الخطوة لوزارة الصحة السعودية. ستكون هذه القضية مفترق طريق في المنطقة نأمل نجاحها ليقتدى بها ويتوسع فيها كمثل ونموذج.

سعادة الرئيس، لقد تم فضح صناعة وتجارة التبغ في المنطقة في تقرير أصدره المكتب الإقليمي لشرق المتوسط لمنظمة الصحة العالمية باسم صوت الحقيقة خاصة في مجالات الإعلان والتسويق ومع ذلك لم تخجل صناعة التبغ من أساليبها فبعد دخول جميع دول المجلس كأطراف في الاتفاقية إلا أن صناعة التبغ استمرت في ممارسات غريبة لترويج سمومها وآخر مهازلها قيامها بتنظيم حملة لدعم الاتفاقية في المنطقة من خلال وجهات نظر صناعة التبغ كمحاولة لها لتخفيف الالتزام بها. كل هذا يدعونا لوقفة جادة وشجاعة في وجه صناعة وتجارة التبغ في العالم بما فيها في المنطقة بما يحقق أهداف هذه الاتفاقية خاصة إذا تطلب الأمر رفع قضايا قضائية دولية مشتركة ضد صناعة وتجارة التبغ.

سعادة الرئيس، لقد بذلت أمانة الاتفاقية والمنظمة ومبادرة التحرر من التبغ ومؤتمر الأطراف وفريق الخبراء والمنظمات غير الحكومية الكثير من الجهود لتنفيذ الاتفاقية وتسهيل نشر المعرفة عنها وتسهيل الالتزام بها ولكن اسمحوا لي بهذا الاقتراح على أمانة الاتفاقية ومبادرة التحرر من التبغ والمنظمات غير الحكومية بأن يتم وضع دليل استرشادي ونموذج مقترح لنظام وطني شامل لمكافحة التبغ يتمشى تماماً مع متطلبات الاتفاقية بحدها الأدنى وحدها الأعلى حتى يتم الاسترشاد به في الدول الأطراف.

سعادة الرئيس نشكر لكم وللزملاء حسن الاستماع ونشكر لمملكة تايلند حسن وكرم الضيافة متمنين لهذه الدورة نجاحاً موفقاً ولإدارتكم الموفقة التوفيق وحسن الأداء وشكراً لكم.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted, señor. Me es grato ofrecer la palabra a la distinguida representante de Honduras.

La Sra. MEJÍA VELÁSQUEZ (Honduras):

Muy buenos días tengan todos ustedes y reciban de parte de mi país, Honduras (Centroamérica), un saludo fraternal y lleno de afecto. Me siento particularmente honrada por la firme decisión adoptada por Honduras al ser signatario del Convenio Marco de la OMS para el Control del Tabaco; a través de las participaciones de los países en forma unánime avalamos la importancia de su creación. Como integrante regional centroamericana creo necesario compartir esta mañana nuestro accionar en forma puntual para intercambiar experiencias, en especial con todos los países que vivimos la misma realidad. Honduras, con más de siete millones de habitantes, reporta una producción anual para consumo de 342 millones de cajetillas de cigarros en 2006, sin incluir las cajetillas que ingresan por vía legal, de contrabando o de manufactura casera. Una encuesta realizada a nivel nacional en una muestra de 19 540 jóvenes estudiantes de 10 a 21 años mostró una prevalencia de vida del 27,54%, en el año del 22,64% y en el mes del 18,94% hasta los 14 años de edad; se incrementa según la edad al 51,43% de 17 a 21 años. La edad promedio de inicio es de 13 años. Con este panorama poco alentador, el Instituto Hondureño para la Prevención del Alcoholismo, Drogadicción y Farmacodependencia (IHADFA), que me honro en representar, toma la decisión de hacer énfasis en la prevención educativa y la prevención legal, como también en el tratamiento, por lo cual se firman convenios con la Secretaría de Educación para introducir en los currícula la prevención basada en valores en los niveles prebásico, básico y medio, así como en la universidad nacional, para formar a formadores y sensibilizar en las diferentes ofertas educativas sobre el Convenio Marco a fin de que se unan al combate de esta adicción. Forjamos liderazgos en prevención de las adicciones a nivel técnico y especialmente entre jóvenes. Hemos enviado un anteproyecto de ordenanza a las ciudades de Tegucigalpa y San Pedro Sula para declararlas «ciudades preventivas», las puntas de lanza para declarar «Honduras preventiva». Con el UNICEF estamos impulsando el proyecto de disminución de los factores de riesgo con alcaldes municipales, gobernadores departamentales y actores relevantes de la comunidad, es decir quienes realmente cuentan, porque no podemos tomar decisiones sin tomarlos en cuenta. Nos hemos vinculado a organismos internacionales para crear e incrementar la fortaleza de lucha con los consejos de integración juvenil y, a organizaciones recientes formadas en Costa Rica para abordar el tratamiento del tabaquismo a nivel médico y la relación médico-paciente. Por reglamento hay restricción a toda publicidad, promoción y patrocinio de los productos de tabaco en radio, televisión, medios de comunicación, escritos, entre otros; hay una prohibición de la venta de cigarrillos a menores de edad. Tras la aprobación del decreto ley 180/2006 queda prohibido terminantemente el consumo de cigarrillos y cigarros o tabaco en todos los edificios ocupados por el Estado de Honduras o, aunque no sean de su propiedad, estén ocupados por dependencias del Gobierno. El IHADFA y los tres poderes del Estado trabajan en la reglamentación sobre la prohibición, la señalización y la aplicación de sanciones. Actualmente hemos enviado al Congreso Nacional el anteproyecto de ley marco donde proponemos, entre otras cosas, declarar Honduras 100% libre de humo de tabaco, la prohibición total de la publicidad, la promoción y el patrocinio de los productos de tabaco, la reglamentación del etiquetado y empaquetado de los productos de tabaco tal como lo señala el Convenio Marco, el aumento de los precios y los impuestos. Es importante que discutamos en este encuentro la injerencia que el Tratado de Libre Comercio tiene en el Convenio Marco ya que debemos priorizar la salud y no la injerencia de la industria en los aspectos comerciales. Muchas gracias.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted distinguida delegada de Honduras y, finalmente, el último orador de mi lista, el distinguido representante de Tailandia.

Dr HATAI CHITANONDH (Thailand):

Mr President, ladies and gentlemen, we are honoured that this important meeting is taking place in Thailand. This year also marks a significant event for the 60 million Thai people: His Majesty, King Bhumipol Adulyadej celebrates his eightieth birthday, which is why you can see many Thai people in the street wearing yellow shirts – they wear them for the whole year. And he is the longest-reigning monarch. To welcome all the delegates, we managed to recruit 10 million Bangkok residents to play host to all of you. We hope that your time will be informative as well as enjoyable. We are certain that the outcomes of the second session of the Conference of the Parties will leave a monumental landmark in tobacco control. Thank you, Mr President.

(Applause/Applaudissements)

El PRESIDENTE:

Bueno, doctor Hatai, creo que el espontáneo aplauso de la Conferencia es una demostración de aprecio y reconocimiento a su país que nos ha acogido muy bien, como también una modesta forma de asociarnos a este importante aniversario que su país celebra, el cumpleaños de su Majestad el Rey. Tenga usted la seguridad de ello, estimado amigo doctor Hatai. El Dr. Hatai es uno de los precursores de este movimiento en el ámbito de la OMS; es una persona muy comprometida y he tenido el enorme agrado de compartir con él la Mesa de esta Conferencia en los últimos dos años, y hemos todos podido apreciar su enorme calidad humana y su tremenda competencia profesional. Doctor Hatai, usted ha jugado un rol muy importante para que nos encontremos todos reunidos acá en esta hermosa ciudad de Bangkok. Muchas gracias, doctor, por sus palabras; el aplauso espontáneo de la Conferencia, que usted escuchó, es un reflejo del reconocimiento hacia Su Majestad y hacia su país.

A continuación tengo inscritas tres organizaciones no gubernamentales a las cuales con todo gusto paso a ofrecerles la palabra. La primera es la Alianza para el Convenio Marco.

Ms JOHN (Framework Convention Alliance on Tobacco Control):

Thank you, Mr President, distinguished delegates and colleagues, a very good morning to you. On behalf of the Framework Convention Alliance and its member organizations, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all government delegates, officers and staff of the Framework Convention Secretariat and WHO, and fellow members of civil society, to this second session of the Conference of the Parties. As the Framework Convention Alliance Board member for the South-East Asia Region, it gives me special pleasure to welcome you all to my own Region. It is fitting that this session be held in the WHO South-East Asia Region, a high tobacco burden region that is being aggressively targeted by the tobacco industry. The deliberations this week will be particularly important for this Region in assisting us in our efforts to combat the tobacco epidemic.

On behalf of the Framework Convention Alliance, may I congratulate and thank the President and Bureau of the Conference of the Parties for the excellent work you have done in facilitating and overseeing a very busy work programme since the beginning of the first session of the Conference of the Parties, and the head of the interim secretariat, Dr Douglas Bettcher, and your staff, for your very diligent and expert work over that period. We also extend a very warm welcome to the new Head of the Permanent Secretariat, Dr Haik Nikogosian, and we wish you every success in your new position. To government delegates, we say that you have very important work to do this week. The role of the Conference of the

Parties is to provide leadership and guidance to Parties to the Convention to assist them in ensuring that it fully delivers on its promise. The WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control has already been a remarkable achievement in global public health, but its true significance will lie in the way in which it is implemented now and in the years ahead. As you deliberate this week, and as we, in civil society, participate in your work, we should at all times bear in mind that every 6.5 seconds, somewhere in the world, another person dies of a tobacco-related disease. Our common aim this week must be to do to all that we can to reduce the entirely preventable harm that tobacco use causes, as quickly as we can. Towards this end, at this session, the Conference of the Parties has the opportunity to make critical decisions including: to adopt the draft guidelines on Article 8 on protection from second-hand smoke; to commence the negotiation of a protocol on illicit trade; and to commence the development of guidelines on Article 13, pertaining to tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship and Article 11 on tobacco packaging and labelling.

The Framework Convention Alliance hopes that you take your opportunity to make these decisions and that, when we all look back on this session of the Conference of the Parties in years to come, we will regard it as a meeting that greatly advanced the cause of global tobacco control and played an important role in, in the words of the Framework Convention's objective, "protecting present and future generations from the devastating health, social and environmental consequences of tobacco consumption and exposure to tobacco smoke".

As in the past we stand alongside to strengthen your efforts. We wish you well in your deliberations. Thank you, Sir.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted. A continuación ofrezco la palabra al señor Bobby Ramakant que se dirigirá en nombre de *Corporate Accountability International* y de *Network for Accountability of Tobacco Transnationals*.

Mr RAMAKANT (Corporate Accountability International):

Good afternoon, I am Bobby Ramakant from India. Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of Corporate Accountability International and the Network for Accountability of Tobacco Transnationals.

WHO and governments around the world have come together to adopt laws and measures that exclude the tobacco industry from involvement in public health policy. Unfortunately, Big Tobacco's interference in health policy is one of the greatest threats to the treaty's implementation and enforcement. Philip Morris/Altria, British American Tobacco and Japan Tobacco use their political influence to weaken, delay and defeat tobacco-control legislation around the world.

Now the integrity of the treaty, and the effectiveness of national tobacco-control policies based on it, hinge on the measures Parties are taking to meet their obligations under Article 5.3. WHO and its Member States were forward-thinking in their adoption of Article 5.3, but they are not yet following through with explicit legislation or regulations to enforce it. Action is needed at the second session of the Conference of the Parties to protect the treaty's implementation from Big Tobacco's interference. First, protocols and guidelines emerging from the second session of the Conference of the Parties in areas from illicit trade, to advertising, promotion and sponsorship, to protection from exposure to tobacco smoke must include specific measures to guard against tobacco industry interference, and reinforce Article 5.3. Secondly, the Conference of the Parties must ensure that Parties follow through with funding commitments, recognize that financial resources are needed to overcome tobacco industry opposition, and insulate funding decisions from tobacco corporations, their subsidiaries and affiliates. Lastly, the Conference of the Parties must provide further guidance on specific measures for Parties to protect national health policies from tobacco industry interference, in accordance with Article 5.3. Thank you very much and I look forward to our work together this week.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted por su declaración. A continuación ofrezco la palabra a la Sra. Sun-Young Yoon, quien se dirigirá a ustedes en nombre de *International Alliance of Women* y de *International Network of Women Against Tobacco*.

Ms YOON (International Alliance of Women):

I am Sun-Young Yoon of the International Alliance of Women. Distinguished delegates and friends, the International Alliance of Women and the International Network of Women against Tobacco believe that the Preamble of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control referring to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, is the critical foundation for the future of tobacco control because it helps to establish the principles of human rights and gender equality as central to the interpretation of all articles. The International Alliance of Women and the International Network of Women against Tobacco have submitted nongovernmental organization shadow reports on gender and tobacco to the CEDAW committee that monitors women's "bill of rights". Our reports have reviewed the performance of nearly 100 governments on gender and tobacco.

Here are some of the recommendations based on our experiences with this women's treaty, which we believe might be useful in thinking about gender and tobacco in the Framework Convention. First, we strongly support the Framework Convention Alliance for Tobacco Control briefing paper entitled "Reporting and exchange of information" and its recommendations that include establishment of an independent subsidiary body of experts to oversee the implementation of the Framework Convention, and we support the posting of government reports on the web site. Political transparency is paramount and all reports should be made publicly accessible. In the case of CEDAW, you should know that these reports are available many months prior to the meeting of the experts. This allows nongovernmental organizations to monitor government performance. Secondly, we call on governments to ensure the visibility of gender in all articles of the Framework Convention. Some governments may hesitate to include gender information on the grounds that national data are not available. However, we urge them to maintain the highest standards, as socioeconomic indicators should never be compromised to suit the lowest common denominator. Finally, we recommend the Conference of the Parties subsidiary body that monitors government reports to include an expert on gender and tobacco because this is a specialization on an equal par with others such as trade and advertising. Thank you very much.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted por su declaración. Quisiera señalar que las intervenciones de las organizaciones no gubernamentales siempre nos parecen muy importantes. Ustedes juegan un rol muy relevante en este proceso y da gusto recibir los comentarios, opiniones y sugerencias que habitualmente nos hacen. Muchas gracias a usted. Tengo un orador más en este segmento: es el distinguido representante de Guatemala. Usted me ha pedido la palabra y con gusto se la ofrezco.

El Sr. CANO ACEITUNO (Guatemala):

Le agradezco mucho, señor Presidente. En nombre del Gobierno de Guatemala y en particular del Ministro de Salud y de sus Viceministros, reciban ustedes un cordial saludo de Guatemala. Quisiera informarles de que Guatemala, por medio de su Decreto 80-2005 ratificó el Convenio Marco y por medio del Decreto 50-2000 está regulando toda la publicidad. En el país se creó la Comisión Ministerial para el Control del Tabaco por medio del Acuerdo Ministerial Nº 727. La Comisión se encuentra con diferentes actores y en estos momentos se está levantando una encuesta a nivel nacional, debido a que Guatemala en

febrero tiene que presentar su primer informe a la Conferencia del las Portes. Guatemala está haciendo una lucha frontal al tabaco. Además, por medio de negociaciones con organizaciones no gubernamentales en Guatemala se presentó al Congreso Nacional la Propuesta de Ley 3309 que contempla la creación de ambientes libres de humo de tabaco. Actualmente se está negociando para que pueda pasar al pleno y se pueda aprobar. Guatemala está dando paso por paso, pero está en la lucha contra el tabaco. Muchas gracias.

