

We can now resume with the consideration of agenda item 5 on the global progress in implementation of the WHO FCTC followed by a general debate.

I invite you to please raise your nameplates although we will continue with the speaker list that we drew up in the morning.

The first speaker to take the floor will be Mozambique to be followed by Saudi Arabia, Mozambique you have the floor.

If Mozambique is not ready, Saudi Arabia, please take the floor.

Thank you, Madam President.

We would like to renew our expressions of appreciation to Panama for welcoming here to Panama

We are determined to implement, adopt and implement the framework

Convention, indeed, we have put in place the necessary measures to do so.

And we have become a regional center recognized by the WHO for the implementation of the WHO Framework Convention in the Gulf region.

We also have a chair of a commission to fight against tobacco use.

We have set up strategies

going up to 2027.

With respect to Article 5 of the Convention, we have adopted the content of this article and we have set forth the guidelines and taken the necessary measures.

We have also published on the WHO site and set up

the stamps that are necessary.

We have also set up the track and trace system.

We have set in place the tax stamps with respect to the nicotine doses in process.

With respect to advertising, we have very strict regulations, and all of these measures have indeed reduced the number of smokers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Thank you so much for all your efforts.

Thank you, Saudi Arabia.

Mozambique, are you ready to take the floor?

Yes, Madam Chair.

Please go ahead.

Thank you.

Thank you once again, Madam Chair.

Mozambique understands the importance of health which is justified with our commitment under the Framework Convention for Tobacco Control.

signed in 2003, having Mozambique become part in July 2017 for ratification.

In the period between signing and ratification, Mozambique approved the regulation on tobacco consumption

which has been guiding instruments for the protocol control action, as well as relating to the reduction of tobacco demand.

The tobacco multisectorial group is constituted by the various focal points, including the civil society, and then is coordinated by the Ministry of Health.

Third is focal point which is the coordinating and monitoring the implementation of tobacco control as well as the operationalization and implementation of the FTC measures in Mozambique.

Following the notification of the FCTC, the country applied and was approved in 2019 and 2021 for the first and second phase of the project, named FCTC 2030, an official program aimed at technical support for low and income countries.

On environmental issues, Mozambique is committed to this matter.

Being in 2022, become the climate action champion in Africa, is the first country to receive payments from the front to reduce emission from deforestation and forest degradation, known as REDD+.

This is to increase the capture of carbon for the period of six years under the leadership of His Excellency Philippe Jacinto-News, the President of the Republic of Mozambique.

Mozambique has approved and implementing legislation on solid waste management.

The government five-year program listed five priority areas, including threatening the sustainable management of natural resources and environment.

The Ministry of Land and Environment was created mainly to direct, to plan, control, and guarantee the implementation of policies in the field of administration and management of lands and geometric forests and fauna environments.

The National Program for Sustainable Development established the general objective of sustainable and increasing

This is related to family income in rural areas, and four areas are targets.

One of them is the CO2 emissions.

The government of Mozambique monitors what tobacco companies do through our Provincial Service for Economic Activity, as well as their directorate.

The government of Mozambique is very sensitive to the environment challenge as well.

On labour, our constitution is clear on the child labour issue, having stated clearly the ban of any form of child work.

on safety and health at work.

It should be noted that the government of Mozambique has published a legislation which approves a general regulation on safety.

Thank you.

Thank you, Mozambique.

Burkina Faso, you may take the floor, followed by Guyana.

Thank you, Madam President, distinguished delegates.

I'm taking the floor on behalf of the delegation of the African group and would like to thank Panama for hosting this meeting.

With regard to the implementation of the FCTC, Burkina Faso has since the ratification put in place since 2010 a series of measures and laws

that are implemented via decrees aiming at Article 5.3 and 7, which is part of our framework for 2022-2026 and the fight against tobacco.

Since 2019, we have ensured that pictures are on tobacco products, and we've made progress with the tobacco industry.

All of these actions

involves civil society and this has allowed us to reduce tobacco use by 8% in 2013 and even greater moving on to 2020.

There are some challenges.

For example, the improvement of packaging is on as part of the work of the ministry.

and also the put in place of a national committee to fight against tobacco.

We would like to thank the Secretariat for its assistance in helping us fight against tobacco and also to help us with the prevention of tobacco use and public use and also with the Top of Fire project.

Burkina Faso would like to thank the Secretariat once again for its support via the FCCT Project 2030.

and also to the WHO for its technical and financial support.

To conclude, Burkina Faso would like to say that it is committed to all initiatives aiming to ensure the implementation of the FCTC.

