



Key decisions for the third session of the FCTC Conference of the Parties

The third session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) will have the opportunity to take critical steps forward in the effective implementation of the FCTC to protect public health from the global tobacco epidemic. The most important decisions which the COP should take at its third session are:

- to **adopt the draft guidelines** for implementation of **Article 11** (packaging and labelling of tobacco products) and **Article 13** (tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship) **in full and without change**;
- to **adopt guidelines on Article 5.3** (protection of public health policies with respect to tobacco control from commercial and other vested interests of the tobacco industry), **with revisions to the draft guidelines** to ensure strong, clear guidance to Parties in implementing Article 5.3;
- to **continue**, as a matter of urgency, the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body on a **Protocol on Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products**, in order to ensure the adoption of an effective protocol at the earliest possible date;
- to **request** the working group on **Article 12** (education, communication, training and public awareness) to continue its work and to present **draft guidelines** to COP-4, building on the progress report presented to COP-3;
- to **establish a working group** to elaborate guidelines on **Article 14** (demand reduction measures concerning tobacco dependence and cessation) and request it to present **draft guidelines** to COP-4;
- to **request** the working group on **Articles 9 and 10** (regulation of the contents of tobacco products and of tobacco product disclosures) to continue its work on the elaboration of guidelines;
- to **request** the study group on economically sustainable alternatives to tobacco growing to continue its work in relation to **Articles 17 and 18** (provision of support for economically viable alternative activities and protection of the environment and the health of persons);
- to **request** the Secretariat to elaborate and submit to COP-4 a first report on **Article 19** (Liability);
- to **continue** work on ensuring the availability of **financial resources and mechanisms of assistance** for effective implementation of the Convention, and on improving the arrangements for **reporting and exchange of information** under the Convention;
- to provide a **budget** sufficient to allow the COP and the Convention Secretariat to carry out the work required to facilitate effective implementation of the Convention.