



## Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products

Fourth session, Geneva, Switzerland, 24–26 November 2025

# JOURNAL

## No. 2 – Tuesday 25 November 2025

*This Journal does not constitute an official record of the Meeting of the Parties.*

Time	Event	Room
10:00	Plenary – Second meeting	Auditorium, Building B
Immediately following the closure of Plenary–13:00	Committee A – First meeting	Auditorium, Building B
Immediately following the closure of Plenary–13:00	Committee B – First meeting	EB Room, Building A
15:00–18:00	Committee A – Second meeting	Auditorium, Building B
15:00–18:00	Committee B – Second meeting	EB Room, Building A

### Informal regional meetings and the EU coordination meetings

08:30–09:30	Regional group for Africa	Salle A, Building A
08:30–09:30	Regional group for the Americas	Garden Room T, Building B
09:00–09:30	Regional group for South-East Asia	Garden Room U2, Building B

09:00–09:30	Regional group for the Western Pacific	Garden Room U1, Building B
13:00–14:00	European Union coordination meeting ( <i>closed</i> )	Salle C, Building A
18:00–19:00	European Union coordination meeting ( <i>closed</i> )	Salle C, Building A

**Other meetings and side events<sup>1,2</sup>**

13:30–14:45	Side event: Picking the Tax Administration Low-Hanging Fruit	Auditorium, Building B
13:30–14:45	Side event: Preliminary findings from a regional threat assessment of illicit tobacco in South-East Asia and the Pacific and implications for Australia	EB Room, Building A
18:15–19:15	Global Alliance for Tobacco Control Daily Briefing	Garden Room V, Building B

**Meeting of the Bureau**

18:15–18:45	Meeting of the Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties ( <i>closed</i> )	Garden Room W1, Building B
-------------	---	----------------------------

---

<sup>1</sup> More information about side events can be found [here](#).

<sup>2</sup> These meetings are not included in the official proceedings of MOP4.

## Programme of work

### Second plenary meeting 10:00 – Auditorium, Building B – SS3

#### Item 1 (contd) Opening of the session

Item 1.2 (contd) Credentials of participants

*Document FCTC/MOP/4/2*

### First and second meetings of Committee A Immediately following the closure of Plenary and at 15:00 – Auditorium, Building B – SS3

#### Item 4 Protocol instruments and technical matters

Item 4.1 Evidence-based research (Articles 6.5 and 13.2 of the Protocol)

*Documents FCTC/MOP/4/5 and FCTC/MOP4/P/CONF./2*

Item 4.2 Global information-sharing focal point (Article 8 of the Protocol)

*Document FCTC/MOP/4/6*

Item 4.3 Licensing (Article 6 of the Protocol)

*Document FCTC/MOP/4/7*

### First and second meetings of Committee B Immediately following the closure of Plenary and at 15:00 – EB Room, Building A – SS2

#### Item 5 Reporting, implementation assistance and international cooperation

Item 5.1 Strategy for mechanisms of assistance and mobilization of financial resources to support the implementation of the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products

*Document FCTC/MOP/4/10*

#### Item 6 Budgetary and institutional matters

Item 6.1 Performance and progress reports

*Document FCTC/MOP/4/11*

Item 6.2 Proposed Workplan and Budget for the financial period 2026–2027

*Documents FCTC/MOP/4/12 and FCTC/MOP/4/INF.DOC./1*

Item 6.3 Payment of Assessed Contributions and measures to reduce Parties in arrears

*Document FCTC/MOP/4/13 Rev.1*

Item 6.4 Review of accreditation of nongovernmental organizations with the status of observer to the Meeting of the Parties

*Document FCTC/MOP/4/14*

#### Item 3 (contd) Global progress in implementation of the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products, followed by a general debate

*[Discussion on a draft decision titled “Information sharing in relation to seizures by individual Parties” proposed by a Party, transferred from Plenary]*

*Document FCTC/MOP4/P/CONF./3*

## Report of meetings on Monday 24 November 2025

### First plenary meeting

In the chair: Dr Mansour Zafer Alqahtani (Saudi Arabia)  
President of the Meeting of the Parties

#### Item 1 Opening of the session

The President opened the Meeting and invited Mr Andrew Black, acting Head of the Convention Secretariat, to welcome delegations to the Fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties.

