

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(5)

Decision

FCTC/MOP4(5) Licensing (Article 6 of the Protocol)

The Meeting of the Parties (MOP),

Recalling Article 6 of the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products;

Recognizing that implementation of licensing-related measures constitutes an integral part of the effective implementation of the Protocol;

Noting that Article 6 establishes obligations for Parties to regulate licensing systems appropriately to ensure effective administration and enforcement – including through measures related to monitoring, maintenance, supervision and accountability;

Recalling decision FCTC/MOP3(20), which urged Parties to accelerate action in fulfilling their obligations under Article 6 and Article 8 of the Protocol;

Noting the report of the Convention Secretariat contained in document FCTC/MOP/4/7;

Noting also the technical documentation prepared by the Panel of Experts on the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products, pursuant to decision FCTC/COP7(6), as outlined in document FCTC/MOP/4/7,

1. URGES Parties to strengthen and prioritize, as appropriate, the implementation of Article 6 on licensing as a fundamental component for the full and effective implementation of the Protocol;

2. INVITES Parties:

- (a) to cooperate with each other and/or through competent international and regional organizations to provide training, technical assistance and cooperation in the implementation of licensing-related measures, in accordance with Article 23 of the Protocol; and
- (b) to continue efforts to monitor and collect, where applicable, any licence fees that may be levied and used to support the effective administration and enforcement of the licensing system, or for public health or other related activities, in accordance with national law, as provided in Article 6 of the Protocol;

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3. REQUESTS the Convention Secretariat to continue supporting Parties in their implementation of Article 6, including by facilitating the transfer of expertise among Parties to the Protocol, and to report on the implementation of this decision at the Fifth session of the MOP.

(Fourth plenary meeting, 26 November 2025)
