

FCA BULLETIN

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What's on today?

Death clock unveiling:

1pm, CICG

WHO Director-General Dr Jong-Wook Lee will reveal the ever-growing toll of death from tobacco since negotiations for the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control first began on 25 October 1999.



www.fctc.org

FCTC—IMPLEMENTATION AT LAST!

BUDGET MATTERS

Last week, North America celebrated a day that might seem strange to other parts of the world. At the center of the festivities is a groundhog, which thousands watch anxiously as it climbs out of its den.

According to myth, if the groundhog sees its shadow it will become frightened and run back down its hole, preventing the coming of spring for six more weeks.

In January, the interim FCTC Secretariat released its "Designation of the permanent secretariat and arrangements for its functioning" document with a draft budget and estimated voluntary assessments for member states for the operation of the Convention.

Some member states may have been frightened by these numbers, and may be inclined to hide, thus delaying the creation of a strong FCTC Secretariat.

The draft budget is actually small by the standards of other treaties (and note that



Here we go again! Enjoy the deliberations.....

it is for two years, not one). And it is tiny compared to the costs – both human and financial - of tobacco addiction, disease and death.

To help put the numbers into some perspective, on page 2 we have charted them against the potential revenue from a cigarette tax increase in a selection of countries equivalent to one US cent per pack.

Raising tobacco taxes is a key component of FCTC implementation. While most countries are unable to earmark taxes for particular purposes, these numbers dem-

onstrate that funds for the proper functioning of the Convention can easily be raised simply by implementing Article 6. It is a triple win: greater tobacco taxes lead to diminished consumption, greater government revenues, and the potential to easily meet treaty obligations.

This is not the time to pinch pennies. It is vital that the FCTC Secretariat be adequately funded in order to attain the goals of the Convention.

Chris Bostic, FCA

SMOKE FREE DINING—YES, IN GENEVA!

Dark alleys, dodgy characters, smoke filled bars (no, not CICG) .. Going out in most cities may be a health hazard, but not here, not in Geneva.

No need to worry about taking your smoky clothes to the cleaners, no need to soak in

the shower to get the stink of stale cigarettes out of your hair... Thanks to our friends from OxyGeneve you can now go out in style.

With their list in hand you can find anything from hotels to restaurants, chocolateries to tea rooms and some are

100 % smoke free. Visit <http://www.oxygeneve.ch/hotel.php> for complete listings. Don't forget to report back to us on your recommendations, especially the completely smokefree venues!

PERMISSION FOR
EXPIRATORY DISTRIBUTION OF PARTIALLY OXYGENATED GASEOUS HYDROCARBONS INTO THE IMMEDIATE ATMOSPHERE IS EMPHATICALLY DISALLOWED

THOSE BUDGET FIGURES IN CONTEXT

Here are some comparisons between the assessed biennial contributions to FCTC in selected countries and the revenue that could be generated in two years from a US \$0.01 tax rise on a pack of cigarettes. The calculations are available for every party – just ask!

Country	Proposed biennial assessment	Potential biennial revenue from US \$ 0.01 per pack tax
Armenia	230	4,146,765
Bangladesh	1,149	33,672,555
Brazil	175,058	146,208,348
Honduras	575	3,818,115
India	48,391	130,152,873
Kenya	1,034	6,139,800
Mexico	216,437	74,549,488
Senegal	575	3,203,140
United Kingdom	704,277	103,857,420

Tobacco company quote of the day:

“This is where the real work starts because it appears we have a year from now to influence the drafting process of the convention and the protocols, crucial if we are to limit the damage such a convention could do to our business.”