El PRESIDENTE:

Gracias a usted. Con esto concluimos este segmento de intervenciones generales de los países y grupos de países. Esta mañana hemos escuchado a 18 representaciones y a 3 organizaciones no gubernamentales; el día sábado por la tarde, escuchamos a 11 delegaciones. Todas las informaciones que hemos recibido coinciden en un punto central, que es el progreso que están haciendo los países; en segundo lugar se destaca la importancia de la Convención. Éste es un tema muy relevante; la convención es joven, lleva poco tiempo de vigencia, pero se ve un gran interés por parte de los Estados de implementarla y cumplir con lo allí convenido. Sin duda queda mucho por hacer, y la importancia de reuniones como ésta es justamente que determinemos áreas en las cuales es necesario hacer progresos significativos; hay que seguir con esta tarea con mucho dinamismo, con mucho vigor, con energía, con entusiasmo, y creo que hemos recibido buenas noticias en la mañana de hoy.

2. REPORT OF THE INTERIM SECRETARIAT; REPORT OF THE CONVENTION SECRETARIAT AND STATUS OF THE WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON TOBACCO CONTROL; AND REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS AD HOC INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON TOBACCO CONTROL, IN ACCORDANCE WITH DECISION FCTC/COP1(13)
RAPPORT DE SECRETARIAT INTERIMAIRE; RAPPORT DU SECRETARIAT DE LA CONVENTION ET SITUATION DE LA CONVENTION-CADRE DE L'OMS POUR LA LUTTE ANTITABAC; ET RAPPORT DU GROUPE SPECIAL INTER INSTITUTIONS DES NATIONS UNIES SUR LA LUTTE ANTITABAC, CONFORMEMENT A LA DECISION FCTC/COP1(13)

El PRESIDENTE:

Pasamos ahora a los puntos 2 y 3 del orden del día que, según acordamos el sábado recién pasado, examinaríamos de forma conjunta ya que los dos se refieren a informes de la Secretaría. El punto 2 se titula Informe de la Secretaría del Convenio y situación del Convenio Marco de la OMS para el Control del Tabaco. Tienen este informe en el documento que han recibido con la sigla A/FCTC/COP2/2. El punto 3 se titula Informe de la secretaría interina, y éste se encuentra en el documento A/FCTC/COP2/3. A fin de proceder entonces a la presentación de estos dos informes, primero doy la palabra al Dr. Douglas Bettcher, Director Interino de la Iniciativa Librarse del Tabaco, que presentará este informe. Tiene usted la palabra, doctor Bettcher.

(Dr Bettcher illustrated his comments with overhead projections.)
(Le Dr Bettcher illustre ses observations à l'aide de rétroprojections.)

Dr BETTCHER (WHO Secretariat):

Thank you, Mr President, honourable ministers, excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, colleagues, good morning. Before I go into the overview of the interim secretariat report, I would first like to thank the

President of the Conference of the Parties, Ambassador Martabit, for his excellent leadership. It has been a pleasure over the past year for the interim secretariat in the Tobacco Free Initiative to work with the Ambassador and other members of the Bureau and we have really enjoyed working on the technical and administrative preparations for the second session of the Conference of the Parties. Also I would like to thank the Government of Thailand for your hard work in hosting the first global governing body of WHO outside Geneva in 40 years. It has been a real honour working with you: Thailand is making this a reality. I would also like to thank all of the experts, participants from the Parties, observers from other international organizations and civil society. The Framework Convention has been a very successful and a huge global process – a history-making event in the lifetime of WHO. This morning, the Tobacco Free Initiative has had the pleasure and the honour of serving as the interim secretariat since the adoption of the treaty in May 2003, and the Conference of the Parties decision FCTC/COP1(10) provided that the interim secretariat within the Tobacco Free Initiative should continue to act in that role and provide technical and legal assistance to implement decisions of the sessions of the Conference of the Parties. Therefore, my presentation, as encapsulated in document A/FCTC/COP/2/39, covers the period from the first session of the Conference of the Parties until June of this year when the Convention Secretariat was established and when Dr Haik Nikogosian, the new Head of the Secretariat, took office. I would like to congratulate our trusted colleague and friend Dr Nikogosian on his appointment, and we really look forward to working together in the Tobacco Free Initiative with you and your team to ensure maximum synergy and complementarity between the work of the global network of the Tobacco Free Initiative and the new Convention Secretariat.

Over the last four years, the interim secretariat has been a part of the Tobacco Free Initiative network; it has been a unit within the Department of the Tobacco Free Initiative, which is a global network of country offices and regional offices. Also we have a wide network of relationships with civil society and also regional and economic integration organizations, United Nations agencies and a number of expert groups.

First in the report, I would like to cover the core interim secretariat activities, which were led by the Tobacco Free Initiative in its capacity as interim secretariat. First of all, vis-à-vis the development of guidelines for implementation of the treaty, the Tobacco Free Initiative facilitated the administrative and technical work for the convening of two groups. First the meeting of facilitators for the Article 8 guidelines on protection from second-hand smoke in May 2006; and then also work with the Government of Ireland, which graciously hosted in Dublin the meeting of the partners to develop the guidelines for Article 8, which is presented to you in document A/FCTC/COP/2/7. Moreover, on the development of the recommendation, the guidelines for Article 9, on product regulation, this group was very active. It first met with the interim secretariat's facilitators in May 2006. It then met with our WHO expert group, the study group on tobacco product regulation, in Kobe, Japan to exchange views, before an expert consultation of the working group of partners and civil society was convened by the Government of Canada in October 2006. The progress report, which the interim secretariat assisted in finalizing with the facilitators and the partners, is presented in document A/FCTC/COP/2/8.

Moreover, in the capacity of interim secretariat we also worked, both administratively and by providing technical support, for the development of the protocol templates. The first template concerned the development of a possible protocol on illicit trade. The first meeting of that expert group was convened at WHO headquarters in Geneva in September 2006. The follow-up meeting of that group was hosted by our Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean in December 2006. The template document for a possible protocol on illicit trade is contained in document A/FCTC/COP/2/9. Moreover, the work on the possible protocol template for a cross-border advertising promotion sponsorship started again with a kick-off meeting of the expert group in Geneva in September, followed by a meeting hosted by the nongovernmental organization Hriday-Shan and the Government of India in Agra, India, back-to-back with a global youth meeting last November. The output of that group, the template for a possible protocol on cross-border advertising, is presented by the interim secretariat in document A/FCTC/COP/2/10. Finally, the Government of Brazil hosted the first meeting of the study group on alternative crops in Brasilia in February of this year; all interested Parties and partners participated in this very active meeting. Given the heterogeneity of this issue, it was also decided, with the inspiration of our President,

Ambassador Martabit, to convene a public hearing on agriculture diversification before the convening of the study group on agriculture diversification. This public hearing was also convened in Brasilia, and the document pertaining to that piece of work is document A/FCTC/COP/2/11. Also, as a joint activity between the interim secretariat and the Tobacco Free Initiative Network, at all levels of the Organization, almost 90 developing countries have participated in implementation workshops for the Framework Convention over the last year. These included a detailed component of the various intersectoral, multisectoral workshops focusing on reporting. The first such workshop was convened in Dhaka, Bangladesh, hosted by the Government of Bangladesh in August 2006, followed up by the next workshop, for Parties of the Eastern Mediterranean Region, hosted by our Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean, in December 2006. A pan-African workshop for implementation of the treaty was held with 30 African Parties in March 2007, for a four-day intensive workshop, moving forward implementation of the treaty in Africa. Also a second implementation workshop in the South-East Asia Region was hosted by the Government of Myanmar in Yangon. And then more recently, and this is not contained in the report so I just wanted to update you on this particular feature, 27 Parties from the Western Pacific Region met back to back in two implementation workshops, one for the ASEAN countries and one for the Pacific island Parties to the treaty in the Western Pacific Region. And then, thanks to the inspiration of our President, the Government of Chile hosted an implementation workshop for the Latin American Parties to the Framework Convention in Santiago, Chile; and as alluded to by Ambassador Martabit, a resolution was adopted by the Parties encouraging the strengthening of implementation of the treaty in the Region of the Americas.

Now going on to the five core functions of the Tobacco Free Initiative, I just wanted to provide you with a brief update of our continuing work to provide support to the Parties and also to support the non-Parties to become Parties to this important treaty. In the area of capacity building, our first core function, a meeting on indigenous people and tobacco, was organized by the Ministry of Health in collaboration with the Maori Smokefree Coalition in New Zealand in November 2006. A report has been presented and follow-up actions are planned; and also we have drafted a document to be released soon based on our extensive work from 1999–2004 with the United Nations Foundation in various areas ranging from civil society, partnerships to seed grounds for capacity building and this document, "Forging the future of tobacco control: the power of innovative partnerships", we feel, will be a very important document for our future capacity building work.

Moreover, a very exciting development was the announcement by Mayor Bloomberg of New York City last August of the largest single grant ever provided for tobacco control – over US$ 126 million for a global tobacco-control project over the next two years. WHO is honoured to be one of the five partners. We are gearing up in a very novel and unique way to really strengthen our presence at country and regional levels as a key entry point for work on noncommunicable diseases and prevention. The Initiative will be focusing on technical assistance for the implementation of the core five demand-reduction evidence-based provisions of the Framework Convention and also increasing and reinforcing the capacity of WHO in the area of surveillance and monitoring.

These five core areas that WHO is focusing on as our contribution to the partnership, within the Bloomberg Global Initiative, is building capacity within the public sector, providing technical support for the implementation of the unique grants mechanism for civil society and also the public sector; also strengthening our global system for monitoring tobacco-control policies and adult tobacco surveillance. As a showcase of this work, we will be publishing our first global tobacco-control report later this year; also strengthening our communications work; and documenting and strengthening our work in the area of best practices. For more information on the Bloomberg Global Initiative, there will be a lunchtime briefing on Wednesday and we invite you all to attend. Also the second core function of the Tobacco Free Initiative global network is surveillance, and this is an area which we are scaling up. Just recently we established at headquarters a new unit within the Tobacco Free Initiative, and we are currently searching for a coordinator for this new surveillance, evaluation and monitoring unit.

The surveillance activities of the Tobacco Free Initiative focus on four particular surveys. The Global Youth Tobacco Survey, which we have heard about in the various comments from Parties, has become a highly successful surveillance system for youth over the past eight years; we have implemented

this in conjunction with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta. We have now 163 countries that have implemented this survey for the first time; over 100 countries have implemented or are about to complete the survey for a second round. Also, we have completed the Global Health Professionals Survey in 27 countries, and four countries are currently in the field. Also in a major development with the Bloomberg Global Initiative, a new initiative has been supported to launch national adult surveys, specialized surveys on tobacco, to look at smoking habits, awareness, economics and other parameters. First, this initiative will focus on the 15 Bloomberg countries, but then we intend to strengthen our surveillance and monitoring activities, to scale up this work to other countries in collaboration with our STEPwise approach to surveillance. The third key function of the Tobacco Free Initiative is research – policy-relevant research, I want to underscore. Our focus over the last few years is consistent with the importance of development and poverty alleviation in tobacco control, which has been alluded to in our discussions here. We have supported policy-relevant research, for example, ongoing studies in Nigeria and Bolivia; a poverty and tobacco study has been completed in the Philippines. Moreover, following up on the World Bank Economics of Tobacco Control report, which is by now legendary, WHO has initiated a follow-up policy document with the National Cancer Institute, focusing on economic evidence from developing countries. We are also involved in revision of some health-care cost study work that we have done in the South-East Asia Region. As well, in the next couple of weeks, and also I will announce this in the Gender and Tobacco evening seminar on Thursday of this week, we are about to launch two major publications on gender and tobacco. As you know, Dr Chan has given gender policies top priority within the framework and future directions of the Organization and, in this vein, we are about to release a WHO paper "Sifting the evidence: gender and tobacco control" within the next few weeks. Also, in partnership with our very good partner in Ottawa, Research for International Tobacco Control, we are about to release a policy brief on gender and tobacco control in the near future, and this is the cover of one of these monographs. As well, in synergy between the Tobacco Free Initiative and the work of the Conference of the Parties, we have released the WHO policy recommendations on protection from exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke. These recommendations came out of a consultation in Uruguay in 2005 and were drafted in consultation with our collaborating centre at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. These are really revolutionary recommendations from a public-health vantage point; they include the recommendation that countries should go for 100% smoke-free environments – it is the only effective strategy. It is important that comprehensive legislation; should be adopted and also enforced: it is not enough just to adopt legislation, the legislation needs to be enforced. And as well, public education is required to reduce second-hand smoke exposure at home. Also, another new area, a new terrain for our work, is the area of tobacco and tuberculosis. This work was initiated some years ago with our colleagues in the Stop TB Department in WHO and also our colleagues in the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease. We have completed a policy paper on the integration of tuberculosis and tobacco-control activities within the practical approach to lung health programme. As well, we are finalizing a WHO official monograph to be released later this year, and we have already piloted a joint pilot programme between tuberculosis and tobacco-control activities. This is ongoing in Nepal, and we should be able to report back to you at the next session of the Conference of the Parties.

Now, moving forward to the very important area of advocacy and communications, we have had two World No Tobacco Days since we last met in February 2006. The theme of the World No Tobacco Day in May 2006 was "Tobacco: deadly in any form or disguise," and the theme really wanted to emphasize that tobacco products are all deadly, and that they all must be strictly regulated. We emphasize this through our various different logos, that whether it is water pipes or chewing tobacco, whether it is a pipe or whether it is cigarettes – they all must be strictly regulated. And that is consistent, certainly, with the text of the Framework Convention. We had a very lively World No Tobacco day this year: we emphasized positive globalization, urging the world to go 100% smoke-free, and we emphasized this through the very unique logos, the "smoke-free bubble". And, as well, our emphasis now in World No Tobacco Day is that we do not want to see World No Tobacco Day as a "one-off" event; we are actively working with our regional and country offices to make sure that country campaigns, workplans and activities continue past the actual day of celebrating World No Tobacco Day. Another area in which WHO and the Tobacco Free Initiative have definitely taken the lead with our partners in recent years is putting a

public-health face to tobacco product regulations. This was not the case eight years ago, when the tobacco industry completely controlled the debate and the research in this area. The WHO expert group, the Study Group on Tobacco Product Regulation, has been very active in the work of the working group developing the guidelines for the Conference of the Parties for Article 9; it has also met since we last met, and in February 2007 it had its third Study Group meeting in Kobe, Japan, which also gave an opportunity for the Working Group of the Conference of the Parties to meet and question and be briefed by our experts to move forward the work on the guidelines for Article 9. As well, we have set up, and I think we briefed you last time about this innovative next step in product regulation to counterbalance the tobacco industry's research observance in the area of tobacco products testing, we have set up a WHO tobacco laboratory network – we refer to it as TobLabNet – and the second meeting of this network was hosted by the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention in Beijing, China, in November 2006. We now have 30 independent laboratories around the world; this is a real innovation for WHO. As you know, there is a long history in WHO of laboratory networks in the area of communicable diseases; this is the first laboratory network in the area of noncommunicable diseases. And we really hope that the scaling-up, the training that we have done over the last year – we have trained 15 laboratory scientists from developing countries through the network which will contribute to the development of the guidelines for implementation of Article 9 of the treaty. Also, looking at some of the practical applications of product regulation, our WHO Collaborating Centre for Tobacco Control in Heidelberg, Germany, co-hosted a meeting with WHO in Berlin in March this year to look at practical applications of laboratory data; for example, for bio-monitoring and surveillance studies.