Thank you.

Thank you, Burkina Faso.

Guyana, please take the floor.

Madam President.

To be followed by Fiji.

Madam President, distinguished delegates, two decades into the convention, we must acknowledge a review and certain adjustments are needed.

There are still millions smoking, and four out of five of them now live.

in low and middle income countries where most of the 8 million deaths due to tobacco occur.

We are seriously off track when it comes to the SDGs tobacco targets, but only 30% of countries with a chance.

While the report highlights gains, such gains are deadly slow in low and middle income countries in relation to Articles 2, 5, 6, 8, 11, 13, 17, and 18.

We note various experiences from implementation to banning of use of novel products as part of evidence-based and sometimes time-bound harm reduction strategies in countries such as New Zealand, the UK, Australia, Singapore, Mexico, Panama, Brazil, India, China, and others.

These experiences mandate a serious and evidence-based discourse on harm reduction.

We highlight the issue of sustained tobacco production and urge greater attention to Article 17 and 18.

We're mandated to assist cultivating countries to transition to food production in the global food security efforts.

Ghana remains committed to pursue proper tobacco control activities in line with the FCTC.

We look forward to fruitful evidence-based discussion.

Thank you.

Thank you, Guyana.

Fiji, to be followed by Tunisia.

Fiji?

Tunisia?

Yes.

Thank you, Madam President.

My name, and in the name of the Ministry of Health of Tunisia, Dr. Alemen Ratipa, we'd like to thank the Panama for

bringing us all together in this very delightful site and also for the Bureau for its excellent organization of the meeting.

In Tunisia, tobacco does have a tremendous impact on the economy and the health of the population.

The fight against tobacco is a challenge to protect the health of communities and also to achieve the SDGs in the field of tobacco.

that is the reduction of premature deaths by one-third of non-communicable diseases between now and 2030 in Tunisia.

The first legal framework was already put in place in 1998.

This framework has

legal dispositions as to the use of tobacco in public places.

We have also put in place free consultations to help people to quit smoking with the involvement of primary health care professionals in the fight against tobacco use.

The idea is to orient people towards specialized medical professionals as necessary.

During the International Day Against Tobacco, in presence of the head of government, nine ministers came together, including the Minister of Tourism, Sport, Education, and Health, came together, have signed a charter piloted by the Minister of Health.

The aim is to strengthen multisectoral work against tobacco.

So this highlights the commitment of Tunisia at the highest level for the implementation of the FCTC of the WHO.

Now, as to the implementation of this charter, this confirms our strategic commitment to the fight against tobacco and our leadership in this area.

We are really trying to highlight the action within the FCTC, and this is why the country in 2010 ratified and is now trying to ensure the multisectoral approach to the fight against tobacco within our country.

Thank you.

Thank you, Tunisia.

Is there any other party that wishes to take the floor before we move on to state nonparties?

I see none, so we shall proceed to state non-parties.

We have the United States.

Please take the floor.

Yes, yes.

Thank you very much.

The United States appreciates the opportunity to attend COP10 as an observer and extends our thanks to Panama as our host.

We welcome the efforts of the Secretariat and parties to reduce the preventable toll of tobacco use.

Advancing tobacco control remains a key public health priority for the United States.

With partners, we are taking evidence-based actions aimed at saving lives, including those to prevent future generations of people who use tobacco, promote tobacco cessation, and advance health equity.

The U.S.

Food and Drug Administration has proposed tobacco product standards to prohibit menthol as a characterizing flavor in cigarettes and prohibit all characterizing flavors, including menthol, in cigars, which is in the final stage of the rulemaking process.

FDA also plans to develop a proposed product standard that would establish a maximum nicotine level to reduce the addictiveness of cigarettes and certain other combustible tobacco products.

In 2022, FDA was granted the authority to regulate tobacco products containing nicotine from any source, including synthetic nicotine, to respond to the increase of non-tobacco nicotine in tobacco products.

In implementing premarket requirements, FDA has acted on 99% of applications for over 26 million deemed tobacco products, including ENDS, as part of efforts to transition the marketplace to one where all products for sale have undergone a careful, science-based review.

Robust surveillance remains essential to sustain and accelerate momentum on tobacco control, and the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the critical need for resilient systems.

Our Centers for Disease Control and Prevention develops, conducts, and supports strategic efforts to protect the public's health from the harmful effects of tobacco use, and collaborates internationally to enhance country capacity through the Global Tobacco Surveillance System.