#### Item 1.1 Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The President opened the agenda item and informed the Meeting that the provisional agenda as contained in documents FCTC/MOP/4/1 and FCTC/MOP/4/1 (annotated) would be considered. The Meeting adopted its agenda as proposed.

It was agreed that, following previous practice, Committee A would be entrusted with work on Protocol instruments and technical matters under provisional agenda item 4, and Committee B would work on reporting, implementation assistance and international cooperation under provisional agenda item 5 and on budgetary and institutional matters under provisional agenda item 6. The remaining agenda items would be taken up in Plenary as follows:

#### Item 1.2 *Credentials of participants*

Item 2 *Applications for the status of observer to the Meeting of the Parties*

Item 3 *Global progress in implementation of the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products, followed by a general debate*

Item 7 *Date and place of the Fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties*

Item 8 *Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Meeting of the Parties*

Item 9 *Closure of the session*

It was announced that the Meeting of the Parties agreed to webcast segments of items marked with an asterisk in documents FCTC/MOP/4/1 and FCTC/MOP/4/1 (annotated).

In accordance with decision FCTC/MOP1(15) and Rule 32 of the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting of the Parties, accredited media would be permitted to attend the open sessions of MOP4.

Following consultations within the regions, the MOP was invited to consider the following proposals for the offices of Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons to the Committees:

- Committee A: Iran (Islamic Republic of) (Chairperson), Sri Lanka and Netherlands (Kingdom of the) (Vice-Chairpersons);
- Committee B: Gambia (Chairperson), Ecuador and Samoa (Vice-Chairpersons).

The officers of the Committees were elected and the agenda item was closed.

**Item 1.2      Credentials of participants**

In accordance with Rule 19 of the Rules of Procedure, the Bureau would examine the credentials of the Parties participating in this session. The President recalled Rule 20 of the Rules of Procedure. It was decided that the Convention Secretariat would report to a subsequent plenary meeting, tentatively on Tuesday morning.

**Item 2      Applications for the status of observer to the Meeting of the Parties**

The President informed the Meeting of the applications for observer status that had been submitted to the Secretariat, as noted in document FCTC/MOP/4/3. It was decided to grant observer status to African Capacity Building Foundation, African Tax Administration Forum, Economics for Health, and World Heart Federation.

The agenda item was closed.

**Item 3      Global progress in implementation of the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products, followed by a general debate**

The President opened the agenda item and invited Mr Andrew Black, acting Head of the Convention Secretariat, to introduce the Global progress in implementation of the Protocol. The President opened the general debate.

The President informed the Meeting that a draft decision on “Information sharing in relation to seizures by individual Parties” was proposed by a Party, contained in document FCTC/MOP4/P/CONF./3. Following an invitation from the President, the delegation of Brazil introduced the draft decision, and comments were invited from the floor. The President proposed that the matter be entrusted to Committee B, which would report to Plenary. The Meeting was informed that the document would be considered at the Plenary meeting scheduled for Wednesday 26 November.

The agenda item was suspended and the meeting was adjourned.

## WHO FCTC MOP4 App

[The WHO Events App for the WHO FCTC MOP4](#) for smart phones and computer is now available. The App provides secure access to the official documents, basic documents and all the practical information that participants need for taking part in MOP4. For more information, check the [App Quick Start Guide](#), contact [fctcappsupport@who.int](mailto:fctcappsupport@who.int) or go to the App booth on site if you require any assistance regarding the App.