Now finally, in the closing of my presentation I wanted to emphasize as well the development and the work that has taken place in the area of the Tobacco Free Initiative's last priority area: our global partnerships. WHO is the Chair of the United Nations Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control, and we presented our last report to the United Nations Economic and Social Council. We emphasized that one of the major themes of that report was again smoke-free policies, smoke-free workplaces. What transpired out of the discussions last July was a resolution adopted by consensus by the Economic and Social Council to be referred to the United Nations General Assembly, recommending firstly that all smoking should be banned on all United Nations premises throughout the world; and also that sales of tobacco products should be banned. This is not the case presently within the United Nations system. The resolution is still within the General Assembly, and we hope that there will be progress. Maybe the Parties could keep their eye on that resolution in the General Assembly this autumn. As well, we have been expanding our work on health professionals and tobacco. We have, for example, met with a number of our health professional colleagues in the last year; we have set up also enhanced collaboration with nursing groups; and, finally, with our collaborating centre network we have had two applications which are currently in the system for approval. We have had an application in our European Region from the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment, which is working very closely with WHO and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta on a training programme for laboratory scientists; and also another application to become a WHO collaborating centre has been received from the tobacco control unit of the national research institute of tuberculosis and lung disease in the Islamic Republic of Iran. That work can be very much directly relevant, as one of the innovative steps that we are taking to link tuberculosis and tobacco work. So finally, we encourage the Parties, colleagues, civil society and other international partners to feel free to contact us for technical assistance, and we really look forward to working with the Convention Secretariat to really make the Framework Convention alive on the ground, because we all want to see as a world community the Framework Convention become a real tool for saving millions and millions of lives at country level. Thank you very much.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias, doctor Bettcher por su completo informe. Espero que podamos tener unos minutos para ofrecer la palabra a las delegaciones que quisieran formular algún comentario. Le reitero, doctor Bettcher, mis agradecimientos; su trabajo es altamente apreciado, estoy seguro, por todos nosotros.

Tengo ahora el gusto de ofrecer la palabra al Dr. Nikogosian, Jefe de la Secretaría, que presentará el informe de la Secretaría del Convenio. Doctor Nikogosian, por favor.

Dr NIKOGOSIAN (Head, Convention Secretariat):

Distinguished President, ministers, delegates, and colleagues, let me express first my very warm appreciation for the nomination as the Head of the Convention Secretariat. I have accepted it with a great sense of honour and responsibility. I would like to thank again the Bureau and the Director-General for their confidence and expression of support in offering me this position. Thank you very much, Ambassador Martabit, for your support and for your very kind remarks when introducing me to the Conference of the Parties on Saturday. May I also thank the distinguished delegates for their very kind words of congratulations and encouragement. I am thrilled by your warm welcome, which only doubles my sense of responsibility and my commitment to the important work ahead. May I also use this opportunity to thank the interim secretariat and colleagues in WHO under the leadership of Denis Aitken and Douglas Bettcher. Their efforts were instrumental to what has been achieved so far and to the Framework Convention arriving at this important juncture.

The report of the interim secretariat presents a detailed summary of the activities undertaken and the progress achieved. Having been appointed as Head of the Convention Secretariat only one month ago, I would therefore like to take this opportunity to share my vision and ask for your guidance on our next priorities. Let me first assure you that the Convention Secretariat will provide the best possible service to the Conference of the Parties, to the Bureau and to individual Parties, as appropriate, in the implementation of the Framework Convention. I realize the special expectations from the first public health treaty, and the role we can play in proving that this new instrument in international health cooperation works and advances. I also realize that the role of the first Head of the Secretariat of the first public health treaty will require special effort and perhaps creativity, and I am confident of the guidance and support I will receive from the Conference of the Parties, the Bureau, and the Director-General of WHO.

Prompt arrangements for establishing the Secretariat will be the immediate priority: I expect the Convention Secretariat to be fully operational by 1 November 2007. Continuity of services during the transition is an important task, and I am confident we will achieve it with the help of our colleagues in WHO. Let me assure you that addressing primarily the direct tasks of the Convention Secretariat, as well as geographical and gender balance, will be important principles of the recruitment of staff. Achieving synergy and complementarity with the work of the Tobacco Free Initiative and other relevant units of WHO will be another important priority. Capacity building for the implementation of the Framework Convention, strengthening national surveillance systems and developing internationally comparable indicators that would also contribute to reporting by Parties, needs assessment, and dissemination of advanced tools and practices in the Convention implementation process – these are a few examples of the coordination and complementarity with the Tobacco Free Initiative and WHO regional offices that may be instrumental. The Secretariat will also count on the cooperation and support of other units in the Organization, such as the Office of Governing Bodies, Office of the Legal Counsel and others. Overall, I would like to assure you of efficiency and transparency in using resources, avoidance of duplication and complementarity with existing services. Coordination with relevant international partners, as mandated by and under the guidance of the Conference of the Parties, will be another important area of work. I know from my past experience how international interagency cooperation can also stimulate coordination between the respective governmental sectors – something very important for comprehensive tobacco-control policy and for the implementation of multisectoral aspects of the Framework Convention. The Convention Secretariat will also see tailored support to Parties with limited resources as another important objective to achieve. Promoting needs assessment, accelerating the work on receiving project proposals and directing them to potential funding sources, and work on raising awareness among potential development donors would be of a particular importance. We look forward to requests and project proposals from Parties; however, we will also be proactive in raising awareness on existing tools, sources and mechanisms and in providing advice as appropriate. Support to mainstream tobacco control into the

development agenda and work on addressing socioeconomic determinants of health and the growing burden of chronic diseases will be an overall objective to promote in coordination with the interested Parties, WHO departments and international partners. Finally, we will make the preparations for the next session of the Conference of the Parties, and of course the implementation of the decisions of the current session, a high priority. I can expect several areas of work to be reinforced and strengthened, such as advancing the reporting instrument and feedback to Parties on reports submitted, work on new possible guidelines and dissemination of those potentially adopted, and supporting possible protocol negotiations. We will promptly prepare an operational plan of implementation, under the guidance of the Bureau, based on the decisions taken this week.

The status of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control is presented in document A/FCTC/COP/2/2, which is at your disposal. In summary, the WHO Framework Convention entered into force on 27 February 2005. The first session of the Conference of the Parties was convened by WHO in Geneva from 6 to 17 February 2006. As of last month, there were 147 Parties to the WHO Framework Convention, accounting for about 80% of the world's population. Further, 29 countries have signed the Convention, but have not ratified it yet. With nearly 90% of all Member States having signed within a year of its opening for signature, the WHO Framework Convention has become one of the most rapidly embraced treaties in the United Nations system.

With regard to reporting by Parties, in summary, 28 Parties submitted reports by 27 February 2007 and were included in the analysis compiled by the interim secretariat. Seventeen additional Parties submitted reports in the period between 28 February and 20 June. Twenty-two additional Parties were due to submit reports prior to the second session of the Conference of the Parties. We are informed that a few of these reports were sent to the Convention Secretariat after the report of the Convention Secretariat was issued. A document will be issued this week reflecting the updated status of Party reports received.

Distinguished delegates, let me thank you again for your confidence and your support to the work of the Convention Secretariat. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias por su informe, doctor Nikogosian. Deseo hacer un comentario de carácter personal. Creo que los Estados Partes en este Convenio esperan mucho de usted, pero nada que usted no pueda hacer. Tiene importantes antecedentes que permitieron designarlo en el cargo, de manera que lo estimularía a que utilizara una palabra que empleó en su presentación, que es «creatividad», y la use sin temor. Me parece que éste es uno de los mejores convenios del mundo desde el punto de vista del interés de los países en llevarlo adelante. En el mundo internacional estamos llenos de convenios, usted lo sabe mejor que yo, acompañados muchas veces de burocracias pesadas que inhiben la creatividad y las iniciativas que se esperan surjan de ellos. Éste es un caso especial, y debemos usarlo de manera eficiente, oportuna y ágil; éste es un convenio joven, pero tiene tres elementos tremendamente importantes: el primero es la voluntad de los Estados de avanzar realmente y avanzar rápido; en segundo lugar tenemos una sociedad civil representada por una cantidad importante de organizaciones no gubernamentales en todo el mundo, en todos los países, que entregan un apoyo sustantivo, decidido, visionario sobre este tema; ahí hay un potencial extraordinario de trabajo conjunto entre Estados y sociedad civil. Son pocos los convenios que ofrecen tal oportunidad. Y en tercer lugar, tenemos una organización mundial, que es la OMS, encarnada en este caso en su autoridad máxima, la Dra. Chan, como lo fue antes el Dr. Lee (que en paz descanse), personas decididas, comprometidas, que tienen ganas, tienen interés en hacer cosas. Luego, lo que se haga en el futuro dependerá mucho de nosotros y fundamentalmente de las iniciativas, estímulos, propuestas que provengan de la Secretaría. Doctor Nikogosian, usted tiene por delante uno de los desafíos más interesantes, más hermosos, diría yo, que cualquier convenio internacional puede ofrecer en el mundo de hoy. De manera que lo estimulo a que use la creatividad y su gran experiencia y conocimientos en beneficio de este Convenio. A continuación voy a pedir al doctor Bettcher, en su calidad de Presidente del Grupo de Trabajo, que nos efectúe una pequeña presentación en lo que respecta al punto 4 del orden del día, Informe del Grupo de Trabajo Especial Interinstitucional de las Naciones Unidas sobre Lucha

Antitabáquica, presentado de conformidad con la decisión FCTC/COP1(13). Doctor Bettcher, tiene usted la palabra.

(Dr Bettcher illustrated his comments with overhead projections)
(Le Dr Bettcher illustre ses observations à l'aide de rétroprojections.)

Dr BETTCHER (WHO Secretariat):

Honourable ministers, excellencies, ladies and gentleman, I am glad to address the question that you posed in decision A/FCTC/COP/1(13) concerning the activities of the United Nations Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control, which WHO has chaired since its inception in 1996, and to outline some work that could certainly accelerate the implementation of our treaty at country level. The report of the interim secretariat and the secretariat of the Task Force – WHO – is included in document A/FCTC/COP/2/4.

In a nutshell the history of the Task Force was that the United Nations Secretary-General gave birth to this novel Task Force in 1999. It was endorsed by the United Nations Economic and Social Council with the express purpose of strengthening a pan-United Nations response to strengthen and support global tobacco control. The Task Force consists of United Nations agencies, the World Customs Organization and the World Trade Organization. Since the establishment of the Task Force, the Secretary-General has submitted four reports on a range of issues, from supply economics to demand reduction measures, to development and tobacco control. It is certainly an active task force; as United Nations task forces go, this is a very lively one. As I said, we have a membership across the United Nations system as well as international intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system, WTO and the World Customs Organization have also been very active.

Some of the major milestones in the work of the Task Force which were very relevant to the negotiation of our treaty have included, for example, policy-relevant research conducted by FAO in conjunction with the World Bank and WHO, leading to two publications, one concerning projections of tobacco production, consumption and trade to the year 2010; and a second publication, which has proven to be very valuable in the work on agriculture diversification that we embarked on in Brasilia, which contains case studies reflecting the projections of tobacco production in a number of tobacco dependent economies. Moreover,collaboration with the World Bank since 1999, with publication of the document, *Curbing the epidemic: governments and the economics of tobacco control*, has been very active. We have worked very actively with the World Bank. We have a team of economists in the Tobacco Free Initiative; it also works virtually with the World Bank and our colleagues in IMF. We published 30 different economic studies with the World Bank on a range of policy-relevant issues, such as taxation and government revenue, tobacco employment, privatization, youth consumption, poverty and regressivity of taxes and alternatives to tobacco growing. In addition, we are featuring these studies and stimulating more research that is going to be summarized in a joint publication: "Economics of tobacco: evidence from developing countries".

Also ILO, in conjunction with the World Bank and WHO, looked at manufacturing employment issues in two publications in 2003, looking at bidi workers in India, and also projections in manufacturing. The Task Force has also been instrumental in the adoption of some technical resolutions which have been very helpful to moving the tobacco-control agenda forward. Resolution 204/62 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council alluded to and emphasized the importance of incorporating tobacco-control measures and implementing the Framework Convention as a development tool in order to alleviate poverty; and also, as I said, the United Nations has been motivated to put its best foot forward and to become smoke-free. Last summer, we had Resolution 2006/42 of the Economic and Social Council, which now needs to be endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly – hopefully, later this year. As well, in our last Task Force meeting, we mapped out the particular thematic areas in which we could encourage collaboration with our members of the Task Force to support your implementation of the Framework Convention. In particular, vis-à-vis employment in tobacco-growing and manufacturing sectors

(Article 17 of the treaty), WHO, ILO and FAO proposed to work together. For smoke-free policies, particularly smoke-free policies in the workplace (pursuant to Article 8), the main partner would be ILO. For Article 16 regarding sales to and by youth: collaboration with UNICEF would be very important; and also concerning our ongoing work in the area of taxation (pursuant to Article 6), our collaboration with the World Bank and IMF is critical, and we are planning awareness-building and technical workshops on taxation issues in a number of countries in conjunction with IMF and the World Bank.

As well, we see tobacco and poverty as a cross-cutting issue in light of the Millennium Development Goals and the link between tobacco and poverty. Our work with UNDP is also important. On education, communication, training and public awareness, which is Article 12 of the treaty, work with UNESCO needs to be strengthened at country level. Also, at the macro-environmental level, we have Article 18, which looks at some of the devastating health effects of smoking, for example, on the environment. Questions of this sort are posed in Article 18 of the treaty, and UNEP would be our major partner here. Issues that cut across the treaty are trade and investment issues; the World Bank and WTO are also key partners to move this work forward.

In conclusion, our collaborative activities between the first and second sessions of the Conference of the Parties have focused on two particular thematic areas. On the protocol on illicit trade in tobacco products, in the Expert Group in particular, we have collaborated extensively with the World Customs Organization. The World Customs Organization is an international intergovernmental organization situated in Brussels. It assists its member countries in their daily risk assessments, intelligence work and training; and it prepares analytical reports on smuggling of different products, including tobacco. The World Customs Organization is very interested in our work in this Conference; and it participated in the second meeting of the Expert Group to develop the template for a possible illicit trade protocol. Also, I was invited to the World Customs Organization in December, following the Expert Group meeting to brief a working group on commercial fraud on technical issues relating to a potential illicit trade protocol, so that collaboration has been very active and is very relevant to our treaty. Also, the ad hoc study group on alternative crops has been involved in key cooperation with FAO, which is the specialized agency in agriculture in the United Nations system, and with the World Bank, the leading agency in economics. Both of these agencies actively participated in the study group meeting that you convened, and which the Brazilian Government hosted and supported in February of this year. We would hope that the activities with these two agencies will also be deepened and their collaboration with WHO enhanced, as this work moves forward in the coming years. To close, as the Chair and secretariat of the United Nations Task Force, WHO and the Tobacco Free Initiative look forward and are very confident that the United Nations Task Force is a platform where multisectoral collaboration for tobacco control can be explored and strengthened in a most efficient way. Considerable work, however, remains to complete a joint workplan, which could strengthen our work at country level. This summer, we are planning some novel workshops in our South-East Asia Region, for example. Our Regional Adviser in Delhi is bringing together the first workshop looking at development and tobacco control to bring together the intergovernmental organizations of the United Nations Task Force to move this work forward. The issue of funding technical assistance and funding from the United Nations Task Force is another major issue that we want to explore in more depth in our next Task Force meeting, which will be convened late this year or early next year. The Secretary-General will report back to the Economic and Security Council in the summer of 2008, and we are keeping our fingers crossed that the Secretary-General can in fact report that the United Nations has indeed gone smoke-free by July 2008. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Gracias doctor Bettcher por su presentación. Creo que tenemos lamentablemente muy poco tiempo como para abrir un espacio de preguntas y respuestas. En todo caso, quedan cinco minutos; si alguna delegación o un par de delegaciones quisieran decir algo, les ofrezco con gusto la palabra. Tiene la palabra el representante de Irán. Señor Mokhtari, por favor.

