

Framework convention on tobacco control

The Fifty-third World Health Assembly,

Recalling and reaffirming resolution WHA52.18 which established both an intergovernmental negotiating body to draft and negotiate the proposed WHO framework convention on tobacco control and possible related protocols and a working group to prepare proposed draft elements of the framework convention and report on progress;

Having considered the report to the Health Assembly on the framework convention on tobacco control,¹

1. TAKES NOTE of the significant progress made, as reported in documents A53/12 and A53/12 Corr.1, and expresses its appreciation for the work of the working group, its Bureau and the Secretariat;
2. RECOGNIZES that the report contained in documents A53/12 and A53/12 Corr.1, including the proposed draft elements for a framework convention, establishes a sound basis for initiating the negotiations by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB);
3. RECOGNIZES that the success of the FCTC depends on broad participation by WHO Member States and organizations referred to in paragraph 1(3) of resolution WHA52.18;
4. CALLS ON the Negotiating Body:
 - (1) to elect at its first session a chairman, three vice-chairmen and two rapporteurs, and to consider the applicability of an extended bureau;
 - (2) to commence its negotiations with an initial focus on the draft framework convention, without prejudice to future discussions on possible related protocols;
 - (3) to report on the progress of its work to the Fifty-fourth World Health Assembly;
 - (4) to examine the question of an extended participation, as observers, of nongovernmental organizations according to criteria to be established by the Negotiating Body;

¹ Documents A53/12 and A53/12 Corr.1.

5. REQUESTS the Director-General:

- (1) to convene the first session of the Negotiating Body in October 2000;
- (2) to draw up, for consideration by the Negotiating Body at its first session, a draft timetable for the process, with information on costs related to the sessions of the Negotiating Body and the availability of funds to cover them, giving special consideration to securing the participation of delegates from developing countries.

Eighth plenary meeting, 20 May 2000
A53/VR/8

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