



## Country Statements made at the UN High-level Meeting on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, 19-20 September 2011, New York.

This document (divided by WHO regions) provides comments made mainly on tobacco control and the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) and other relevant messages on tobacco control and Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs).

*(Document incomplete – draft from 18 October 2011)*

<b>EURO</b>			
	<i>Country</i>	<i>FCTC/Tobacco Control</i>	<i>Other</i>
1	Slovenia	“An ever growing number of people understand that smoking is death...”	“The UN system must provide...the necessary options of multi-sectoral strategies, a system of ...appropriate indicators to measure progress...”
2	Hungary	n/a	n/a
3	Switzerland	“..., we have adopted a pre-emptive approach through targeted preventive and health-promotion measures in the fight against smoking and alcohol abuse,...”	“We have developed mechanisms that enable us to work closely and innovatively with the private sector, research entities and civil society,...”
4	Austria	n/a	n/a
5	Ukraine	“One of the priorities of our state policy is the fight against tobacco/smoking. Ukraine signed the ‘FCTC’ among the first countries in the Eastern Europe. The increased excise tax, stricter requirements for trade, ban on advertising, and restrictions on smoking in public places led to tangible results: every fourth smoker quit smoking.”	n/a
6	Luxembourg	<i>(Unofficial translation):</i> “I refer notably to the WHO FCTC and to the strategies developed [by WHO] to fight the four main NCDs and their related risk factors.”	n/a
7	Kazakhstan	“Significant measures have been taken for greater vigilance and control over tobacco products,... . Our country has achieved success in the implementation of the WHO FCTC.”	n/a
8	Greece	“Also, in the fight against smoking, there is room for optimism, as data shows that there is a notable decrease in tobacco	“As part of our effort we are considering also new ideas on innovative financing for health and for tackling NCDs in

		consumption.”	particular. At the World Ministerial Conference of Moscow in April, Greece supported the proposal for the introduction of an International Solidarity Levy on Tobacco.”
9	European Union (EU)	<i>(Speaking on behalf of the EU and its member States):</i> “The EU has ratified the FCTC and is committed to its implementation in the EU and globally. Many EU member States are taking steps towards enacting comprehensive smoke-free legislation.”	“The EU will support those [low-income] countries in addressing NCDs and their risk factors,..., including the strengthening of health and regulatory systems and the involvement of health-related non-governmental organizations and other civil society organizations.”
10	France	<i>(Unofficial translation):</i> “I believe that the WHO FCTC is exemplary in that regard, but while signing a convention may be a positive step, implementing a strong convention is even better.” “In 2006 in France, I sought to ban smoking in public places in order to fight against passive smoking. But to change behavior, we must go even further.”	“We must work on innovative funding. ... For example, the WHO concept of a contribution payable by the tobacco manufacturer is not, in my view, a taboo question.”
11	Estonia	n/a	“In line with the Tallinn Charter, Estonia has a comprehensive five-point multisectoral approach for tackling NCDs.”
12	Finland	“Finland has set itself the goal of being completely tobacco-free by 2040. We believe that this is a realistic goal.” “Some health promotion activities — for instance taxing tobacco, alcohol, or unhealthy food and beverages — are in fact very cost-effective.” “The FCTC is an unprecedented piece of international legislation, extending into many areas outside health, such as trade, customs and taxation. It should serve as an example for addressing other harmful products as well.”	“The role of civil society in health promotion is crucial. One example of that is that our delegation includes representatives of three non-governmental organizations — one working on heart disease, one working on cancer, and one working on diabetes.”
13	Norway	“Reducing tobacco consumption is one of the most efficient measures to prevent NCDs. The tobacco industry has taken legal action against a number of parties to the WHO FCTC, including Norway. This is unacceptable. No party to the Convention should allow the tobacco industry to intimidate us in fulfilling our legal obligations to protect	“We need to pay close attention to different stakeholders’ roles with regard to NCDs. That is why Norway has included two members of civil society in our delegation to this meeting.”

		public health.”	
14	Russia	n/a	“Russia is increasing its contribution to global health care.”
15	Monaco	n/a	“As far as the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases is concerned, Monaco is committed to working with non-governmental organizations, health institutions and international organizations, in particular WHO.”
16	Spain	“In January 2011, a new law banned outright smoking in enclosed public places, the outdoor areas of schools and hospitals, and playgrounds.”	“We have to identify innovative and highly cost-effective health strategies and interventions that act both on chronic diseases and on their determinants.”
17	Poland	n/a	n/a
18	United Kingdom	“While regulation and taxation both play important roles — the United Kingdom’s effective control of smoking and tobacco being an obvious example — in a free society we cannot just legislate these problems away.”	“We need a whole-of-Government approach based on an understanding that, if we are to reduce the burden of these diseases, we must tackle the social determinants of health and reduce health inequalities.”
18	Ireland	“Ireland, for example, was a world leader in banning smoking in the workplace. That happened despite what seemed to be insurmountable opposition.”	“While intra-governmental cooperation is necessary, today’s meeting underscores the need for inter-Government cooperation, if we are to really tackle NCDs.”
20	Kyrgyzstan	“Given the high level of morbidity and mortality from respiratory diseases, a nationwide smoking-prevention programme has been set up through the mobilization of rural health committees.”	“...we have deemed it timely to implement, as a matter of priority, a comprehensive prevention programme and national strategies in the area of health care.”