Mr BAYAT MOKHTARI (Islamic Republic of Iran):

Thank you very much, Mr President. The report by the interim secretariat on its work was an indication of the hard work by many people. But I am sure that one person stands top, and I am taking this floor to pay tribute to Douglas, Dr Douglas Bettcher, for the job that he has done between the first session of the Conference of the Parties and this session. He is a dedicated, hard-working and multi-talented person. Rarely have we seen so many talents and qualities in one person. I am sure that he is, and he remains, an asset for the work of this Framework Convention. Now that he is handing over his duties as the interim secretariat to another able colleague, Dr Nikogosian, I wish him all success in his future work at the Tobacco Free Initiative. My delegation is looking forward to working with Dr Nikogosian as the new Head of the Convention Secretariat, and I congratulate him for assuming this post. Thank you very much, Mr President.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted. Bueno, merecido reconocimiento al Dr. Bettcher que es francamente un motor en todo este proceso.

República Democrática del Congo. Tiene usted la palabra, señor.

M. MBUYU MUTEBA YAMBELE (République démocratique du Congo) :

Merci Monsieur le Président pour la parole. Nous tenons, au nom du groupe africain, à faire la déclaration que voici. D'abord, nos remerciements à la Thaïlande, son Gouvernement, pour avoir accueilli l'organisation de la deuxième session de la Conférence des Parties, et pour l'hospitalité et toutes les sympathies dont tous les délégués font l'objet. Nous remercions également l'OMS qui a permis une large participation de nos délégués africains, et nous tenons aussi en même temps à féliciter le Dr Bettcher, infatigable, quant à son engagement dans la lutte pour le travail accompli.

La Région africaine a largement contribué dans le processus qui a abouti à l'adoption d'une convention de lutte antitabac forte, et s'est engagée très rapidement à sa ratification. Si la ratification est un engagement acquis, la mise en oeuvre est l'étape la plus importante pour parvenir à sauver véritablement les vies. Cela requiert l'adoption d'un cadre législatif réglementaire approprié et efficace. Mais il y a des problèmes qui constituent des préalables déterminants du succès de cette Convention. Il s'agit du renforcement des capacités et des ressources.

S'agissant du renforcement des capacités, notre Région, qui reconnaît le meilleur encadrement dont elle bénéficie de la part de l'OMS, se doit néanmoins de déplorer qu'un seul atelier ait été organisé à cet effet entre les deux sessions. Ceci est inadéquat pour notre Région où il faut obligatoirement agir avant que le fléau du tabagisme ne puisse atteindre les niveaux des maladies transmissibles comme le sida, la tuberculose et le paludisme.

S'agissant des ressources, la Région africaine souffre d'un manque criant des ressources nécessaires pour la mise en oeuvre de la Conférence des Parties et de la Convention. A l'heure actuelle, la lutte antitabac bénéficie de différentes donations à cette fin. Le souhait de notre Région est que les ressources disponibles ou à mobiliser soient affectées directement aux pays afin de raccourcir les délais quant à l'utilisation de ces ressources.

La Région africaine a reçu avec chaleur la nouvelle du choix et de la nomination du Dr Haik Nikogosian en sa qualité de Premier Chef du Secrétariat de la Convention-cadre de l'OMS pour la lutte antitabac. C'est une décision responsable et nous sommes persuadés que, comme dans le passé, le Dr H. Nikogosian va conduire avec succès la mise en oeuvre effective de la lutte antitabac dans le monde et en Afrique en particulier. A cet effet, la Région africaine souhaite recevoir des clarifications aux préoccupations suivantes : 1) quel est le rang du Chef du Secrétariat de la Convention-cadre dans les structures organisationnelles de l'OMS ? ; 2) comment doit se faire la transmission de rapports avec la

direction générale ? ; 3) quelles sont les relations réelles entre le secrétariat permanent et l'Initiative pour un monde sans tabac ?

Concernant le type de collaborateurs du Chef du Secrétariat, notre Région avait souhaité être éclairée sur le nombre de collaborateurs – combien sont-ils ? D'où proviennent-ils ? Et qu'en est-il des décisions de la première session de la Conférence des Parties quant à leur répartition équitable par Région, par sexe et entre les pays développés et les pays en voie de développement ?

Pour la Région africaine, ces informations permettent de savoir que nous sommes conformes à nos décisions d'une part, et d'une certaine transparence dans le travail du Secrétariat d'autre part. Mais tout à fait, dans ses interventions, le Dr Nikogosian y a fait allusion et nous voulons savoir davantage. Et c'est en remerciant l'OMS pour le choix de ce Dr Nikogosian que nous saluons et terminons ici notre intervention. Nous vous remercions.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted. Ofrezco la palabra a la distinguida representación de Brasil, el último orador.

Dr CAVALCANTE (Brazil):

Thank you, Mr President. I would just like to ask a question to the Tobacco Free Initiative on the report on the United Nations Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control. The Brazilian delegation's question is: what initiative is the Task Force undertaking regarding Article 5.3 of the Framework Convention? This Article is related to protection of tobacco control from undue influence from commercial and other vested interests. Thank you, Mr President.

El PRESIDENTE:

Gracias a usted. Doctor Bettcher, por favor.

Dr BETTCHER (WHO Secretariat):

Thank you, to the distinguished delegate of Brazil. In fact, at our last United Nations Task Force meeting, we did have a significant section of the agenda focusing on issues relating to the tobacco industry and donations from the tobacco industry and companies to United Nations organizations, and also a discussion of the presence, I believe, of three tobacco companies in the Global Social Compact. This is an ongoing discussion; it will definitely be included in the next meeting of the Task Force, late this year, and WHO will also be launching work on development of a policy recommendation relating to issues concerning interaction with the tobacco industry, vis-à-vis voluntary agreements, etc. They could also spearhead some of these discussions within the United Nations Task Force. So this work is ongoing; you can find the summary of the initial discussions of this topic in the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General to the United Nations Economic and Social Council last July and certainly we could have some conversations outside of the plenary if you would like to discuss this work in more detail with the Tobacco Free Initiative. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Gracias, doctor Bettcher. Doctor Nikogosian, por favor.

Dr NIKOGOSIAN (Head, Convention Secretariat):

Mr President, there were several questions that I would like to clarify. About the rank of my position, it is equivalent to Director in WHO's hierarchy, but with a special arrangement: I am reporting on the implementation of the Framework Convention to the Conference of the Parties, and on the management and staff issues I am reporting directly to the Director-General. Concerning the relations between the Tobacco Free Initiative and the functions of the Convention Secretariat, I think that the Initiative will continue to work as a regular technical unit of WHO on the technical issues related to tobacco control, while the Convention Secretariat will focus on the implementation of, and specific issues around, the Framework Convention. Of course, there is a need for complementarity and synergy; we have already discussed this with Douglas Bettcher. I think we will achieve that; I can assure you of that. And finally, concerning the gender and geographical balance in the Convention Secretariat, so far I am the only member of the Secretariat but I can promise you that, as I said in my presentation, in the recruitment of the staff that will be one of the most important principles to follow for me. I will do that. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Gracias doctor Nikogosian. No se olviden de que a las 3 se constituyen el grupo, la Comisión A y la Comisión B. Muchas gracias y hasta más tarde. Se levanta la sesión.

The meeting rose at 13:05.
La séance est levée à 13h05.

THIRD PLENARY MEETING

Tuesday, 3 July 2007, at 15:15

President: Mr J. MARTABIT (Chile)

TROIXIEME SEANCE PLENIERE

Mardi 3 juillet 2007, 15h15

Président: M. J. MARTABIT (Chile)

1. REPORT ON CREDENTIALS
RAPPORT SUR LA VERIFICATION DES POUVOIRS

El PRESIDENTE:

Muy bien, tomen asiento por favor. Bueno, veo que están los grupos de trabajo avanzando a un ritmo razonable hasta ahora, pero pueden ir más rápido, no más despacio. Muy buenas tardes a todos en este plenario. Estamos en condiciones de adoptar un par de decisiones de carácter formal tal como lo acordamos en la pasada sesión plenaria. Tenemos un par de temas que tratar, uno relativo a las acreditaciones. Para ello otorgo inmediatamente la palabra a nuestro Asesor Jurídico. Tiene usted la palabra señor Burci.

Mr BURCI (WHO Secretariat, Legal Counsel):

Mr President, This is just to introduce briefly the proposed draft resolution, which contains a report on the status of credentials submitted in accordance with Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure. As delegations will see, on the second page there is a list of delegations that have presented formal credentials; and, at the bottom of page 1, of delegations that have submitted provisional credentials. We have received a few credentials at the last moment, which Mr President you are going to mention in your speech.

I also would like to apologize on behalf of the Secretariat because some delegations have complained that they had presented formal credentials and they somehow got lost or they were mislaid by the Secretariat. This in part is a result of the challenge of holding such a big conference outside Geneva – a big challenge for us – so that sometimes credentials were sent to WHO in Geneva and were not transmitted here in time. So we apologize and of course we will file formal credentials once we see them. That is all. I am very happy to respond to any questions. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted. Esta mañana, cuando vimos el tema de las credenciales en la sesión de la Mesa, tomamos nota de la situación, y en las últimas dos o tres horas se han recibido en debida forma las credenciales oficiales de Azerbaiyán, Camerún, Honduras, Luxemburgo, Rumania, ex República Yugoslava de Macedonia y credenciales provisionales de Nueva Zelandia; recomiendo entonces que sea modificado el informe conforme a las nuevas acreditaciones recibidas en debida forma. Si no hay inconveniente por parte de la sala, o comentarios, damos por aprobado este informe con la enmienda que acabo de señalar.

Mr RAJALA (European Community):

Thank you, Mr President. Just a question of clarification. The Legal Counsel mentioned that the Secretariat has found that there could be problems at the Secretariat end. So it is possible that a credential document is somewhere inside the WHO system. We believe that in our case this is the situation: I have checked with our headquarters, and our records show that we have submitted the formal letter of accreditation. A question: can we trust that this from our part is now sufficient for this meeting of the Conference of the Parties? Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Para resolver adecuadamente este problema, voy a tomar nota del asunto. Voy a hablar con la Secretaría para ver exactamente cuál es la situación; en una hora más tendremos una clara respuesta al respecto y la haré llegar personalmente a usted. ¿Alguna otra observación? Muy bien, entonces hemos dado por aprobados los términos que he señalado, el informe sobre las credenciales. Así queda decidido.

2. PARTICIPATION OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (continued)
PARTICIPATION DES ORGANISATIONS INTERGOUVERNEMENTALES ET NON GOUVERNEMENTALES (suite)

Accreditation of international intergovernmental organizations
Accréditation des organisations intergouvernementales internationales

El PRESIDENTE:

Ahora tengo el gusto de dar la palabra al Vicepresidente, el Embajador Lassmann, para que presente el proyecto de decisión contenido en el documento A/FCTC/COP/2/Conf.Paper Nº 1, sobre la participación de organizaciones intergubernamentales. Él está a cargo de este informe. Tiene usted la palabra, Embajador Lassmann.

Le Dr LASSMANN (Vice-Président) :

Merci beaucoup, Monsieur le Président. Je présente maintenant le document A/FCTC/COP/2/Conf.Paper N° 2 auquel l'on a déjà fait référence. Ce document présente le projet de décision qui a également été discuté samedi après-midi sur l'accréditation des nouvelles organisations non gouvernementales qui aimeraient participer à nos débats. Les trois paragraphes du projet de décision donnent le détail du processus envisagé pour que la Conférence puisse être bien informée avant de se prononcer sur chaque candidature. Je vous remercie, Monsieur le Président.

El PRESIDENTE:

Je vous remercie beaucoup Monsieur l'Ambassadeur. Pregunto a la sala si hay alguna observación, comentario, opinión. Kenya tiene la palabra.

Dr OGWELL (Kenya):

Thank you very much, Mr President. Indeed, the first session of the Conference of the Parties did make a decision on this issue, but the Conference of the Parties has unfortunately not made rules on which the process of accrediting international intergovernmental organizations will be based. My delegation's concern is setting a precedent that we may in the fullness of time regret – I hope it does not happen – but we cannot be too careful in matters of tobacco control especially. Since there are no rules that guide the process of accrediting with international intergovernmental organizations, there is need for those rules to be agreed upon, and then the process after that will be relatively smooth. We will be setting the correct precedents, and not constantly looking behind our backs to see if we may have been ambitious somewhere along the line.

We are uncomfortable with this situation and would strongly propose that we immediately embark on rules for a process of accreditation, so that we assure that only those international intergovernmental organizations that will contribute positively to the objectives of this treaty are the ones that are going to end up being accredited – to be participants in future Conferences of the Parties. Mr Chairman, we are uncomfortable, and we will be more comfortable if we had rules in place. I would therefore propose that we suspend this decision until clear rules and guidelines have been provided for the process of accreditation. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Bueno, gracias a usted distinguido delegado de Kenya. Ofrezco la palabra al representante de China. China, por favor.

Dr ZHANG Bin（China）:
张斌（中国）：

谢谢主席先生。我想关于政府间和非政府间组织参与的资格问题，早上秘书处已经散发了两个决议的草案。我们关于非政府和政府间组织参与作为FCTC观察员，应该依照我们的《议事规则》，也就是29条、30条和31条。29条已经叙述得很清楚，就是非缔约方任何世界卫生组织会员国和任何世界卫生组织成员都可以参加，阐述了这个观点。30条阐述的是，任何国际间组织间组织向秘书处申请，都可以作为观察员地位的，这一条也阐述得很清楚。现在我们讨论的和我们中国政府代表团关心的就是31条。其实这31条，去年的第一次缔约方大会上我们也阐述得很清楚。今天我们收到的秘书处关于非政府组织作为《世界卫生组织烟草控制框架公约》缔约方会议观察员资格认证的这个草案，我们有两个建议。第一个建议就是，我们认为，是否也可以理解为，NGOs参加FCTC作为观察员身份，在每一次会议申请，或者申请成功以后，只能作为本次会议参加缔约方会议的条件或资格，也就是说，下一次缔约方会议也必须重新申请，不能作为永久资格的认证条件。我们提出的

第二个意见是，在《议事规则》的31条第2款当中已经说得很清楚，也就是说，作为观察员，非政府组织必须在每一次缔约方大会召开前的90天将申请材料交给秘书处。我们也希望这次草案当中能否加进这样的内容，也就是说，如果非政府组织要作为缔约方大会的观察员的话，是否也请它们像草案当中所说的，将它们活动的性质、地域范围和组成成员、财政资金的来源一并提交给秘书处。我们同样也希望大会秘书处像我们《议事规则》第8条要求的一样，将每一次缔约方大会的文件提前60天提交给所有的缔约方成员国，也便于我们在提前60天的时间里面，得到非政府组织要求作为观察员参加的草案当中要求的性质、财政支持、成员组成这方面的材料。谢谢，谢谢主席先生。

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias, señor. ¿Hay alguien más inscrito? No. Voy a pedir al Sr. Denis Aitken, de la Secretaría que dé su opinión al respecto y después al Asesor Jurídico. Por favor, Denis.