Continued international collaboration in scientific research is critical to further strengthen our shared knowledge.

Through the National Institutes of Health, we continue to support domestic and international research that informs tobacco control measure implementation across diverse settings.

With increases in marketing of novel tobacco and nicotine products, including ENDS and HTPs, NIH supports several ongoing studies on such products and their potential impact on public health.

The United States appreciates the continued efforts by the Secretariat, parties, and international partners to accelerate action to meet the voluntary global targets on reducing tobacco-related deaths and looks forward to continued collaboration towards achieving our shared goals.

Thank you.

Thank you, US.

We have two parties that would like to take the floor.

Jordan, please take the floor to be followed by Zambia.

Thank you, Madam Chairman.

The past few years witnessed a wide range of Jordanian interventions testifying to the Kingdom's profound adoption of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

This adoption is part of the country's strategic orientation to achieve and sustain health, social, economic, and environmental protection against which tobacco consumption functions as a debilitating factor.

Jordan's efforts in pursuing a strengthening tobacco control are reflected in several reports.

Most recently, the WHO report in the Global Tobacco Epidemic 2023 protects people from tobacco smoke with effective interventions in creating a smoke-free environment.

Tobacco dependence treatment, anti-tobacco mass media campaigns and bans on tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship.

Jordan is one of the eight countries that have four empowered measures at the highest level of achievement in 2022.

While combating illicit trade of tobacco products and banning sale of ends, Jordan has reached the highest tier in the share of total taxes in the retail price of the most widely sold brand of cigarettes with 78%.

Jordan also demonstrated keenness to join the evolving forms of anti-tobacco campaigns such as United Against Tobacco and COVID-19 Campaign.

The Kingdom calls on the WHO and FCTC Secretariat to promote evidence-based policies and measures that acknowledge the heterogeneous health and economic concerns of its parties.

The effectiveness of our joint quest to achieve better tobacco control lies in tailoring strategies, taking different national legislations and priorities into consideration.

In this regard, Jordan has issued and implemented differentiated recommendations, standards, and fiscal policies for the commercializing of naval and emerging tobacco and nicotine products, and they are subject to periodical revision in the best interest of the country.

We believe Barthes would agree that the tax rate determined in accordance with each country's situation is a guarantee against the much less controlled illicit trade.

With that in mind,

Jordan reserves its sovereign right to adapt and implement decisions and policy recommendations that concur with national policies and legislations as well as country-specific circumstances.

Jordan supports further discussions to exchange relevant experiences among the parties on key provisions of the FCTC.

Thus, we support the implementation of articles 9 and 10 of the WHO-FCTC regarding testing and measuring the contents and emissions of cigarettes, smokeless and other novel and emerging tobacco and nicotine products and their regulation and the disclosure of information on such contents and emissions to governmental authorities and the public, respectively.

Emphasizing the need for the technical financial assistance for this purpose

As a member of the working group temporarily suspended at COP 8, we believe this could be best achieved through the reactivation of the working group on Articles 9 and 10, which would allow Jordan and many other countries to continue their work to accelerate the implementation of these articles.

including to finish the partial guidelines and validated standards and testing methods mandated by various sessions of the COP, as well as share regularity experiences and exchange of information.

Further work and research are needed to level an emerging tobacco and nicotine products prior to the adoption for any further discussions.

Jordan, you're out of time.

Thank you.

Okay.

Thank you very much.

Zambia, please take the floor.

zambia you have the floor thank you madam president uh distinguished delegates ladies and gentlemen allow me since it's the first time we're taking the floor to express our appreciation to the government and friendly people of panama for the warm welcome and generous critiques according to our delegation i also wish to congratulate you for assuming the presidency of cop 10

and for ably guiding this meeting thus far.

We are confident that with your leadership, we will achieve the objectives of the meeting.

Madam President, the government of Zambia demonstrates its dedication to safeguarding public health through various legislative measures, such as the Public Health Act,

Chapter 295 of the laws of Zambia, the Zambia National Public Health Act, sorry, the Zambia National Public Health Institute Act number 19 of 2020, and the recent cabinet approval in principle towards the enactment of the Tobacco Control Bill.

As part of this commitment, Zambia wholeheartedly adopts and upholds the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, WHO FCTC, which stands as the world's first public health treaty.

Madam President, Zambia acknowledges its

Zambia acknowledges its duty to adopt effective measures and laws for testing, measuring, and regulating tobacco products in line with its obligation under Article 9 of the WHO FCTC.