n/a - means no specific mentioning of relevant messages

<b>AFRO</b>			
	<i>Country</i>	<i>FCTC/Tobacco Control</i>	<i>Other</i>
1	Tanzania	“The prevalence of tobacco smoking is 10%...”	“...has a NCD strategy that was launched in 2009 at the prevention and control of NCDs...” (para.6)
2	Namibia	“...has documented high rates of tobacco smoking,...” “..., we have adopted the <i>FCTC</i> . We have also enacted the <i>Tobacco Products Control Act</i> , which prohibits smoking in public places.”	“...appeals for international support, both financial and technical, in order to overcome these challenges.” (para.10)

3	Zimbabwe	n/a	"... we have established a national mechanism to combat NCDs... . ...[2.] NCDs Risk Factor Surveillance will be conducted in 2012 to augment our database on the diseases." (para.8)
4	Senegal	n/a	n/a
5	Mozambique	n/a	"...has decided to include the fight against these diseases in the Health Sector Policy and in the Government Five Year Plan."
6	Gabon	<i>(Unofficial translation):</i> "Significant measures are in place, such as ... a ban on smoking in public places,..."	n/a
7	Kenya	"In 2007, ..., Parliament enacted the Tobacco Control Law that bans smoking in all public places. The law now prohibits tobacco advertisement, and sale of tobacco products to persons under 21 years old."	"Non-communicable diseases are a major barrier to economic growth and social development. Their prevention and control must, therefore, be integrated into national and global development agendas."
8	Guinea	n/a	<i>(Unofficial translation):</i> "..., has taken the following priority action: ...; support for the national integrated programme for the prevention and treatment of NCDs in the form of human, material and financial resources;..."
9	Swaziland	n/a	"Partnership is an essential component of successful implementation of our NCD Programme. ... Development partners, including United Nations agencies, will be requested to give technical, financial and capacity-building support to this important Government initiative."
10	Mali	n/a	<i>(Unofficial translation):</i> "I am happy to announce before this Assembly the involvement of civil society in the fight against these non-communicable diseases."
11	South Africa	"...South Africa has been one of the leading countries on the implementation of the Framework Convention and Guidelines on Tobacco Control and will continue to strengthen legislation to further reduce the impact of tobacco use." "All partners must collaborate to realize a tobacco free world."	n/a
12	Ghana	"A public health bill with tobacco control	"The Government of Ghana is fully

		as an integral part has been put before our Parliament..."	committed to promoting the global effort to prevent and control NCDs." "To address the menace in Ghana, so far we have put in place the following measures. A national policy on NCDs has been developed."
13	Sierra Leone	"In recognizing the effect of tobacco smoking on the health of individuals, we have acceded to and ratified the FCTC, developed a strategic plan on tobacco control and carried out a global youth tobacco survey. We have also declared no-smoking zones in government facilities in some areas of our country."	"Accordingly, the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases have been given priority consideration in our Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper 2: The Agenda for Change, and in the National Health Sector Strategic Plan 2010-2015. We have also developed non-communicable disease and mental health policies and strategic plans."
14	Rwanda	"We have adopted a law prohibiting smoking in public areas. We have taxed tobacco and reserved a part of the revenues for the welfare of the population."	n/a
15	Botswana	"We are in the process of writing a similar type of law with regard to tobacco use, which will be more in line with the WHO FCTC."	n/a

n/a - means no specific mentioning of relevant messages

<b>WPRO</b>			
	<i>Country</i>	<i>FCTC/Tobacco Control</i>	<i>Other</i>
1	Nauru	"..., we have enacted the Tobacco Control Act of 2009, we have increased taxes on tobacco and alcohol,..."	"...addressing NCDs must be a part of the international community's sustainable development agenda."
2	Fiji	"Fiji is one of the first countries in the world to be given an award by the WHO for our Tobacco Free Initiatives in communities. We now have 4 such communities in place."	n/a
3	Indonesia	<i>(Speaking on behalf of ASEAN):</i> "...,we are strengthening our national health policies and accelerating programmes for tobacco control. We will not be content only with passing laws that heavily tax cigarettes. We will also consider using the revenues	"We appeal to our international partners to fund and align the prevention and control of NCDs with their other development programmes such as those of the MDGs and Climate Change." "ASEAN is therefore committed to

