



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



43rd DIRECTING COUNCIL
53rd SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., USA, 24-28 September 2001

RESOLUTION

CD43.R12

FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON TOBACCO CONTROL

THE 43rd DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having considered the report on the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) (Document CD43/13);

Recognizing the massive burden of tobacco use and exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke on the health of the populations of the Americas and on their health care systems;

Cognizant that clear evidence now exists regarding cost-effective measures to reduce tobacco use and that measures to reduce tobacco use are likely to benefit the economies of most Member States; and

Recognizing that the FCTC provides a unique opportunity to mobilize and globally coordinate action to reduce tobacco use,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge Member States to:
 - (a) actively participate in the development of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control through participation in (FCTC) negotiating sessions and through strengthened domestic multisectoral coordination to develop cohesive national positions on the FCTC that are supported by efforts to develop and implement comprehensive plans;

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- (b) develop national plans that, as part of a comprehensive approach, prevent initiation, noting the special vulnerability of children and adolescents, and promote cessation of tobacco use through the implementation and enforcement of cost-effective measures to reduce tobacco use, including setting tobacco taxes at levels that decrease consumption and progressive elimination of tobacco promotion, in accordance with national constitutions;
 - (c) protect all nonsmokers, in particular children and pregnant women, from exposure to second-hand smoke through elimination of smoking in government facilities, health care facilities, and educational institutions as a priority, and through the creation of smoke-free environments in workplaces and public places as soon as possible, recognizing that smoke-free environments also promote cessation and prevent initiation of tobacco use;
 - (d) implement surveillance systems to track tobacco-related mortality and progress toward reduction targets for tobacco use and second-hand smoke exposure, in recognition that tobacco control initiatives must be supported by ongoing monitoring and analysis of results to ensure that such efforts are effective and evidence based.
2. To request that the Director:
- (a) continue to facilitate the participation of Member States in the development of the FCTC;
 - (b) stimulate technical cooperation, within available resources, to strengthen the capacity of Member States to implement strong, effective tobacco use reduction measures and surveillance systems to evaluate progress;
 - (c) draft a framework for action under the name “Smoke-Free Americas” to protect nonsmokers from the deleterious effects of second-hand smoke;
 - (d) support the implementation of surveillance systems for tobacco control and the dissemination of information on successful measures or experiences.

(Eighth meeting, 27 September 2001)