

**FCTC**WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION  
ON TOBACCO CONTROL**Conference of the Parties to the  
WHO Framework Convention  
on Tobacco Control**Sixth session  
Moscow, Russian Federation, 13–18 October 2014**18 October 2014**

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**DECISION****FCTC/COP6(14) Protection of public health policies with respect to tobacco control  
from commercial and other vested interests of the tobacco  
industry**

The Conference of the Parties (COP),

Emphasizing the need to be alert to any efforts by the tobacco industry to undermine or subvert tobacco-control efforts and the need to be informed of activities of the tobacco industry that have a negative impact on implementation of the WHO FCTC;

Recalling the resolution of the United Nations General Assembly in A/RES/66/2, which recognized the fundamental conflict of interest between the tobacco industry and public health, and United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution E/RES/2012/4, which recognized the same in relation to the work of the United Nations;

Acknowledging with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General to the ECOSOC at its substantive session in 2013 (E/2013/61), which recommended that the United Nations adopt guidelines to ensure objectivity in its work, in line with the principles of Article 5.3 of the Convention and its implementing guidelines;

Noting that global progress reports on implementation of the WHO FCTC, based on the reports of the Parties, reveal that tobacco industry interference remains one of the greatest obstacles to implementation of the Convention;

Recognizing that the tobacco industry is well-resourced and will continue to undermine tobacco-control efforts internationally, particularly for developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition;

Noting with concern recent experiences indicating that tobacco industry strategies and tactics go beyond national borders as well as initiatives of the tobacco industry advising governments to challenge other countries' tobacco-control measures at national and international levels;

Reiterating that international cooperation is essential to prevent interference by the tobacco industry in the formulation of public health policies on tobacco control, as recommended in the guidelines for implementation of Article 5.3 and also in line with Articles 22, 23.5(g), 24.3(c), (d), (e), and Article 25 of the WHO FCTC;

Acknowledging the task requested to the Convention Secretariat in operative paragraph 2, the Convention Secretariat might consider to seek external expertise, in line with past practice,

1. DECIDES to:

- (1) urge Parties to strengthen their implementation of Article 5.3 and intensify collaborative action to address tobacco industry efforts internationally; and
- (2) urge Parties to raise awareness and adopt measures to implement Article 5.3 and its implementing Guidelines among all parts of government including diplomatic missions.

2. REQUESTS the Convention Secretariat, in coordination with the WHO to:

- (1) examine the level of tobacco industry engagement in key international organizations which are in a position to contribute to WHO FCTC implementation, prepare a report on their impact on multisectoral collaboration for the implementation of the WHO FCTC, and make appropriate recommendations;
- (2) seek collaboration with pertinent international organizations, including regional, and subregional organizations, to raise awareness of their role in contributing to Parties' implementation of Article 5.3 and that their administrative, financial and other decisions affect implementation of Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC, by promoting the principles of Article 5.3 and its implementing Guidelines, including rejection of any direct or indirect contributions, technical and financial, from the tobacco industry;
- (3) propose tools that will facilitate where appropriate raising awareness and assisting with implementation of Article 5.3 among all parts of government;
- (4) identify and recommend options and sustainable mechanisms international cooperation on, and exchange of information related to, tobacco industry interference, building on the existing WHO Tobacco Industry Monitoring database or through a knowledge hub, in order to strengthen effective implementation of Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC;
- (5) stimulate the reporting of Parties' experiences in implementing Article 5.3 of the Convention through the reporting instrument of the WHO FCTC, and facilitate exchange of best practices through the establishment of a virtual community on the WHO FCTC information platform;
- (6) develop and promote monitoring tools that would encourage voluntary and timely sharing of further information in order to enhance the monitoring of tobacco industry interference, including at the international level and regularly report on findings to Parties;

- (7) continue to develop, and make available on a continuous basis, the technical capacity required to carry out the tasks listed above and provide technical assistance to Parties upon their request, to implement Article 5.3 of the Convention;
- (8) report on its findings and activities to the seventh session of the COP.

(Fifth plenary meeting, 18 October 2014)

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