

## **NOTE FOR THE RECORD**

### **First meeting of the Expert Group on Forward-looking Tobacco Control Measures (in relation to Article 2.1 of the WHO FCTC)**

18–20 June 2024

Virtual meeting

#### **Opening and introduction of participants**

1. The present report contains a summary of the discussions at the First meeting of the Expert Group on Forward-looking Tobacco Control Measures, in relation to Article 2.1 of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC). The Expert Group was established by decision FCTC/COP10(12) at the Tenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) to the WHO FCTC.
2. At the First meeting of the Bureau elected by COP10, the Bureau considered and approved the list of experts for the Expert Group, as well as its terms of reference. The Expert Group met with the composition approved by the Bureau; the list of experts is contained in Annex 1 of the present report.

#### **Introduction of the agenda**

3. Following welcoming remarks and a round of introductions, the Expert Group adopted the provisional agenda as proposed. The agenda is contained in Annex 2 of the present report.

#### **Introduction of decision FCTC/COP10(12) and the terms of reference of the Expert Group**

4. The meeting began with a discussion of the background and mandate of the Expert Group, with reference to decision FCTC/COP10(12) and the terms of reference approved by the Bureau.
5. The Expert Group discussed the scope of its mandate, in relation to the coverage of tobacco and nicotine products, and agreed to remain focused on tobacco products, as requested in the COP10 decision, deferring to Parties to tailor the application of the identified forward-looking tobacco control measures (FLMs) to their own context.

#### **Consideration of matters related to the work of the Expert Group**

6. A Chairperson and officers were elected by the members of the Expert Group to facilitate the work of the Expert Group.
7. The Expert Group was briefed by the Convention Secretariat on parallel ongoing work that may be of interest to it, including the work of the Expert Group on Implementation of Article 19 of the WHO FCTC on liability, re-established by decision FCTC/COP10(13), and the preparation of a report on Article 18 of the WHO FCTC by the Convention Secretariat, to be presented to the Eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties (COP11) in accordance with decision FCTC/COP10(14).

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8. The Expert Group engaged in a discussion of FLMs. A long list of potential FLMs was identified; these FLMs were classified into four main areas of work or domains: tobacco supply, tobacco product, institutional structures/market and consumer-focused.

9. Further, the experts identified key considerations to short-list the FLMs, and agreed that evidence briefs would be developed for the retained measures in order to inform the Expert Group report. These would be developed by the experts, according to the identified domains.

10. The Convention Secretariat provided the Expert Group with an overview of the existing WHO FCTC Knowledge Hubs available to support the work of the Expert Group, in line with the COP10 decision. The Expert Group discussed the possibility of requesting input from the Knowledge Hubs as relevant to its mandate.

11. The Expert Group further discussed the timeline for carrying out its work. The Expert Group agreed that its second meeting could be scheduled at the end of October 2024, with final dates to be identified. The meeting would be conducted in person at the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare in Helsinki, Finland. The deadline for the submission of the report of the Expert Group to the Convention Secretariat was tentatively set on 1 May 2025, to allow sufficient time for editing and translation in time for COP11 in November 2025.

12. Further, the experts discussed practical considerations, including methods of communication and best practices for working.

13. The experts also agreed on a timeline for the next steps before the second meeting of the Expert Group.

## **Closure**

14. The Chairperson thanked participants for their contributions and closed the meeting.

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ANNEX 1

**EXPERT GROUP ON FORWARD-LOOKING TOBACCO CONTROL MEASURES (IN RELATION  
TO ARTICLE 2.1 OF THE WHO FCTC)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization, Country</b>
Larissa Al-Uar	Tobacco Free Jordan, Jordan
Matthew Allen	Allen & Clarke Policy and Regulatory Specialists Ltd., New Zealand
George Bakhturidze	Georgia
Stella Bialous	University of California, United States of America
Becky Freeman	University of Sydney, Australia
Prashant Kumar Singh	Indian Council of Medical Research, India
Kylie Lindorff	Cancer Council New South Wales, Australia
Hadii Mamudu	East Tennessee State University, United States of America
Aya Mostafa	Ain Shams University, Egypt
Hanna Ollila	Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, Finland
Robert Schwartz	University of Toronto, Canada
Reinskje Talhout	National Institute for Public Health and the Environment, Netherlands
<i>Experts named by observers</i>	
Geoffrey Fong	Global Alliance for Tobacco Control
Ruth Malone	Action on Smoking and Health

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## ANNEX 2

### PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening and introduction of participants
2. Introduction of the agenda
3. Introduction of decision FCTC/COP10(12) and the terms of reference of the Expert Group
4. Consideration of matters related to the work of the Expert Group
  - a) Election of officers
  - b) Method of work of the Expert Group:
    - i. Identifying and describing forward-looking tobacco control measures
    - ii. Research and elaboration of findings on the measures identified under (i)
    - iii. Allocation of the work to the members of the Expert Group
    - iv. Engagement with other experts/expertise that might be necessary
    - v. Support and information expected from WHO and the WHO FCTC Knowledge Hubs
    - vi. Any other matters
  - c) Timeline of work of the Expert Group
    - i. Date and place of the second meeting
  - d) Practical matters
    - i. Document sharing and keeping track of the work done
    - ii. Communication within the Expert Group
5. Any other business
6. Closure