



**MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE PROTOCOL
TO ELIMINATE ILLICIT TRADE IN TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

**FCTC/MOP/3/19
14 November 2023**

**Third session (*de minimis*)
Geneva, Switzerland, 29–30 November 2023
Provisional agenda item 11**

Suspension of the session

Report by the Convention Secretariat

Purpose of the document

The present report informs the Meeting of the Parties (MOP) to the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products about the suspension of the Third session of the MOP (MOP3) at the closure of the *de minimis* virtual session so that MOP3 may resume in-person in Panama at a later date. The present report is intended to enable the MOP to take a decision in respect of the suspension of its session.

Action by the Meeting of the Parties

The MOP is invited to note the present report and consider adopting the annexed draft decision on the suspension of the session, as recommended by the Bureau.

Contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): All SDGs; in particular SDG 3 and Target 3.a, as well as SDG 16.

Link to Workplan and Budget item: None.

Additional financial implications if not included in the Workplan and Budget: None.

Related document(s): Rules of Procedure of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products; FCTC/MOP/3/18 and FCTC/MOP/3/1 Add.1.

BACKGROUND

1. In the context of the postponement of the Third session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP3) to the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products due to security reasons communicated by Panama, the Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP) to the Protocol approved arrangements for MOP3 to be held during a *de minimis* virtual session, using videoconferencing technology. In order to ensure continuity of operations of the Convention Secretariat in respect of the Workplan and Budget for the financial period 2024–2025, this *de minimis* session will consider an abridged provisional agenda, as articulated in document FCTC/MOP/3/1 Add.1.

2. MOP3 will be resumed in person in Panama at a later date to consider the items on its provisional agenda as articulated in documents FCTC/MOP/3/1 and FCTC/MOP/3/1(annotated), and as informed by document FCTC/MOP/3/1 Add.1. A decision of the MOP will be necessary to suspend MOP3 at the closure of the *de minimis* virtual session so that MOP3 may resume in-person in Panama at a later date. In accordance with decision FCTC/MOP2(15), the date shall be confirmed after agreement between the hosting Party and the MOP Bureau, in consultation with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, and with the support of the Convention Secretariat.

ACTION BY THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES

3. The MOP is invited to note the present report and consider adopting the annexed draft decision on the suspension of the session, as recommended by the Bureau.

ANNEX

**DRAFT DECISION:
SUSPENSION OF THE SESSION**

The Meeting of the Parties (MOP),

Having considered the report on the suspension of the Third session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP3) to the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products contained in document FCTC/MOP/3/19;

Recalling decision FCTC/MOP2(15) on the date and place of MOP3,

DECIDES:

(a) that MOP3 shall be suspended and shall resume at such date to be confirmed after agreement between the hosting Party and the MOP Bureau, in consultation with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, and with the support of the Convention Secretariat;

(b) that all agenda items that have not been considered or have been considered on an interim basis at the *de minimis* virtual session of MOP3, held between its opening on 29 November 2023 and its suspension no later than 30 November 2023, will be considered by the MOP at its resumed in-person MOP3 session.

(XX plenary meeting, November 2023)

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