		<p>derived from sin taxes to support NCDs prevention. We will continue to promote a smoke-free environment in order to protect our people from secondary smoke.”</p> <p><i>(Speaking on behalf of Indonesia):</i> “We are now simplifying and increasing taxes on tobacco to control the consumption of this deadly commodity.”</p>	<p>implementing a whole-of-government people-centered approach involving civil society, the private sector and community organizations.”</p>
4	China	n/a	<p>“Governments of all countries should attach as much importance to health as to economic development. In particular, NCD prevention and treatment should be accorded a priority area in the national development strategies.” “We should continue to push for the inclusion of NCD prevention and treatment as an indicator in the MDGs.”</p>
5	Australia	<p>“...a major focus for Australia: tobacco. Unlike other risk factors, the evidence on tobacco is crystal clear. ... From next year, all tobacco products sold in Australia will be required to have the same packaging in an unattractive dark brown color. ... And so today I urge you to consider how your country can take the next steps too, using the FCTC as the mechanism for reform. The fight against Big Tobacco is one which together, we will win.”</p>	n/a
6	Tonga	<p>“The WHO FCTC is an important example, as its accelerated implementation would enhance previous commitments to the Convention by many Member States.”</p>	<p>“We must also go further and link our declarations to set targets in our concerted efforts to combat NCDs.”</p>
7	Malaysia	n/a	<p>“In December 2010, Malaysia began implementing a national strategic plan for non-communicable diseases...etc”</p> <p>“...positive role to be played by non-governmental organizations (NGOs), we will use the Malaysian Health Promotion Board to further develop and increase the capacity of related NGOs to play a more proactive role, particularly in community-based NCD risk-factor intervention...”</p>
8	New Zealand	<p>“In New Zealand, the combined efforts of academia, civil society and Government have, for example, supported multisectoral efforts to reduce harm from</p>	<p>“New Zealand remains a consistent supporter of Pacific countries in their efforts to address NCDs, and a contributor to international research on</p>

		tobacco use. Our aim is to have an essentially smoke-free country by 2025. Substantially reducing tobacco consumption will significantly reduce NCDs, with considerable health benefits for individuals and countries. We urge countries that have not yet done so to become party to the WHO FCTC.”	NCDs.”
9	Marshall Islands	n/a	“The Republic of the Marshall Islands is fully committed to rapid implementation of the Healthy Islands Action Plan, which intensifies the use of preventive interventions. We stand behind the regional commitment made by the Pacific Island Forum leaders.”
10	Samoa	n/a	“The Samoan Government has embarked on an integrated whole-of-country, one-health approach, premised on the principles of health promotion and primary health care, to dictate and give direction to our prevention programmes.”

n/a - means no specific mentioning of relevant messages

<b>EMRO</b>			
	<i>Country</i>	<i>FCTC/Tobacco Control</i>	<i>Other</i>
1	Iran	“..., I would like to mention prevention and control of common NCD risk factors, imposition of taxes to curtail habits such as tobacco consumption,...” “...the <i>Tobacco Control Program</i> as a major focus in Iran’s health policy,...”	n/a
2	Jordan	n/a	“..., we in Jordan are committed to this meeting’s Political Declaration (...) and to implementing one national framework for NCD risk factors control.”
3	Morocco	“...mobilize additional resources through the taxation of tobacco and alcohol products.”	“Morocco has proceeded to implement its national integrated initiative for the prevention and monitoring of non-communicable diseases, with the involvement of local and municipal authorities, various ministries and non-governmental organizations.”

4	Bahrain	“With regard to risk factors, we have adopted empowerment policies with a view to stopping consumption of tobacco products. This is being carried out in conjunction with the WHO FCTC. We have also taken measures to prohibit the advertising of tobacco in all media and have banned smoking in all closed places.”	n/a
5	Djibouti	n/a	“Through its youth policy and incentive measures, our Government, working with civil society, is seeking ways of promoting employment and a healthy lifestyle in that critical sector of the national population.”
6	Saudi Arabia	n/a	“There have been coordinated and cooperative activities between the public and private sectors, including philanthropic societies, in combating NCDs.”
7	Algeria	<i>(Unofficial translation):</i> “To fight tobacco use, Algeria ratified and put into force the WHO FCTC in 2007.”	“Algeria has integrated the fight against NCDs in our national development plan, specifically as regards the health sector, which has entailed significant reforms. Algeria has also increased health-care funding,...” “Algeria recently established an innovative permanent funding mechanism, reflected in the 2011-2012 budget, to finance a special fund to fight cancer, and imposed taxes on toxic substances such as tobacco, alcohol and soda.”
8	Israel	n/a	n/a