## Social media accounts

Delegates are encouraged to raise awareness about MOP4 and the Protocol, as well as the WHO FCTC, including the importance of its implementation through social media. Official hashtags: #MOP4 and #FCTCSavesLives are recommended to be used on X, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn or other channels for this purpose.

## Procedural issues

To raise a point of order, request a right of reply or make a procedural motion pursuant to the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting of the Parties, a delegation member should send a message to +41 79 60377 84 by SMS text or by WhatsApp. This number is staffed during meeting times and may only be used for points of order, requests for rights of reply or other procedural motions and not for any other matter. Any messages will be relayed promptly to the presiding officer.

## Media

A virtual opening MOP4 press conference was held for the media on Thursday, 13 November 2025 at 15:00 (CET).

A closing press conference will be held for the media on Wednesday, 26 November 2025 following the closing of MOP4.

Members of the media are encouraged to sign up to receive WHO FCTC media alerts [here](#) in order to be kept up to date on press conferences and more.

Media requests for the Secretariat can be directed to [mediafctc@who.int](mailto:mediafctc@who.int).

## Contact information

**Plenary:** [fctcgovernance@who.int](mailto:fctcgovernance@who.int)

**Committee A:** [fctcComA@who.int](mailto:fctcComA@who.int)

**Committee B:** [fctcComB@who.int](mailto:fctcComB@who.int)

## Announcements

### Arrangements for conduct of discussion in Plenary, Committee A and B meetings

Delegations wishing to speak in the general debate (agenda item 3 – Global progress in implementation of the Protocol, followed by a general debate) are invited to notify the Convention Secretariat as soon as possible by email with the subject line “Request for general debate statement” to [fctcgovernance@who.int](mailto:fctcgovernance@who.int).

Delegates can view the speaker’s list for item 3 in the [restricted online documentation portal](#).

Delegations are encouraged to opt for group or regional statements, in lieu of individual statements.

## **On-site facilities**

Delegates are invited to consult the [Practical Guide for Participants](#) (FCTC/MOP/4/DIV/2) for any other information related to the venue.

## **Meditation and prayer room**

The meditation and prayer room is open to all participants seeking a space for reflection, prayer or meditation. It offers a peaceful environment reserved for quiet relaxation, where participants are kindly asked to ensure that conversations, phone use and other potential disturbances are avoided. It is located in Room M.020, on the ground floor of Building M at WHO headquarters.

## **Seating during Plenary sessions**

Due to space limitations in the main Plenary room, Parties will be allocated a limited number of seats during Plenary sessions according to their delegation size. Overflow rooms will be available for delegates who are not able to be accommodated in the main Plenary room.

## **Live streaming**

The webcasts can be viewed on Macs and PCs, as well as all mobile devices including iPhone, iPad, Android and Windows-enabled phones.

Please visit the WHO FCTC MOP4 website [here](#).

## **Distribution of documents**

The documents for the session can be downloaded [here](#).

A secure and restricted online documentation portal may be found on the MOP4 webpage for delegates to access in-session documentation with a username and password communicated to the Parties and observers to the Meeting of the Parties by the Convention Secretariat.

## **Room booking**

There is limited space for bilateral or private meetings; however, upon request, rooms can be designated by the Convention Secretariat for specific appointments. Regretfully, interpretation cannot be provided for such meetings. Requests will be treated on a first-come, first-served basis.

Requests for a meeting room should be sent to the Convention Secretariat as soon as possible – but no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting – to [cmpmail@who.int](mailto:cmpmail@who.int), stating the date and time of the meeting, duration of the meeting, number of participants and name of the organizer (Party or observer).

## **List of participants**

The provisional list of participants will be available on the [WHO FCTC MOP4](#) website at the opening of the session. That list will be issued on the basis of valid credentials received by the Convention Secretariat up to 12:00 (noon) on Sunday, 23 November. A revised list will be posted on the WHO FCTC MOP4 website later. In the event of any official change in the details and composition of a delegation, delegations are kindly requested to make any necessary changes directly in the registration system.

---