BAT internal email, 1999

WHO’S HOT AND WHO’S NOT? -PARTIES, SIGNATORIES AND SLACKERS

THE FCTC NOW HAS

- 121 Parties, covering 74.7% of the world’s population
- 168 Signatories, covering 91.4% of the world’s population
- 174 Participants (Signatories and/or Parties), covering 91.6% of the world’s population
- 53 countries that have signed but not yet ratified
- And 20 countries that are neither Signatories nor Parties

HALL OF SHAME—NEITHER PARTIES NOR SIGNATORIES

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| • Andorra | • Malawi | • Zambia |
| • Bahrain | • Monaco | • Zimbabwe |
| • Bosnia and Herzegovina | • Russian Federation | |
| • Colombia | • Sierra Leone | See back page for some |
| • Dominican Republic | • Somalia | challenging questions for |
| • Eritrea | • Tajikistan | non-ratifiers from the Co- |
| • Guinea-Bissau | • The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | lombian League Against |
| • Indonesia | • Turkmenistan | Cancer. |
| • Liechtenstein | • Uzbekistan | |

HALL OF FAME—THE 121 PARTIES

Armenia	Equatorial Guinea	Marshall Islands	Slovakia
Australia	Estonia	Mauritania	Slovenia
Austria	European Community	Mauritius	Solomon Islands
Azerbaijan	Fiji	Mexico	South Africa
Bangladesh	Finland	Micronesia (Federated States of)	Spain
Barbados	France	Mongolia	Sri Lanka
Belarus	Germany	Myanmar	Sudan
Belgium	Ghana	Namibia	Swaziland
Belize	Greece	Nauru	Sweden
Benin	Guatemala	Netherlands	Syrian Arab Republic
Bhutan	Guyana	New Zealand	Thailand
Bolivia	Honduras	Niger	Timor-Leste
Botswana	Hungary	Nigeria	Togo
Brazil	Iceland	Niue	Tonga
Brunei Darussalam	India	Norway	Trinidad and Tobago
Bulgaria	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Oman	Turkey
Burundi	Ireland	Pakistan	Tuvalu
Cambodia	Israel	Panama	United Arab Emirates
Canada	Jamaica	Palau	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Cape Verde	Japan	Peru	Uruguay
Central African Republic	Jordan	Philippines	Vanuatu
Chad	Kenya	Portugal	Vietnam
Chile	Kiribati	Qatar	
China	Latvia	Republic of Korea	
Comoros	Lebanon	Romania	
Cook Islands	Lesotho	Rwanda	
Cyprus	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Samoa	
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Lithuania	Saint Lucia	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Luxembourg	San Marino	
Denmark	Madagascar	Saudi Arabia	
Djibouti	Maldives	Senegal	
Egypt	Malaysia	Seychelles	
	Mali	Singapore	
	Malta		

WHAT'S GOING ON IN CZECH REPUBLIC?

The Czech Senate refused to ratify on June, 23, 2005 by just one vote. Senators' arguments ranged from claiming the FCTC to be unnecessary, to alarm at its requirements. Some of the arguments were bizarre:

"The proposed convention is redundant. Our current legislation already fulfils most of its requirements....."

It was never proven that smoking kills, only that it does not benefit health...."

"If all of us smokers decided to stop tomorrow it would

seriously disrupt the financial balance in the Czech Republic ..."

"Patients are going out in sixteen degrees frost to smoke, which is bad for their health ..."

"There are many sport injuries but we don't think of banning sports because it costs the state money .."

Weirdest of all ... "Drinking coffee is very dangerous if it isn't combined with smoking. Combining coffee with a cigarette makes your vessels constrict while coffee widens

them, so that they vibrate all the time and that way keep in condition..."

It is true that although not yet a Party to FCTC, the Czech legislation does fulfil most of its recommendations. It has an advertising ban, provides treatment of tobacco dependence through the health care system, and seems close to adopting measures on smoke-free indoor public places

So why are we still waiting for ratification?

Eva Kralikova, MD, PhD, Czech Medical Association

To participate in this COP, parties had to ratify or accede to the FCTC by 8 November 2005—110 met the deadline

Apatía o indiferencia social y gubernamental?