n/a - means no specific mentioning of relevant messages

<b>SEARO</b>			
	<i>Country</i>	<i>FCTC/Tobacco Control</i>	<i>Other</i>
1	Bangladesh	“Thankfully, there are some very concise steps we can take to control the NCDs. We need tobacco control as well as regulation of the unfettered food and beverage industries.” “..., we have started	n/a

		committing additional resources to control NCDs, imposing higher taxes on tobacco, banning smoking in public places, ...”	
2	Maldives	“The top priority of the (UN Summit) should be in strengthening political resolve for the accelerated implementation of all aspects of the FCTC and other methods needed to achieve a world essentially free of tobacco.” “We have introduced new legislation to control the sale and use of tobacco.”	n/a
3	Thailand	“...funded by a 2 per cent additional levy on top of the excise tax on tobacco and alcohol.” “In this connection, Thailand would like to request all Member States to effectively implement the FCTC as soon as possible.”	n/a

n/a - means no specific mentioning of relevant messages

<b>AMRO</b>			
	<i>Country</i>	<i>FCTC/Tobacco Control</i>	<i>Other</i>
1	Brazil	“We want to go even further in combating the use of tobacco, fully implement the articles of the FCTC. Recently, we raised taxes on cigarettes and we are combating their illegal production and sale.”	“[Brazil] ...,will hold the World Conference on Social Determinants of Health to be held from 19 -21 October 2011 in Rio de Janeiro.
2	Suriname	<i>(Speaking on behalf of CARICOM):</i> “We have developed a Strategic Plan of Action for our region, and have established national commissions in 8 of our member territories. Ratification of the FCTC has expanded, and we have developed standards for tobacco labeling.”	“There is still need to agree on ambitious global targets and indicators, a monitoring framework...”
3	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	n/a	“The developmental aspects of this epidemic must be highlighted and addressed.”
4	Trinidad and Tobago	“As a State Party to the WHO FCTC, we have implemented legislation, which, among other things, bans smoking in enclosed public spaces; forbids advertising, promoting and sponsorship	“...,I urge the General Assembly to: -Support the establishment of global targets for NCD prevention and control with a possible target of reducing NCDs by 25% by 2015; -Re-define NCDs in

		of tobacco products, and prohibits the sale of tobacco products to minors.”	terms of the conditions that drive the risk factors for their development; and...”
5	Barbados	“Our commitment to the FCTC remains firm, as seen in the enactment of legislation to ban smoking in public places as well as to prohibit the sale of tobacco products to minors.”	“Barbados is committed to working with the private sector and civil society on these issues, and strongly supports the establishment of mechanisms to permit civil society to be significantly involved globally in responding to NCDs, and in setting of time bound targets.”
6	Bahamas	n/a	n/a
7	Guyana	“We need more robust implementation of the WHO FCTC. As a common goal, with 2015 as a deadline, we should adopt picture labeling warnings on tobacco products, ensure smoke-free zones and introduce greater taxation for tobacco products.”	“We, ..., call for the full implementation of the Political Declaration, including early agreement on global targets, a monitoring framework, and a substantive and collaborative partnership of global stakeholders to facilitate continued action on NCDs;...”
8	Chile	<i>(unofficial translation)</i> “We have set important and specific targets to reduce smoking,...”	“The President of the Republic of Chile,..., has the clear political resolve to tackle this new scenario by personally leading this crusade and establishing a mandate involving specific tasks, financing and coordination.”
9	Uruguay	“The FCTC has provided us with valuable lessons...” “As we stated earlier, there exist important tools in that respect, including the FCTC of 2003...”	“Concerned about risk factors and determinants of health, UNASUR has established a technical group with competencies in these areas and in the promotion of health.”
10	Ecuador	“The second area that Ecuador supports is the issue of tobacco consumption, which involves a conflict of interest between the tobacco industry and public health. It is therefore important for Member States to adopt the measures established in the WHO FCTC and integrate them into their national policies and programmes. In that regard, this year Ecuador enacted its organic law on tobacco control and regulation.”	n/a
11	Venezuela	<i>(Unofficial translation):</i> “implementation of a national tobacco control program, which includes a prohibition to smoke in enclosed areas. It went into effect in 2011.”	n/a
12	United States of	“...,we will be announcing a major new Clinton Global Initiative Commitment to	n/a

	America	help promote smoke-free workplaces around the world. We are also launching a global public-private partnership to support tobacco cessation efforts, using mobile phone technologies that are now widely available in middle- and low income countries.	
13	Canada	“We have created a strong environment favoring the reduction of smoking in Canada. Our results are impressive.”	“We are committed to promoting healthy living preventing disease and reducing health disparities.” “Individuals can make healthier choices in their everyday lives to reduce their risks, but we know that promoting good health is everyone’s business. That is why solutions should involve a broad base of partners such as non-governmental organizations, all levels of Government and different sectors whose activities have a bearing on health.”

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