Mr AITKEN (WHO Secretariat):

I will talk first about the proposed draft resolution on accreditation of international intergovernmental organizations, which was referred to by the distinguished delegate of Kenya. What he in effect was saying was we should suspend work on now admitting the organizations into status as observers to the Conference of the Parties because we have no procedures for determining whether to accept them or not. However, if I may, on behalf of colleagues who are not present from my sister organizations (of whom almost all are listed here), I will make their case on their behalf, since we have agreements with almost all of these organizations on the part of WHO (not all, I agree). But the fact of the matter is that if we do what is proposed, we are treating institutions like the Organization of African Unity, now the African Union, or the United Conference on Trade and Development or WTO, less favourably than we treated nongovernmental organizations, because what this decision does is bring into relationship with the Conference only those international intergovernmental organizations that were accredited to work with us during the first session of the Conference of the Parties and during the procedures prior to the first session. This approach is identical to the situation that applies now to nongovernmental organizations; it says nothing as to what will happen when new ones apply. In fact, we decided at the start of this session to accept one new one, as I recall. We can certainly do what the distinguished delegate of Kenya suggested, which is to work out good procedures for admitting future international intergovernmental organizations without having to try and explain to FAO that, despite the fact that they have participated up to now, we now ask them to meet certain conditions to join the Conference of the Parties. I would have difficulty with my sister organizations in explaining to them, given that we in WHO for example – and I understand the difference between WHO and the Conference of the Parties – have a long-standing 60-year agreement with FAO, and that most of the Parties to the Conference of the Parties are full members of FAO, that we should in some sense add additional conditions to them that have not been applied to the nongovernmental organizations who we have accepted should work in the Conference of the Parties. I understand the Kenyan position, but I just wanted to explain to him, from the Secretariat's point of view, my difficulty in terms of going back now to my sister organizations and talking to them to say that they have to make further applications.

Mr President, on the question raised by China, which was on the proposed draft resolution on accreditation of nongovernmental organizations, I can confirm that we will ensure that the information regarding each of the nongovernmental organizations will be given in due time so that the Parties to the Conference of the Parties, before they arrive, can decide back in their capitals whether they want to accredit a nongovernmental organization as an observer or not. So the documents will be distributed in

terms of the analysis for new nongovernmental organizations in good time. But it is not the intention that the nongovernmental organizations' status should be determined for each meeting; it is the intention that, once having been granted, their nongovernmental organization observer status should be continued, unless of course, and there will be a proper procedure to review this, after subsequent review, in due course of time, it is noted that there has been a substantial change in their circumstances. Thank you, Mr President.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias, señor Aitken por su verificación. Me es grato ofrecer ahora la palabra al Asesor Jurídico. Tenemos que abordar este tema con mucha claridad y mucha transparencia. Es fundamental ceñirnos con rigor a los reglamentos, a las normas de procedimiento. Creo que eso es esencial en la vida de todas las instituciones internacionales. No podemos correr riesgos de interpretaciones laxas ni de tolerancias que no corresponden más allá del espíritu ni de la letra; debo decir primero legalmente, de la letra y del espíritu de la ley. Las observaciones que han hecho nuestros dos distinguidos colegas de Kenya y de China son elementos que hay que tomar en consideración, hay que observarlos con la debida atención, pero no por eso paralizar el trabajo. Creo que la respuesta que ha dado el Sr. Aitken respecto a los organismos intergubernamentales cae por su propio peso. No podemos entrar, creo yo, en una situación de caso por caso y tener que revisar cada vez la acreditación de los otros organismos e instancias, como él los llama, organismos hermanos de la OMS, en cada reunión. Creo que eso no está en ningún caso ni en la letra ni en el espíritu de los reglamentos. De manera que ese tema debiera resolverse sin mayor cuestión. En cuanto a las organizaciones no gubernamentales, aquellas que ya están acreditadas, que han venido colaborando permanentemente con el proceso, tampoco pueden ser cada vez objeto de un análisis detallado en cada Conferencia; creo que en esos temas hay que ser razonable, hay que ser práctico y hay que ser también constructivo. Y cuando digo constructivo, también me ciño al espíritu de la ley, y constructivo significa permitir que participen los organismos que deben hacerlo pero también, obviamente, que seremos muy vigilantes, como muy bien lo dijo el distinguido representante de Kenya, y el de China; ante cualquier situación que produzca un cambio en las respectivas organizaciones no gubernamentales respecto a su espíritu de trabajo, respecto a su estatuto o a las motivaciones con las que vienen a esta Conferencia, seremos nosotros los primeros en estar atentos y vigilantes a esas instituciones; y si los Estados Partes tienen una observación que hacer, por favor, háganla, tenemos todo el año para eso, y la Mesa está disponible, la Secretaría está disponible; basta a veces una conversación telefónica, un e-mail, un fax o una carta, y el tema será atendido como es debido. Francamente, le pediría a mi colega, el representante de China, que tengamos confianza en que el sistema está funcionando, está funcionando bien, está funcionando de una manera vigilada, está funcionando como debe funcionar. Aquí no va a venir a meterse a estas reuniones nadie que no deba estar. Por lo menos, así lo creo. Mientras yo sea Presidente, eso no va a suceder: no permitiré que nadie que no deba estar participe; por favor, también en estas situaciones hay que tener confianza, y si hay cosas concretas que denunciar o señalar, somos todos humanos, podemos cometer errores, si hay algo imperfecto, díganlo; no vamos a paralizar el trabajo de la Conferencia atendiendo legítimas inquietudes, pero les puedo garantizar que están debidamente resguardadas y atendidas. Dicho esto, si no hay mayores observaciones… Allá están pidiendo la palabra. Tiene usted la palabra, distinguido representante de China.

Dr ZHANG Bin（China）：

张斌（中国）：

谢谢主席先生刚才的解释。我们还想完全赞同刚才主席先生的解释。现在我想补充一个观点，就是我们的议事规则的31条第3款。当时在制定这个规则的时候，第3款讲到了，缔约方会议要审查对每一个非政府组织的资格认证。当时议事规则第3条就为今天秘书处提出的这个决定草案奠定了它的原则的前提，所以才有了今天秘书处提供给各个成员国，将这个审查的资格认证继续到了我们的决定草案当中的3条。所以我也希望刚才主席先生讲的，就是非政府组织作为观察员提交给秘书处的这些材料，在下一次会议60天以前给缔约方，希望在下一次缔约方会议开幕之前的会议上，将该资格认证在会议上进行适当的表决通过。谢谢主席先生。

El PRESIDENTE:

Distinguido delegado de China. Su país es miembro de la Mesa. Hemos tenido muchas sesiones de la Mesa, hemos conversado algunos de esos temas, pero por primera vez usted está planteando este asunto de la manera en que lo hace en esta sesión plenaria. Si hay una observación concreta, por favor, quiero ser bien específico, si hay una observación concreta, si respecto de algunas de las entidades enumeradas en el proyecto que estamos sometiendo existen razonables dudas que ameriten revisar el proceso, agradeceré que se me haga saber. Si existen razonables dudas respecto de algunas de las organizaciones que estamos sometiendo a consideración de este plenario para aprobar, por favor, hágamelo saber. En público ahora o, si prefiere, en privado, pero no voy a detener el proceso si no tengo razones válidas para eso. (El orador pasa a hablar en inglés.)

Mr BURCI (WHO Secretariat, Legal Counsel):

Thank you, Mr. President. The representative of China is referring to paragraph 3, of rule 31, which says that the Conference of the Parties shall review the accreditation of each nongovernmental organization at any of its regular sessions. As you said, this issue was briefly discussed in the Bureau, and there was a view that, since the session of the Conference of the Parties had just started, it might have been also possible to work on the detail of a process of review, maybe at a later session, for example the next session. I do not think that this paragraph should be interpreted in the sense that the Conference of the Parties must review at each session all the nongovernmental organizations accredited, it simply says that there should be a regular process of review, for example along the lines of what happens at the Executive Board of WHO. If the Conference of the Parties wants to work on the detail of a review process at this session, that will certainly be possible, and the Secretariat would be prepared to offer possible draft decisions. Otherwise, maybe, since as was discussed, we are still at the beginning of the work of the Conference of the Parties, this could be done at a later session; for example, to put it on the agenda of the third session of the Conference of the Parties next year. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Tiene la palabra el distinguido representante de Kenya.

Dr OGWELL (Kenya):

Thank you, Mr Chairman. May I say that I appreciate the explanation that has been given by the Secretariat. Indeed, I do fully agree that sister organizations should be treated with a due respect since our sisters are rather important people. I have no problems with sisters; I have problems with neighbours who are not really sisters. So, the organizations within the United Nations system are our sisters and our brothers indeed, and I have no quarrels with those at all. But the neighbours are the problem and sometimes we get good neighbours and sometimes we get bad neighbours. This is a hasty decision we are making today, and I will not want us to look back on it 10 Conferences of the Parties from now (I hope I will be there) to see that the blanket admission without any proper procedure being put in place was actually a mistake. Allowing sisters is absolutely in order, but opening the gates for neighbours to walk in as they wish, now that I have a problem with. And I would like to repeat: sister organizations, I have no problems with; neighbours, I do have a problem with, and I would prefer a clear procedure for neighbours to be put in place – whether it is a bell or simply a knock on the door – before the admission is actually made. Thank you, Mr Chairman.

The PRESIDENT:

Like you, distinguished delegate, I do not have any problems with sisters; I have a lot of sisters, I can tell you! And sometimes neighbours are good guys too you know!

(The speaker continued in Spanish.)
(L'orateur poursuit en espagnol.)

Creo que tenemos que resolver este tema de manera razonable. Creo que la observación que usted acaba de hacer, y también la que hace el delegado de China, creo que detrás de sus preocupaciones hay legítimas razones para tener algunas veces inquietudes, pero también debemos ser, creo yo, positivos, avanzar y, si tenemos problemas, háganlo saber a la Mesa; tenemos todos los medios para tomar medidas tempranamente. En este caso particular, no he recibido ningún reclamo respecto a un vecino que se comporte mal, de manera que, si hay alguna observación, por favor háganmela saber; de lo contrario seguiremos adelante; pero para que mi distinguido amigo de Kenya no tenga que esperar 10 años más o 20 años más, de esta discusión tenemos que retener que hay que establecer un sistema. Creo que en eso las dos delegaciones tienen razón: el Reglamento señala un procedimiento; y hay que tener cuidado con los procedimientos exageradamente controladores, en fin, hay que tener un poco de cuidado con esas cosas en general, pero el Reglamento lo dice y por algo se discutió. Cuando se discutió el Reglamento, por algo se discutió de esa manera. Pediría a la Secretaría que establezca algún sistema interno y lo presente a la Mesa, puede ser de aquí al viernes, y la Mesa preverá algún mecanismo que permita a la Secretaría hacer un escrutinio previo y entregarle los antecedentes que parezcan más conflictivos para traerlos al plenario. Pero para eso, quiero decir al delegado de Kenya y al delegado de China que también ellos, los dos países que he mencionado, y todos los países, todos sin excepción, también tienen la obligación de hacer presente a la Mesa, a la Secretaría, aquellas situaciones que les merezcan dudas, porque hasta ahora estamos hablando, para mí, de situaciones hipotéticas. No he recibido de parte de la Secretaría ni de las delegaciones ninguna advertencia, ningún llamado de atención, ninguna petición de mayor cuidado respecto de algún candidato en particular, de manera que tampoco vamos a levantar, así, en el aire, en fin, sin sustentos reales, hipotéticos temores. Soy formal en lo que digo: en la Mesa que me acompaña, de la cual también forma parte la delegación de China, hemos sido muy claros al respecto; no vamos a aceptar, y yo personalmente no aceptaré jamás la intromisión de quienes sean contrarios al espíritu del Convenio y no tengan su presentación, sus documentos en regla, como corresponde. Éste es un tema fundamental, y si no hay una confianza mínima, es muy difícil funcionar. De manera que no tengo otro camino que someter a la consideración del plenario el informe presentado por el Embajador Lassmann, en los términos en que él lo ha hecho, en el documento A/FCTC/COP/2/Conf.Paper Nº 1. Tomando nota de lo que dicen los

delegados de Kenya y de China, propongamos establecer en la Secretaría un procedimiento de mayor rigor previo a cada Conferencia, y a partir de la próxima Conferencia tener ya un sistema más elaborado. Si la sala está de acuerdo con eso, si no veo ninguna otra interpretación, se da por adoptada la decisión contenida en el informe presentado por el Embajador Lassmann.

Accreditation of nongovernmental organizations
Accréditation des organisations non gouvernementales

El PRESIDENTE:

Embajador Lassmann de nuevo tiene usted la palabra para presentar su segundo informe.

Le Dr LASSMANN (Vice-Président) :

Merci beaucoup, Monsieur le Président. Je présente maintenant le document A/FCTC/COP/2/Conf.Paper N° 2 auquel l'on a déjà fait référence. Ce document présente le projet de décision qui a également été discuté samedi après-midi sur l'accréditation des nouvelles organisations non gouvernementales qui aimeraient participer à nos débats. Les trois paragraphes du projet de décision donnent le détail du processus envisagé pour que la Conférence puisse être bien informée avant de se prononcer sur chaque candidature. Je vous remercie, Monsieur le Président.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias, Embajador Lassmann. Tienen ustedes el informe presentado por el Embajador sobre la participación de las organizaciones intergubernamentales y no gubernamentales. ¿Hay algún comentario? ¿Está claramente explicado el tema del procedimiento en el propio informe? ¿Algún comentario de alguna delegación? Si no hay nada más que agregar al respecto, damos por aprobado el informe contenido en el documento A/FCTC/COP/2/Conf.Paper Nº 2. La decisión queda adoptada. ¿Algún otro tema hay para tratar por la Secretaría? Si no hay otro tema para tratar, les agradezco la asistencia a este plenario y los insto a que continúen el trabajo en las Comisiones A y B. Buena suerte, y avancemos. Muchas gracias.

The meeting rose at 15:50.
La séance est levée à 15h50.

FOURTH PLENARY MEETING

Friday, 6 July 2007, at 11:05

President: Mr J. MARTABIT (Chile)

QUATRIEME SEANCE PLENIERE

Vendredi 6 juillet 2007, 11h05

Président: M. J. MARTABIT (Chile)

1. CREDENTIALS OF PARTICIPANTS (continued)
POUVOIRS DES PARTICIPANTS (suite)

El PRESIDENTE:

Por favor, tomen asiento. Muy buenos días. Comenzaremos esta última sesión plenaria de nuestra Conferencia, en la cual debemos adoptar importantes informes y resoluciones. Deseo comunicarles que, con posterioridad a la adopción del informe sobre credenciales hace un par de días, se han recibido emitidas en debida forma las credenciales oficiales de India, Filipinas y Senegal. La Mesa ha examinado estas credenciales y las ha encontrado conformes con el Reglamento Interior de la Conferencia; por consiguiente, recomiendo a la Conferencia que acepte también las credenciales de India, Filipinas y Senegal que han sido, como he dicho, debidamente emitidas. Si la Conferencia está de acuerdo con esto, así queda decidido.

2. FIRST REPORT OF COMMITTEE A[1]
PREMIER RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION A[1]

El PRESIDENTE:

Empezaremos directamente nuestros trabajos con la consideración del primer informe de la Comisión A, que figura en el documento A/FCTC/COP/2/17. Por favor, no tengan en cuenta la palabra «Proyecto», puesto que la Comisión ha adoptado el informe sin modificaciones. En éste figura una

[1] For report, see under "Committees".

[1] Pour le rapport, voir la rubrique «Commissions».

decisión titulada «Directrices sobre la protección contra la exposición al humo de tabaco». Espero que todos hayan tomado debida nota de este documento importante adoptado por la Comisión, que someto a la consideración de este plenario. Si no hay comentarios ni observaciones sobre el particular, se da por aprobado.

3. SECOND REPORT OF COMMITTEE A[1]
DEUXIEME RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION A[1]

El PRESIDENTE:

Consideraremos ahora el segundo informe de la Comisión A, que figura en el documento A/FCTC/COP/2/18. También les ruego que olviden la expresión «Proyecto», ya que este documento fue adoptado por la Comisión. En este documento figura una decisión titulada «Elaboración de directrices para la aplicación del Artículo 13». Este informe fue adoptado por la Comisión con una modificación, es decir, la adición de Turquía a la lista del anexo en que se enumeran las Partes que se ofrecen para colaborar en la elaboración de las directrices. Siguiendo el procedimiento anterior, si no hay objeciones, comentarios y nada más que agregar al respecto, se da por aprobado este documento.

