



**Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol
to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products
Fourth session**

Geneva, Switzerland, 24–26 November 2025

26 November 2025

FCTC/MOP4(11)

Decision

FCTC/MOP4(11) Information sharing in relation to seizures by individual Parties

The Meeting of the Parties (MOP),

Noting the global progress in implementation of the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products contained in document FCTC/MOP/4/4, submitted to the MOP pursuant to Article 32 of the Protocol;

Recalling Article 20 of the Protocol, and recognizing that collecting and exchanging information is key to the successful implementation of the Protocol;

Recalling also that Article 20 requires Parties to report, in aggregate form, details of seizures of tobacco, tobacco products or manufacturing equipment, quantity, value of seizures, product descriptions, dates and places of manufacture; and taxes evaded;

Recalling further Article 21 of the Protocol, which provides that Parties shall, subject to domestic law or any applicable international treaties, where appropriate, exchange with each other, among other types of information, details of seizures of tobacco, tobacco products or manufacturing equipment (including case reference information where appropriate, quantity, value of seizure, product description, entities involved, date and place of manufacture) and *modi operandi* (including means of transport, concealment, routing and detection);

Reiterating that information sharing, in accordance with Articles 20, 21 and 22 of the Protocol, will contribute to the strengthening of implementation of the Protocol by its Parties, as outlined in decision FCTC/MOP1(10);

Noting that in decision FCTC/MOP1(10) the MOP also recognized the need to further advance the utilization of information received through the Parties' reports for, among other things, establishing implementation trends and promoting the implementation of the Protocol by individual Parties;

Recalling decision FCTC/MOP3(20), urging Parties to enhance cooperation among the Parties and with relevant regional and international intergovernmental organizations, to facilitate the exchange of information, best practices and lessons learned, as relevant to the implementation of the Protocol;

Noting that other types of illicit trade, such as the trade in drugs and illicit wildlife products, are subject to dedicated international data-sharing mechanisms and periodic analytical reports developed on the basis of these data, such as the World Drug Report and the World Wildlife Crime Report, produced by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to inform international policy development and interventions;

Noting further that the World Customs Organization (WCO) manages the Customs Enforcement Network Communication Platform (CENcomm) and the closed virtual ExciseNET Experts' Group focused on tobacco and alcohol fraud;

Reiterating decision FCTC/MOP3(17), requesting the Convention Secretariat to take into consideration the collection of meaningful information;

Recognizing the limited availability of Party resources, and the need to avoid duplication and to ensure synergies in Party reporting through various databases,

REQUESTS the Convention Secretariat:

- (a) to undertake, with a view to enhancing continued information sharing among the Parties and in full respect of applicable confidentiality rules, in coordination with the WCO and UNODC, a mapping of existing non-nominal data on seizures of tobacco, tobacco products or manufacturing equipment and *modi operandi* available in the WCO and UNODC databases, as well as in the Party responses to the reporting instrument on the implementation of the Protocol under Article 20.1; such data should include, where appropriate:
 - (i) the authority involved, date, location, description of the material seized, weight, and estimated value of the seizure;
 - (ii) for goods seized in international transit, the country of origin and destination of the shipment and, where possible, the port of departure and destination;
 - (iii) for branded tobacco products, the brand and product details of the seized material, along with any information on safety warnings or tax stamps present;
- (b) to undertake a mapping on existing capacity-building and Party support initiatives on data collection and reporting of seizures data;
- (c) to report on progress to the Fifth session of the MOP.

(Fourth plenary meeting, 26 November 2025)