Con respecto al tema del Convenio Marco para el Control del tabaco son muchas las preguntas que en Colombia algunas personas nos hacemos: ¿Por qué nuestro país es el único de Suramérica que NO lo ha firmado? ¿Qué le impide al Gobierno nacional acoger su contenido?, ¿Puede más la presión de la industria tabacalera que la defensa de la salud pública? ¿Qué pasa con la legislación colombiana para contrarrestar la venta, publicidad y consumo de cigarrillo? ¿Qué le ocurre a la sociedad civil que aún no se ha puesto de pie para defender el futuro de sus generaciones para librarlas de esta adicción? ¿A quién le teme el Gobierno Colombiano para no firmar un tratado de interés público? ¿Dónde están las sociedades científicas que aún no han elevado su voz de protesta ante este silencio? ¿Por qué el tema del tabaco no es un tema prioritario para el Ministerio de Protección Social? ¿Cómo demuestra el Gobierno Colombiano su verdadero interés por preservar la salud de las futuras generaciones si no firma y acoge un tratado cuyo único fin es ahorrarle al Estado y a miles de personas problemas económicos y emocionales?

Parecen obvias las respuestas a estas preguntas, sin embargo, sería bueno que la opinión pública las discutiera en distintos escenarios.

Guillermo Martinez Gallon, Liga Colombiana Contra el Cancer

ORCHIDS AND ASHTRAYS



The first orchid award of this session goes jointly to Thailand and Iceland, for prohibiting all visible display of tobacco products at point of sale – out of site, out of mind!



The first dirty ashtray award of the year goes to Mexico, for allowing the tobacco industry to manipulate its tobacco control policy, contrary to FCTC Article 5.3.

These awards are made each day by the civil society organisations that make up the Framework Convention Alliance. We make them to acknowledge the countries who show real commitment to implementing an effective FCTC, and to expose those whose action, or lack of action, slow it down.

If your country has something to be proud of, make sure we know about it.. If your country does something shameful in tobacco control, the next ashtray will head your way!.

ACTION ONG EN FRANCE

L'Alliance française contre le tabac, créée à la suite de la loi Evin en 1991 avec l'objectif d'animer la lutte contre le tabagisme en France, est depuis source de propositions et de réflexions tant au niveau français qu'au niveau européen et international sur tous les sujets touchant au contrôle du tabac.

Elle regroupe aujourd'hui plus de trente associations de lutte contre le tabagisme réparties sur le territoire français. Chaque membre a un axe d'action privilégié, mais tous ont pour objectif commun la lutte contre le Tabagisme.

La réunion des associations au sein de l'Alliance facilite les échanges entre elles et leur permet d'avoir un regard global sur les stratégies politiques.

Avec le lancement du Plan Cancer en 2003, l'Alliance a saisi l'opportunité de se structurer et de

consolider son expérience et ses compétences en assurant une coordination des actions globales.

La récente réalisation du rapport sur le tabagisme passif élaboré par les membres de l'Alliance en est l'illustration. Elaboré suite à un sondage mené par l'Alliance qui révèle une évolution inéluctable de l'opinion des Français : deux tiers à trois quarts des Français sont en faveur d'une interdiction totale de fumer dans les entreprises (74%), les restaurants (72%) et les cafés (64%), ce rapport a pu élaborer une position commune et des recommandations à l'intention des décideurs.

L'objectif de la lutte contre le tabagisme passif est ainsi fixé: la protection totale des non-fumeurs doit passer par l'interdiction générale de fumer d'ici 2007 dans les lieux publics et les lieux de travail (selon les

exemples Irlandais et Italien).

Ce rapport a été suivi par une proposition de loi visant l'interdiction totale de fumer dans les lieux publics, proposition faite par M. Yves Bur, Vice-président de l'Assemblée Nationale. Le débat sur les restaurants et les cafés totalement non-fumeurs est ainsi passé dans la sphère publique.

Les Français et les associations membres de l'Alliance attendent avec impatience la prochaine annonce du Ministre Français de la Santé relative à la protection de tous du tabagisme passif.

Au travers cette action, l'Alliance a pu bénéficier des compétences très pointues de ses membres tant dans le domaine législatif qu'au niveau de l'expérience acquise sur le terrain.

Yana Dimitrova, L'Alliance française contre le tabac