4. FIRST REPORT OF COMMITTEE B[1]
PREMIER RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION B[1]

El PRESIDENTE:

Pasaremos ahora a examinar el primer informe de la Comisión B, que figura en el documento A/FCTC/COP/2/19. La decisión contenida en este documento se titula «Presentación de informes e intercambio de información». Si no hay observaciones ni comentarios que deseen formular las delegaciones al respecto, procederemos entonces a darlo por aprobado. Se da por aprobado

5. SECOND REPORT OF COMMITTEE B[1]
DEUXIEME RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION B[1]

El PRESIDENTE:

Vamos al segundo informe de la Comisión B, que figura en el documento A/FCTC/COP/2/20 y la decisión se titula «Recursos financieros y mecanismos de asistencia». Éste también es un importante documento de esta Conferencia. Dicen que trabajaron muy arduamente para lograrlo. Si no hay comentarios ni observaciones daremos por aprobado este informe. Se da por aprobado.

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[1] For report, see under "Committees".

[1] Pour le rapport, voir la rubrique «Commissions».

6. THIRD REPORT OF COMMITTEE B[1]
TROISIEME RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION B[1]

El PRESIDENTE:

Pasaremos ahora a examinar el tercer informe de la Comisión B, que se encuentra en el documento A/FCTC/COP/2/21. El documento contiene la decisión titulada «Presupuesto y programa de trabajo para la Conferencia de las Partes para el ejercicio 2008-2009». Por cierto, también éste es un importante documento de la Comisión B; se trabajó mucho en él. No habiendo comentarios ni observaciones por parte de las delegaciones, se da por aprobado.

7. THIRD REPORT OF COMMITTEE A[1]
TROISIEME RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION A[1]

El PRESIDENTE:

El último informe que hemos de examinar es el tercero de la Comisión A, que se encuentra en el documento A/FCTC/COP/2/22; y en él hay tres decisiones. Una, es la elaboración de un protocolo sobre comercio ilícito de productos de tabaco. La segunda se titula «Grupo de estudio sobre alternativas económicamente sostenibles al cultivo de tabaco» y en tercer lugar «Elaboración de directrices para la aplicación del Convenio». Someto a consideración del plenario este importante documento y, al igual que en los casos anteriores, si no hay observaciones ni comentarios procederíamos a darlo por aprobado. Se da por aprobado.

Quiero destacar el enorme valor del documento que acabamos de aprobar. Creo que es un paso gigantesco que debemos apreciar en su justa medida y poner todo nuestro esfuerzo para que estas tres instancias creadas en este proyecto sigan su trabajo de la manera más eficiente y eficaz posible.

8. DATE AND VENUE OF THE THIRD SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
DATE ET LIEU DE LA TROISIEME SESSION DE LA CONFERENCE DES PARTIES

El PRESIDENTE:

Pasamos a continuación al punto 8 del orden del día, que se refiere a la fecha y lugar de la tercera Conferencia de las Partes. Entiendo que la Comisión B ya debatió oficiosamente esta cuestión y ha recomendado que la tercera reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes se celebre en Sudáfrica, país que gentilmente se ha ofrecido como sede para esta Conferencia, y a su petición me es muy grato ofrecer la palabra a la distinguida representación de Sudáfrica. Tiene usted la palabra Sudáfrica.

Ms MATSAO (South Africa):

Thank you Mr President, and honourable colleagues, delegates here. It is really our honour and pride to get the support from all of you for South Africa to host the Conference, and we do feel that we owe it to you to host a very successful conference, and from the very day that we get back home, we shall be making preparations. Just to make it clear, because I have been getting a lot of questions about the actual venue in South Africa of the Conference, unfortunately I cannot make that commitment right now. I am getting the impression that there is an overwhelming preference for an insignificant little city in South Africa called Cape Town. Since I am a Johannesburger, I would be even more pleased if you wanted a

conference in Johannesburg. But colleagues, just to say that, to clarify the process, I will carry the message, if it is my accurate reading of the situation, that the preference is to have the Conference in Cape Town; and I hope it will be representing the feeling of the Conference. But I do need to point out that this is not an automatic decision as, according to our laws, all conference venues have to compete to host the conference, and it really does depend on which venue gets the tender and generally the bigger venues are in Johannesburg, Cape Town and in Durban. So, all I can say at this stage is that the actual city will be communicated to the Secretariat to inform the Member States. But once again, let me thank you and everybody else for the support we have had for this. It will be an honour for us to do this for the sake of tobacco control in the world. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a la delegación de Sudáfrica por su ofrecimiento; muchas gracias también por su disposición a buscar el lugar más conveniente. Estamos seguros de que el aplauso que usted acaba de recibir es una clara indicación de la simpatía de esta Conferencia respecto a la gentil oferta de su país. Me es grato ahora ofrecer la palabra a Tailandia, la delegación de Tailandia, por favor.

Dr HATAI CHITANONDH (Thailand):

Thank you, Mr Chairman. Because Thailand is the host country of this session of the Conference of the Parties, Thailand supports South Africa as the future host country because South Africa is a developing country just like Thailand, and because Thailand has proved that a developing country can host a big conference like this one. So not only because of the taste of the African wine which I love but also because we are a developing country and we have the ability to do so. Thank you Mr Chairman.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias, doctor Hatai. Su comentario respecto a los vinos me coloca a mí, personalmente, en una difícil situación, pero acepto muy congraciado también la calidad de otros vinos. Ofrezco ahora la palabra al distinguido representante de Kenya.

Dr OGWELL (Kenya):

Thank you, Mr President, and we just want to give you a taste of African hospitality. Usually when we go out to celebrate any event, you do not go alone, you carry along your sisters and even your neighbours and we in Africa would like to express our happiness at this decision that has been made by the second session of the Conference of the Parties to come to Africa. We assure you that you will enjoy yourselves; we assure you that the decisions that we make there will be good ones – I mean outside plenary! And we assure you, Mr President, that in the period between now and the next session of the Conference of the Parties, Africa will play its rightful role in making sure that that particular meeting in South Africa, in the insignificant little town or another larger one, will be a good one and indeed memorable. Because this is really important work. It started in Geneva, it has come to Bangkok; we shall continue the race and hopefully increase the pace. Thank you, Mr President.

El PRESIDENTE:

Bueno, muchas gracias, Kenya. Estoy absolutamente seguro, como lo está toda la Conferencia, de que será una muy grata ocasión para estar en África con motivo de la tercera reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes y disfrutar del gran sentido de hospitalidad y fraternidad que siempre tienen todos los países africanos. A propósito de este tema del delegado de Kenya, de «sisters and neighbours», a lo mejor yo

creo que para solucionar eventuales problemas entre «sisters» y «neighbours» alguna buena solución podría presentarse …

(The speaker continued in English.)
(L'orateur poursuit en anglais.)

… to introduce one of your sisters to the neighbours and, inshallah, …

(The speaker continued in Spanish.)
(L'orateur poursuit en espagnol.)

… pueden enamorarse y terminar en matrimonio, y solucionamos el problema de «neighbours and sisters». Yo creo que ésa puede ser una muy buena solución. Ahí estaremos, en Sudáfrica. Ofrezco ahora la palabra al distinguido representante de Suiza.

M. IMHOOF (Suisse) :

Muchísimas gracias, señor Presidente. J'aimerais d'abord féliciter l'Afrique du Sud pour sa brillante élection et l'assurer de la joie que nous aurons nous aussi, frères et soeurs, de venir dans la ville qui aura été désignée par son Gouvernement. Si j'ai demandé la parole à ce stade, c'est parce que Genève a été mentionnée à plusieurs reprises pendant cette Conférence des Parties – surtout, justement, dans le contexte du choix du prochain lieu de conférence. Ces interventions ont peut-être donné l'impression que Genève, et ainsi la Suisse, ne s'engage pas assez à mettre en oeuvre les buts de la Convention-cadre pour la lutte antitabac. Et comme en plus j'ai aussi été pour le moins amusé d'apprendre, vu le nombre de fois où cet argument a été repris, que les aspects culinaires – et dernièrement viticoles – sont devenus un critère important pour de nombreux délégués quant au choix du lieu de la prochaine Conférence, je ne pouvais pas vous laisser quitter cette belle ville de Bangkok sans essayer de vous expliquer certains aspects du travail que nous faisons en Suisse. Ma délégation souhaite ainsi informer les délégués que la situation en Suisse en matière de lutte contre la fumée secondaire est en train d'évoluer de manière positive.

Entre 2001 et 2006, la prévalence des fumeurs quotidiens ou occasionnels est passée chez les adultes de 33 à 29 % ; chez les jeunes entre 14 et 19 ans, de 31 à 25 %. Depuis 2001, le prix de vente de la marque la plus vendue est passé de CHF 4,70 à CHF 6,30 – soit une augmentation de CHF 1,10 par paquet. En 2003, le Parlement a institué un fonds pour la prévention du tabagisme, alimenté par un prélèvement de 2,6 centimes par paquet de cigarettes, ce qui donne CHF 18 millions par an. En modifiant enfin l'Ordonnance fédérale sur le tabac en 2004, le Conseil fédéral a banni les termes trompeurs comme « light » et introduit des mises en garde de grande taille : 35 % sur la face avant, 50 % sur la face arrière. Il s'agit là des plus grands encadrements d'avertissements existant à ma connaissance au niveau mondial. Cette année, en plus, le Conseil fédéral a décidé qu'il introduirait en 2008 des avertissements par l'image. Vous me demanderez dès lors pourquoi la Suisse n'a pas ratifié la Convention qu'elle a signée le 25 juin 2004. Eh bien, c'est pour des raisons liées notamment à son système de démocratie directe. La Suisse ne peut ratifier une convention internationale qu'après avoir adapté son droit national. La Constitution suisse, comme d'autres constitutions fédérales – je crois que c'est le cas de la Constitution du Canada –, exige en effet de se doter des moyens de satisfaire entièrement et immédiatement à des obligations internationales avant qu'une ratification n'intervienne. Et la Suisse remplit déjà les exigences de la Convention dans de nombreux domaines. Par exemple, l'imposition en matière de tabac, la contrebande, les avertissements sur les paquets – que je me suis déjà permis de mentionner – qui concernent en particulier (comme vous le savez) les risques pour la santé ; l'interdiction, aussi, de la publicité à la radio et à la télévision. D'ailleurs, un projet de loi visant à bannir la cigarette et le tabac dans les lieux publics et de travail dans toute la Suisse à partir du 1er janvier 2009 est en discussion au Parlement. A ce moment-là la Suisse sera, comme on dit à Genève, « fin prête ». Au niveau des cantons, certains cantons ont déjà interdit l'utilisation de tabac. Dans le Canton de Genève, une initiative, qui vise à interdire de fumer dans les lieux publics

fermés, y compris dans les restaurants, a été déposée l'an dernier et le peuple va voter sur cette initiative l'année prochaine.

Monsieur le Président, Genève présente quelques avantages, je dirais même des avantages certains, en tant que lieu de déroulement des Conférences des Parties à la Convention-cadre. Ces avantages découlent notamment du fait que l'OMS y a son Siège et que les experts des questions de santé au sein des missions permanentes sont sur place. La Suisse est convaincue qu'un modus d'alternance du lieu de conférences, une fois à Genève, une fois dans une autre ville, comme cela est à ma connaissance déjà le cas dans le cadre d'autres conventions internationales, pourrait être retenu à l'avenir. J'aimerais terminer mon intervention en félicitant une fois encore l'Afrique du Sud pour sa brillante élection et je vous promets que les délégués suisses qui se rendront dans ce pays y viendront sans cigarette au bec.

El PRESIDENTE:

Bueno, muchas gracias, Embajador. Creo que la Conferencia ha tomado nota con satisfacción de las informaciones que usted ha entregado sobre el desarrollo del tema antitabaco desde el punto de vista legislativo en su país. Sabemos el esfuerzo que está haciendo su Gobierno, y también conocemos muy bien y apreciamos, por cierto, las bondades de Ginebra. En este caso particular tenemos una propuesta de sede de la próxima Conferencia de las Partes en Sudáfrica, la cual cuenta con un amplio respaldo, de manera que invito a las delegaciones a aprobar por aclamación la propuesta de Sudáfrica como próxima sede de la tercera reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes. Si la Conferencia está de acuerdo así se adopta.

(Applause/Applaudissements)

Muchas gracias a todos por esta importante decisión. A título personal, déjenme decir un comentario: creo que realizar estas conferencias en diferentes regiones del mundo puede ayudar a la causa contra el tabaquismo; creo que tiene un efecto de difusión, de comprometer a actores regionales y locales a difundir esa causa de una manera más intensa, para llegar más directamente a poblaciones muy dependientes del tabaco, de manera que también en eso hay mérito. Tampoco desconozco los argumentos del Embajador de Suiza en cuanto a que para cierto tipo de reuniones especializadas, Ginebra también ofrece indudables ventajas, pero la Conferencia ha resuelto de esta manera y así entonces hemos procedido.

Me permito proponer a la Conferencia que, en cuanto a la fecha de la tercera reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes, se encargue a la Mesa que, en consulta con todas las Partes, con el Gobierno de Sudáfrica en particular, y según el calendario de reuniones internacionales previstas para el último tercio del año 2008, determine la fecha más apropiada para la reunión. Si la Conferencia está de acuerdo en solicitar a la Mesa la tarea de iniciar las consultas para determinar la fecha, se adoptaría esa decisión. Se adopta esa decisión.

9. ELECTION OF OFFICERS
ELECTION DU BUREAU

El PRESIDENTE:

Pasamos ahora al punto 9 del orden del día, relativo a la elección de cargos. Se han celebrado reuniones consultivas regionales estos días, y los grupos han propuesto a las siguientes personas de las que me es muy grato pasar a informar al plenario. Por la Región de África se ha propuesto a la distinguida representante de Sudáfrica, la Sra. Dladla. Por la Región de las Américas a mi colega, el Embajador de Uruguay en Ginebra. Por la Región del Mediterráneo Oriental a la Dra. Qotba, de Qatar. Por la Región de Europa, a mi querido amigo el Embajador Lassmann de Austria, actual Vicepresidente. Por la Región de

Asia Sudoriental, a mi distinguido amigo el Dr. Hatai, de Tailandia, que fue miembro de la Mesa que termina hoy, y por la Región del Pacífico Occidental al Dr. Bloomfield, de Nueva Zelandia. También entiendo que, como resultado de las consultas efectuadas hasta ahora, se ha propuesto al Dr. Hatai, de Tailandia, como Presidente de la tercera reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes, quien debe asumir el cargo a medianoche del día de hoy.

(Applause/Applaudissements)

Bueno, creo que este aplauso habla por sí solo. Me es muy grato entonces dar por elegido a este distinguido grupo de representantes regionales como Vicepresidentes, miembros de la Mesa y a mi querido amigo el Dr. Hatai como Presidente de la tercera reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes.

El orden de los Vicepresidentes se establece por sorteo, de manera que procederemos inmediatamente a efectuar un sorteo. El Dr. Bloomfield de Nueva Zelandia, primer Vicepresidente. Embajador Lassmann de Austria, segundo Vicepresidente. Dra. Qotba de Qatar, tercera Vicepresidente. Embajador Valles Galmés de Uruguay, cuarto Vicepresidente, y el último, mi querida amiga la Sra. Dladla de Sudáfrica. De esa forma queda configurada la Mesa. De conformidad con el artículo 21 del Reglamento Interior, uno de los Vicepresidentes actuará asimismo como Relator, y se ha acordado, en consulta con los grupos regionales, que este cargo sea ejercido por la Dra. Qotba de Qatar. Felicitaciones, doctores.

10. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION
CLOTURE DE LA SESSION

El PRESIDENTE:

Así hemos concluido entonces el punto 9 del orden del día; paso ahora al punto 10, que es la clausura de esta reunión. Entiendo que al ingresar en esta etapa de la reunión los grupos regionales han hecho saber que desean formular algunas declaraciones. Ofrezco la palabra al distinguido representante de Kenya.

Dr OGWELL (Kenya):

Thank you very much, Mr President. Kenya takes the floor on behalf of the Parties in the African Region, and we would like to begin by thanking the Royal Thai Government for so lavishly hosting us during this second session of the Conference of the Parties.

(Applause/Applaudissements)

Secondly, we would like to thank the interim secretariat for stepping in and preparing our agenda and the documents that we have used for discussions during the past week. I think they too deserve a round of applause.

(Applause/Applaudissements)

We would also like to welcome the new Head of the Convention Secretariat. I have deleted "new" from my notes because, considering the week, I think he has grown old pretty quickly! And I urge him to carry forward the work that has been so well started by the interim secretariat. We wish him well and we assure him of our support as he takes the Convention Secretariat forward. We would also like to say that this week has not been one of competition. If there was any competition it was for health on one side and

disease, death and disability on the other. It was not a competition between visions, it was not a competition between countries, it certainly was not a competition between ideas. But, at the end of the day, tobacco control has been the winner if we look at the decisions that we have made at this second session of the Conference of the Parties. We are delighted as a Region with this decision that has been taken for the third session of the Conference of the Parties to be held in South Africa. Indeed, we would like to suggest that the concept of rotation is a good one, where rotation is between the regions of WHO. It improves ownership and, as I said earlier, it is a relay! And very soon I am sure, we will be back in Europe and indeed in Geneva. Every manufacturer of any product, even the tobacco industry, usually provides some form of instructions on how a consumer of that product can use the product to get the best results out of it. The manufacturers of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control are us! And we as the manufacturers are slowly putting out on how we can best use our product. To this end, the African group welcomes the decision to adopt the guidelines on Article 8, and urges Parties to contribute to the development of the protocol and the other guidelines that have had working groups' approval at this session. But we add the rider that the principle should be to contribute to the objective of this treaty, and not any other party. Mr President, the Conference of the Parties is a team, and indeed it is a good team; and you as the President, we can look up to you probably as the captain; and the Head of the Convention Secretariat, as the head of our logistics. This team is actually only as strong as its weakest link. That is why, as a Region, we would like to urge all Parties to ensure that we do not leave any weak links in our armour against the tobacco epidemic. No weak link in our planning, no weak link in our preparations, and certainly no weak link in our execution of those plans. And speaking of executions, Mr President, we need to remember that tobacco causes poverty, it causes disease, disability and death. And Africa is not an exception to that particular rule. We urge partners, and Parties, to invest in tobacco control in Africa. We urge the Conference of the Parties itself to ensure that there is no weak link, and therefore we call for effective mechanisms of assistance to those who *genuinely* need that assistance. Let the fruits of assistance be low enough so that those who are hungry enough to need them can reach them. Mr President, once again we would like to welcome all the Parties, observers and all other interested organizations to the third session of the Conference of the Parties that will be held in South Africa, and we hope that, in due course, we shall have even better results from the third session as we consider the guidelines that are going to be developed. The African Region is humbled by the choice of South Africa as the host of the third session of the Conference of the Parties, and we would like to encourage the rotation principle so that we end seeing all parts of this beautiful world of ours. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Gracias a usted, distinguido representante de Kenya por sus amables palabras. Ofrezco ahora la palabra al distinguido representante de Noruega.

Dr HETLAND (Norway):

Thank you, Mr President. Excellencies, delegates, it is indeed a pleasure for me to speak on behalf of the European Region to this closing session. Our primary thanks and appreciation are directed to the Royal Government of Thailand, hosts of this second session of the Conference of the Parties. You have facilitated this meeting so well and so effectively and cared for us personally in such a smiling and kind way that we will never forget it. We have enjoyed smoke-free hotels and restaurants and we have visited smoke-free mosques and temples outside Bangkok. We think this is due to strong and forcefully implemented tobacco-control legislation. We are impressed by this example.

Several important milestones have been passed at this session of the Conference of the Parties. Good work has been done in line with the objective and principles of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. Remarkable also is the willingness to provide extrabudgetary contributions, and I would like to emphasize in this regard the Australian unearmarked pledge, as well as the pledge from the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) to finance part of the upcoming meeting of an intergovernmental

negotiating body on illicit trade. The latter initiative shows the cross-sectoral nature of our Framework Convention.

None of this would have been possible without the tireless work and wise guidance of the President supported by a well-functioning Bureau. Our thanks go to Ambassador Martabit for his excellent leadership. We congratulate Dr Hadai and his Bureau on their election, and we are expecting the same level of engagement from our new President, and we are looking forward to working with him and the new Secretariat in the year to come.

WHO and the Tobacco Free Initiative have been instrumental in shaping the basis for our work, and so also for this session of the Conference of the Parties. This was possible thanks to the outstanding work of Douglas Bettcher and his team, on whose support we will also rely in the future.

Mr President, as this is my last participation in this process before retirement, please allow me some personal remarks. What have I learnt now during almost 10 years in the Framework Convention process? I have learnt that public health has strong ethical dimensions going far beyond systems of private economic gain; I have seen that public health can contribute to stability and peace, as exemplified through the Stability Pact for the Balkan Region in Europe; and I have seen that the negative effects of globalization can be countered by an international agreement that meets the challenges at the same level. This has been personally enriching and I wish that you all will have the same positive experience. I thank you for your attention.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias, distinguido representante de Noruega, por su interesante intervención y, sobre todo, por sus comentarios personales. Muchas gracias, doctor. Me es grato ofrecer ahora la palabra al representante de Irán. Tiene usted la palabra.

Mr BAYAT MOKHTARI (Islamic Republic of Iran):

Thank you, Mr President. For many reasons, this Conference has been a memorable one. This has been a Conference where the host was most gracious, the Secretariat and staff were tirelessly hardworking and efficient, the participants were committed and determined and the President, well, what can I say Mr President, he was the best – a refined diplomat and a great leader.

The Conference achieved many decisions and agreed on many issues. But perhaps, its best achievement was the spirit of understanding and togetherness in which it sailed through and got us all some steps further to our goal of a tobacco-free world. It was due to this spirit that we witnessed harmony among sides that otherwise and elsewhere might not see eye to eye.

The Eastern Mediterranean Region congratulates you, Mr President, the Secretariat and every single delegate and staff member for those achievements. The Region wishes the best for our newly born Convention and the new Head of the Convention Secretariat. The Region is also grateful to the Kingdom of Thailand and its kind people. May God bring them more prosperity and greatness.

I cannot describe how thrilled we are with the fact that we decided to hold the next session of the Conference of the Parties in the fantastic continent of Africa, especially in beautiful South Africa. This decision alone shows we are moving in the right direction. We warmly congratulate Thailand and the beloved Dr Hatai for being selected as our next President. We also take pride in this decision. Goodbye Bangkok! Hello South Africa!

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias, señor Mokhtari, por sus muy gentiles palabras y sus comentarios personales. Me es grato ofrecer ahora la palabra a la representación de Nueva Zelandia.

Dr BLOOMFIELD (New Zealand):

Thank you, Mr President. Mr President, you have led our discussions at the second session of the Conference of the Parties in the efficient and focused manner and with the good humour that we became used to at the first session. In this, you have been ably supported by other Bureau members and by the chairs of the two committees, who have done a wonderful job in ensuring that we have completed our business. To you all, warm thanks from the Western Pacific Region.

The Region also extends its thanks to the other regions for the work they have done before and during the second session of the Conference of the Parties, which has helped us to achieve so much together. Our thanks of course also go to our gracious hosts, Thailand, for their generosity and excellent organization, and congratulations to you, Dr Hatai, on your election as the Bureau President. We wish to thank the Convention Secretariat, as well as the Tobacco Free Initiative and the many WHO staff who have supported our work over the last week. Our Region congratulates Dr Nikogosian on his appointment and is keen to see the Secretariat capacity strengthened rapidly so that we can move forward with the very full work programme we have given you. In this, you can be assured of the Western Pacific Region's full support. Your work, as has been noted by other regions, has received a boost in the form of extrabudgetary contributions from Australia and the European Union, who have thrown down a challenge to other Parties New Zealand in particular always rises to a challenge from Australia, but let us all rise to that challenge.

I wish to thank the countries of the Western Pacific Region for their support for New Zealand to represent them on the Bureau for the coming term. I believe that during this session, our Region has broken new ground in terms of working cooperatively, under the excellent chairmanship of China, and I thank all my colleagues from the Region for contributing to this. This spirit of cooperation will guide my work as a Bureau member on your behalf, and on behalf of all the people of our Region.

Finally, Mr President, we have achieved a lot this week, and for this we can be rightly satisfied. There is still much to do, and we must all renew our long-term commitment to eliminating – in the words of the New Zealand Prime Minister – "the scourge that is tobacco, one product our world can do without". Let us proceed with courage, commitment, vision and united in our efforts until we meet again in Cape Town next year. The people of all nations depend on us. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias, distinguido representante de Nueva Zelandia. Veo que usted también tiene mucho sentido del humor, y eso me alegra mucho. Ofrezco ahora la palabra al distinguido representante de Portugal. Señor, tiene usted la palabra.

Mr FARIA E MAYA (Portugal):

Muchisimas gracias, Señor Presidente. Thank you, Mr President, I wish, first of all, on behalf of the European Union Member States and the Commission to express our deep satisfaction for the great success of this session of the Conference of the Parties. As a matter of fact, as another delegation mentioned, it is to be considered a memorable session. Secondly, I would like to thank the Royal Government of Thailand and the Thai people for their hospitality, their support, their efficiency and the excellent spirit that surrounded this meeting and which contributed to the success of the second session of the Conference of the Parties.

Mr President, I wish also to congratulate you on behalf of the European Union, its Member States, the Commission and the Portuguese delegation for your excellent, outstanding mastery as a well-known and distinguished Chilean diplomat, I wish very specially to congratulate you and, if I may express on a personal note, as a diplomat representing a country with which I have very profound ties – my previous post. I wish also to congratulate the Bureau, the Secretariat and the Tobacco Free Initiative for their splendid and outstanding role in the organization of this second session of the Conference of the Parties.

We also wish to make a special mention of the Bureaus of Committees A and B for their very complex, technical work which has been very important to the success of this session.

Finally, I wish to express our congratulations for the election of South Africa to host the forthcoming third session of the Conference of the Parties – a country to which the European Union, as well as my own country, has very strong ties; and for the election of Dr Hatai of Thailand as President of the next session. Thank you, Mr President.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias, señor Embajador, por sus palabras de reconocimiento a la Mesa, y por las de carácter personal que tan generosamente pronunció; las atribuyo al enorme cariño que usted tiene por mi país, donde ejerció como Embajador y sólo tiene amigos. Es usted muy recordado en Chile, Embajador. Me es grato ofrecer la palabra a mi distinguido colega, el representante de Chile. Tiene usted la palabra.

El Sr. DEL PICÓ (Chile):

Gracias, señor Presidente. No pretendo competir con la elocuencia de los oradores anteriores que me superan mucho en eso. Seré muy breve. Básicamente, la Región de las Américas quiere felicitar a Sudáfrica como sede de la próxima Conferencia de la Partes y expresar a la organización local los mejores deseos; sabemos que resultará una excelente Conferencia; igualmente queremos reconocer al Dr. Hatai; personalmente, lo conocí en las sesiones de la Mesa; es una persona de gran bondad, de un sentido del humor muy especial, y creo que, sin duda, va a ser un gran Presidente. No quisiera dejar pasar la oportunidad de expresar reconocimiento a Douglas Bettcher. Tampoco quiero ser injusto con toda la gente que contribuyó a la formación de lo que hoy tenemos, pero Douglas merece un reconocimiento especial. Debemos mucho de lo que tenemos al esfuerzo y al talento de Douglas, y quisiera destacar eso de manera importante. También quisiera expresar al Dr. Nikogosian mis mejores deseos para el futuro. La tarea que hay por delante es complicada, pero su experiencia personal demuestra que tiene una gran capacidad para resolver situaciones complejas. Creo que sabrá resolver esos problemas y, sin duda, realizará una muy buena gestión.

A Denis Aitken, quien tiene un talento especial para resolver problemas complejos (no sabemos cómo, pero siempre lo logra), manifiesto mi reconocimiento y el de la Región por sus capacidades y su gran bondad y gentileza como persona. Expreso igualmente mi reconocimiento a Gian Luca Burci, que también tiene una gran capacidad para encontrar soluciones en momentos muy complejos, y a los Presidentes de las comisiones, que han sabido resolver problemas muy complejos y han sido capaces de dar a esta Conferencia de las Partes un resultado tan exitoso como el que hoy tenemos. Expreso a todos los mejores deseos. Sabemos que quedan desafíos en nuestra Región, donde tenemos grandes retrasos. El 40% de la Región de las Américas aún no ha ratificado el Convenio. Un parte importante de los países que sí lo han ratificado llevan retraso, tienen problemas para implementarlo. Vamos a ser muy estrictos en el trabajo para promover un mayor avance en la implementación del Convenio Marco. Son tareas pendientes que la Región sin duda sabrá resolver, y en ese sentido esperamos que la Organización Panamericana de la Salud nos ayude mucho en este esfuerzo. Eso es todo. Nos veremos en Sudáfrica el próximo año. Muchas gracias.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted, distinguido representante. A continuación ofrezco la palabra al Dr. Hatai, de Tailandia.

Dr HATAI CHITANONDH (Thailand):

Thank you, Mr President. First, I would like to express the comments of the South-East Asia Region – there are only two. We would like to express satisfaction at the desire to proceed in some new areas of tobacco control, such as Article 14. The Region also proposes that there is a need to make an inclusive and transparent system of recruitment in the Convention Secretariat, keeping in mind regional and gender considerations. Now, I would like to make a statement as the Coordinator for the South-East Asia Region. I would like to thank my small regional family in re-electing me as the Regional Coordinator. I would also like to thank the various WHO regional groups for their gracious support, and send warm wishes to friends who have attended this second session of the Conference of the Parties.

On behalf of the Region, I am delighted to witness the wonderful progress of the second session. Also, I would like to express my appreciation and congratulations on the consensus resolutions on protocols and guidelines that the Parties have reached. These protocols and guidelines for implementation of the Framework Convention are significant tobacco-control measures for the South-East Asia Region, which is composed of developing countries that have limited resources. Having these protocols and guidelines will be fruitful, enabling us to develop national laws and regulations, and also strengthen or amend regulations on tobacco control. The Region consists of less than a dozen countries and we are a closely-knit small family. That allows us to work successfully. Member countries of the Region will forge ahead both at the regional and global levels. And with your permission, Mr President, I would like to make a statement as the President-elect of the Bureau for the next session of the Conference of the Parties.

I pledge to do my best as the President of the Bureau in serving you all. The three preceding Presidents, as you may recall, were all diplomats – being ambassadors stationed in Geneva. But my background is quite different. I was a neurosurgeon in the early years of my career and have worked in tobacco control for the past 20 years. I am certain that I will benefit from any wise words that you, Mr President, would like to pass on to me.

One of our friends mentioned that he would be retiring in one year. I would like to tell you that I have been retired for 18 years! So I am still working for my country and for the world.

Smoking has long been a battleground between those who wish to support and partake in one of the world's most dangerous habits and those who wish to stamp out one of public health's major threats. We are in the second group, waging an international campaign against the slow killers of society.

We know that the road ahead is full of hardships and obstacles, but we have an immense pool of able and talented individuals with determination and dedication; therefore, nothing should stop us from forging ahead. If we all support one another in this war, we shall reach our milestones along the way and come out victorious in the end. Thank you all.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted, doctor Hatai. Estoy seguro de que su designación como Presidente de la tercera reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes significará una inyección de vitalidad, de gran energía a este proceso. Aprendí mucho de usted, doctor Hatai, con quien tuve el agrado de compartir la Mesa durante casi dos años. En la lucha contra el tabaquismo, el Dr. Hatai es uno de los pioneros mundiales y una personalidad muy reconocida. Doctor Hatai, me alegro infinitamente de su elección, y estoy seguro de que usted ejercerá una destacada presidencia de esta reunión. Me es grato ofrecer a continuación la palabra al distinguido representante de la India.

Mr TRIVEDI (India):

Thank you, Mr President. On behalf of my Government, I would like to congratulate and thank the Royal Government of Thailand for hosting this excellent session of the Conference of the Parties, and express our gratitude to Dr Hatai personally for leading the South-East Asia Region in the most effective manner and our pride that he has been elected as the next President of the Conference of the Parties.

Dr Hatai has the personal commitment and, backed by the institutional support of the Thai Government, he has done wonders in the world of tobacco control. He just mentioned that he is not a career diplomat, but being a career diplomat and having served in a few missions, I know the importance of leadership. All ambassadors are not necessarily leaders. I say this in my personal capacity as an experienced Foreign Service officer. All we need in tobacco control is leadership. And Dr Hatai has amply demonstrated his ability to lead the tobacco-control efforts.

We also heard a very remarkable comment in the morning from the distinguished delegate of Norway. He highlighted the importance of public responsibility in the area of public health. Indeed, the responsibility of public health cannot be privatized, and as governments we must recognize this fact and continue to do our best to carry forward this agenda; also, if we get support, we shall take it from the private partners. We have, during our deliberations in Committee B, found excellent cooperation and common language towards the goal of tobacco control. We found willing partners among the donors to help the cause and take the process forward. It has been a very successful and very productive outcome, and we also take this opportunity to thank the Chair of Committee B.

We have outlined certain tasks ahead from now on. We have a new Head of the Convention Secretariat. He brings public service experience. Yesterday he also made a very remarkable comment, saying that public money will be utilized for public purposes. This is a quality of leadership, and we are delighted to hear this. We are also delighted to have him because in public institutions we must not only work properly and observe propriety, we must also be seen to be doing so. Mr President, once again I would like to thank you for your excellent leadership. I do not know how we will see you in the future, but we wish to see you in some capacity associated with this remarkable Convention. Thank you.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted, distinguido representante de la India. A continuación me han solicitado la palabra dos representaciones de la sociedad civil. En primer lugar tengo el agrado de ofrecer la palabra a la *Framework Convention Alliance on Tobacco Control*. Tiene usted la palabra, por favor.

Mr OLUWAFEMI (Framework Convention Alliance on Tobacco Control):

Thank you, Mr President, I am Akinbode Oluwafemi of Environmental Rights Action, Nigeria. I am the representative of the African region on the board of the Framework Convention Alliance. On behalf of the Framework Convention Alliance and its member organizations, I would like to congratulate and thank all Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control for the vital work you have done over this last week. When we arrived in Bangkok for the beginning of this session of the Conference of the Parties, while we hoped for the best, none of us knew what to expect. Today, as this session comes to an end, we say to all Parties to the Convention that you have delivered. We congratulate you on adopting the Article 8 guidelines and for committing to an impressive workplan that includes the negotiation of a protocol on illicit trade and the development of guidelines on key Framework Convention provisions. While we celebrate what has been achieved this week, we must remember that the real work lies ahead, both through the work to which the Conference of the Parties has committed and in the way that you all implement the Framework Convention domestically. We look forward to continuing to participate in your work in this forum that we have enjoyed this last week. We thank and congratulate the outgoing Bureau for the work you have done over these last 16 months under the outstanding leadership of Ambassador Martabit. And we welcome the new Bureau and the new President, our own Dr Hatai. We wish you all well for the duration of your terms. We thank and congratulate Dr Douglas Bettcher for your outstanding work as head of the interim secretariat, together with your tireless staff. The success of this week has been built on the expert work that you have done in the intersessional period since the second session of the Conference of the Parties. We congratulate Dr Haik Nikogosian for a very impressive beginning of term as Head of the permanent Secretariat. And we look forward to continuing our work with you and your team to support the next stages of implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

We congratulate the Chairs of the two committees who have expertly guided us all through a programme of work that seemed impossible to complete when we arrived. We congratulate both OLAF from the European Union and Australia for committing fixed extrabudgetary funds for the work of the Conference of the Parties, and we encourage other Parties to follow this lead in the years ahead. Lastly, we want to thank the Thai Government for hosting us all this week. It has been a great pleasure to see your wonderful country and appreciate your culture; your hospitality has been appreciated by all.

Our final comment is again to the Parties to the Convention. The decisions you have taken this week will make an enormous difference in the years and decades ahead. They will save countless lives right across the globe. And Mr President, in appreciation of the wonderful work this session of the Conference of the Parties has done, we would like to present you, Ambassador Martabit, with these orchids (that are coming). We are all looking forward to seeing you all at the third session of the Conference of the Parties in motherland Africa. Congratulations to you all and thank you.

Amid applause, the President was presented with a bouquet of flowers.
Le Président reçoit un bouquet de fleurs. (Applaudissements)

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias. Tengo ahora el agrado de ofrecer la palabra a *Corporate Accountability International*. Tiene usted la palabra, por favor.

Ms WANYONYI (Corporate Accountability International):

My name is Emma Wanyonyi and I speak on behalf of Corporate Accountability International and the Network for Accountability of Tobacco Transnationals.

The Network welcomes the progress made during this second session of the Conference of the Parties, including the commitments around funding and financial mechanisms that have allowed the work to proceed so smoothly. We particularly applaud the courage of the countries and delegations that helped to put the development of guidelines on Article 5.3 on tobacco industry interference on the agenda of the session. Throughout the week, Parties have shared their experiences of tobacco industry interference and highlighted the importance of developing guidelines on Article 5.3. These guidelines will go a long way in assisting the Parties to implement the treaty and to give direction on how to resist interference from the tobacco industry.

We also thank the Chair of Committee A for facilitating discussions on this important topic and Committee B for ensuring the budget allocations. We extend appreciation to the Parties that volunteered their participation as key facilitators and partners in the working group on the elaboration of guidelines on Article 5.3

We look forward to participating in the working group, to working with the Parties and the Convention Secretariat and with the Tobacco Free Initiative; and, coming from Africa, I also look forward to meeting you all in Africa in 2008. Thank you very much.

El PRESIDENTE:

Muchas gracias a usted por su declaración. Secretaría: usted me ha pedido la palabra. Tiene la palabra el Sr. Aitken.

Mr AITKEN (WHO Secretariat):

We in the Secretariat have also prepared something for you, which is a memento of this meeting and of the previous meeting. It is in fact the gavel you have used; we have it here in a box with what I hope will become a historical artefact that reads "Ambassador Juan Martabit, First President of the Conference

of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control". I am very happy, on behalf of the WHO Secretariat, to present you with this as a memento.

(Applause/Applaudissements)

El PRESIDENTE:

Las cosas agradables en la vida también suelen ser un poco difíciles. Al cerrar esta Conferencia deseo dirigirme a todos los distinguidos y distinguidas jefes de delegaciones, delegados, embajadores, representantes de organizaciones no gubernamentales, muy especialmente a los miembros de la Mesa que me han acompañado, a la espléndida Secretaría, que he podido conocer en estos dos años. Esta semana hemos producido un excelente resultado. En apretada síntesis, en primer lugar, estoy satisfecho y contento de que, como resultado de esta Conferencia de Bangkok hayamos adoptado un documento de directrices conforme al artículo 8 sobre protección contra la exposición al humo de tabaco. En segundo lugar, estoy satisfecho de las directrices para la aplicación del artículo 13 del Convenio, sobre reglamentación de la publicidad transfronteriza. En tercer lugar, hemos decidido establecer un órgano de negociación intergubernamental para redactar y negociar un protocolo sobre comercio ilícito de productos de tabaco al cual obviamente todos atribuimos una gran importancia. En cuarto lugar, hemos avanzado sustancialmente en los trabajos relacionados con los artículos 9 y 10, y con respecto a los artículos 11 y 12 se ha establecido un grupo de trabajo, encargado de elaborar directrices. A mi juicio, de manera muy relevante, hemos hecho lo propio respecto al artículo 5.3, relativo a la interferencia de la industria tabacalera. Por último, en quinto lugar, hemos dado apoyo a la continuación del grupo de estudio sobre cultivos alternativos, que me parece de la mayor trascendencia. Éste es un tema al cual debemos dedicar recursos y toda la energía que requiera para combatir de manera frontal los daños del tabaco en sus diferentes aspectos. De manera que, repito, sólo puedo sentirme muy contento y de alguna manera satisfecho por estos felices resultados.

Nada de esto habría sido posible sin el profesionalismo y la gran calidad de los Presidentes de las dos comisiones: la Comisión A, presidida por el Dr. Niggemeier y la Comisión B, presidida por el Dr. Amaukwa. Sus calidades profesionales y humanas y su talento permitieron que esos dos grupos obtuvieran los resultados que hemos podido sancionar, de manera tan exitosa, esta mañana. Pero ciertamente, mis agradecimientos van mucho más allá. En estos dos años he conocido a la Secretaría, he trabajado con ella; hemos pasado mucho tiempo juntos y sólo puedo destacar su enorme profesionalismo, su compromiso y su dedicación incondicional al trabajo que realizan. A Denis Aitken, a Gian Luca Burci y a tantos más, que sería largo enumerar, deseo expresar mi profundo agradecimiento, como también deseo agradecer a la Secretaría de la OMS, a la Organización Panamericana de la Salud y a las otras oficinas de carácter regional con las cuales me correspondió interactuar en todo este periodo. No puedo dejar de agradecer ciertamente al personal de la Conferencia que nos ha acompañado aquí, en Tailandia, y a mucha gente que de manera discreta, generosa, casi imperceptible, como son ellos, nos ha permitido que nuestra estadía en Tailandia haya sido muy agradable. ¡Cómo no agradecer a los coordinadores regionales que esta semana hicieron un trabajo enormemente efectivo y muy disciplinado! Permitieron que cada una de las regiones pudiese concluir acuerdos y llegar a consensos que nos han llevado a este exitoso final. Quiero mencionar de manera muy especial la suerte que tuve con la Mesa que me acompañó. Todos fueron excepcionales. A pesar de nuestras diferencias de edad y de «background» profesional, trabajamos de manera excelente. Doy las gracias al reconocido Dr. Hatai, de Tailandia, a quien con gran satisfacción transmitiré la Presidencia de esta Conferencia; a mi querido amigo, el Embajador Lassmann, de Austria, quien es un destacado profesional con gran conocimiento de estos temas; a mi querido amigo el Dr. Mokhtari, representante de Irán, talentoso diplomático, que con gentil dedicación siempre dio su concurso favorable para encontrar soluciones positivas; a la Dra. Dladla, representante de Sudáfrica, quien en todo momento, con su encanto personal y su inteligencia, nos llevó de la mano prácticamente para hacer de su país la próxima sede de esta Conferencia de las Partes. ¡Cómo no dar las gracias a mis queridos amigos los representantes de China, quienes de manera muy positiva siempre apoyaron con

inteligencia y creatividad a la Mesa durante el tiempo que me correspondió presidirla! Tomamos decisiones muy importantes y lo hicimos con la mayor transparencia. Me congratulo enormemente de que todas las decisiones, y ustedes saben que debimos tomar decisiones importantes, siempre fueron adoptadas por consenso. Un Presidente no puede dejar de agradecer sentidamente esa notable disposición de quienes lo acompañan en esta tarea.

No puedo terminar sin agradecer el rol relevante de las organizaciones no gubernamentales. A lo largo de estos dos años tuve ocasión de recibirlas en muchas ocasiones y de participar con ellas en distintas reuniones, técnicas o menos técnicas; siempre nos enriquecemos gracias a su compromiso y voluntad, a la energía y la claridad que tienen para exponer el conocimiento de cada una de las regiones del mundo que representan y de las realidades locales, las tremendas dificultades de este combate que no debe cesar ningún día. Deseo a la nueva Mesa el mejor de los éxitos y mucha suerte. Es una estupenda Mesa, que bajo la conducción del Dr. Hatai llegará muy lejos. También quiero agradecer a mis colaboradores inmediatos en todo este proceso como Embajador de Chile en Ginebra. Siempre conté con el apoyo de Bernardo, Secretario de mi Misión que se dedicó con mucha energía y esfuerzo a acompañarme en toda esta tarea.

Por último, déjenme decirles en un tono bastante personal que durante mi carrera diplomática, como ustedes podrán imaginar porque muchos de ustedes también son diplomáticos, he desempeñado diferentes tareas, diferentes actividades. Muchas de ellas resultaron inesperadas, como lo fue ésta. Un día me llamó el Dr. Lee, que en paz descanse, y me pidió que asumiera la Presidencia de esta Conferencia. Pregunté yo inocentemente al Dr. Lee «Doctor, ¿por qué cree usted que yo puedo hacer este trabajo? Yo sé que ese trabajo tiene algunas complicaciones, ¿por qué cree usted que puedo hacerlo?» Y él me respondió con una gran simpleza «Pero Embajador», me dijo, «he consultado con muchos y me dicen que usted es la persona indicada para ello». Les confieso que eso me llenó de orgullo, pero también de inquietud en algún momento. Me dije: «Bueno, ésta es una cosa complicada ¿tendré suficiente capacidad para llevarla adelante?» La respuesta es que, gracias a la colaboración de gente tan estupenda como la que he mencionado, esto ha sido realmente un agrado.

En lo personal, también ha sido un alto honor. Servir es un honor. Para los diplomáticos, el servicio público, y sobre todo en esta área nueva, les confieso, por una causa de bien público como es la salud de la gente, una mejor calidad de vida para nuestros ciudadanos, desde el más modesto productor de cualquier región de nuestro planeta hasta los pobres jóvenes, o no tan jóvenes, afectados por esta enfermedad terrible que es el tabaquismo, créanme que da una gran satisfacción, y hoy día me siento muy honrado de haberlos servido.

Mis últimas palabras son para Douglas Bettcher, a quien ustedes conocen muy bien, una persona que ha dedicado los mejores años de su vida y su energía a esta causa. Deseo a Douglas el mayor de los éxitos, deseo que siga comprometido, porque él es una fuerza importante, él en sí mismo es una fuerza importante y esperamos mucho de él, como también esperamos mucho del Dr. Nikogosian, pero más que esperar de cada uno de ellos individualmente, quiero que sepan, Douglas y el Dr. Nikogosian, que esperamos mucho de ustedes como «team». Ustedes juntos pueden hacer mucho, y eso es lo que espera esta Conferencia de ustedes. El Dr. Hatai lo dijo hace breves minutos. Esta Conferencia, en estos dos años durante los cuales he tenido el privilegio de ser su Presidente, gracias a la percepción, a la voluntad, a la dedicación de ustedes, y en realidad en el mundo, en este mundo a veces complejo, difícil, un poco frustrante que a veces nos toca vivir, a la comunidad internacional, diplomáticos y profesionales de distintas disciplinas, opinión pública y organizaciones no gubernamentales, gobiernos e instituciones privadas, esta Conferencia ha demostrado que, si queremos cambiar las cosas, podemos, y que en el mundo de hoy, cuando hay una voluntad honesta, cuando hay claridad de propósito y cuando se quieren hacer las cosas, se puede.

Muchas gracias, y con estas palabras declaro clausurada esta segunda reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes en el Convenio Marco de la OMS para el Control del Tabaco. Muchas gracias.

The session closed at 12:40.
La session est close à 12h40.

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