Zambia also recognizes that the purpose of Article 9 of the WHO FCTC is to guide on the types of testing and measuring of tobacco products which need to be suitable and appropriate for implementation in accordance with national laws.

Madam President, as we navigate the challenges posed by tobacco consumption, Zambia remains committed to collaborating with international partners and stakeholders to enhance our collective efforts in tobacco control.

Together, we can strive towards a healthier future for generations to come.

I thank you.

Thank you, Zambia.

We shall now continue with the statement parties, and I would like to request Switzerland to take the floor.

Thank you, Madam President.

Tobacco use is indeed one of the greatest challenges the world is facing, and the fight against this terrible burden is one of the priorities for Switzerland.

We are very pleased to take part in the debates of the 10th COP here.

According to our estimations, tobacco use causes more than

90,000 deaths per year, and it's one of the highest percentages among the deaths in our countries.

The fight against tobacco usage

calls for a long-term effort and a long-term strategy.

For Switzerland, the priority objective is to reduce the number of diseases and deaths due to tobacco use.

I'm referring in particular to strengthen our regulatory framework to protect young people and limit their access to tobacco products, including to electronic cigarettes, the ratification



of the FCTC that Switzerland signed in 2004 is an important part of our national strategy to prevent non-communicable diseases in line with the practice.

In Switzerland, our national legislation has to be in line with the Convention.

We have covered a lot of ground to strengthen our legislative framework over the past few years.

Swiss law is already in line with the FCTC, including the presentation of pictures on tobacco products, the new federal law on tobacco products that was adopted in 2021 and that will enter into force this year.

calls for the prohibition of electronic cigarettes and tobacco products to minors.

In February 2022, a popular initiative that aims to prohibit all marketing of tobacco products aiming at young people was put on the table, and we have a law on tobacco products that calls for prohibiting any marketing of tobacco products in public places.

and also in the advertising of electronic cigarettes and any other new tobacco products.

Advertising should also be prohibited on the Internet.

The full prohibition of

Advertising is under discussion in the Parliament now, and the next spring we should have a decision.

After this process of revising our laws, the Federal Council will look at our laws once again for the implementation of the FCTC and our level of implementation.

So, Swiss is committed to making our legislation move forward in the fight against tobacco use.

We hope that you will have fruitful debates over the next few years.

Many thanks.

I will give the floor to African Capacity Building Foundation.

Thank you, Madam President.

The Africa Capacity Building Foundation expresses its gratitude to the Panama government for its hospitality.

The foundation is a specialized agency of the African Union in capacity development.

The African Capacity Building Foundation appreciates the progress that has been done in global tobacco control implementation by all parties.

The African Capacity Building Foundation renews its commitment to support capacity of African institutions for effective tobacco control implementation.

The foundation will continue supporting civil society organizations, academia, research organizations in tobacco control implementation in Africa.

The African Capacity Building Foundation takes cognizance of the new products that are of concern to the tobacco control implementation in Africa and expect parties to take strong decisions, especially on the novel and emerging products.

Thank you, Madam President.

Thank you very much.

AF, please take the floor.

Are there any other IGOs that would like to take the floor?

We shall now proceed to NGOs.

Union for International Cancer Control please take the floor.

Union for International Cancer Control, do you still wish to take the floor?

Dear Madam President, no, we have no statement to declare.

Thank you.

Thank you.

World Heart Federation, please take the floor.

Honorable Chair, Distinguished Delegates, the World Heart Federation applaud the party for the progress made since 2021.

Nevertheless, we note with concern that interference from the tobacco industry remains the primary obstacle to implementation of the Framework Convention.

The tobacco industry has a long-standing history of system acting and deliberating interferences in health and regulatory science.

In recent years, it has solved the creating necessary and harmful controversy in the minds of the public, healthcare professionals, and policy makers through unfounded claims, aggressive market strategy, and the industry found the research to promote its newer products.

As such, we urge all parties and stakeholders to fully implement the Confirm Rate Convention, with particular emphasis on Article 5.3, to safeguard public health from the commercial and vested interests of the industry.

Thank you.

Thank you, World Heart Foundation.

International Pharmaceutical Students Federation, please take the floor.

Dear Madam President and WHO FCTC Secretariat, thank you for supporting youths.

Honorable delegates, I'm taking the floor for IPSF to speak on behalf of Global Youth Voices, a movement comprised of youth organizations from around the globe.

I stand before you as a representative of Youth Voices to express gratitude to many of you who genuinely prioritize youth interests by adopting only the strongest measures to protect us.

In our statement to COP at the International Youth Day last August, we denounced the manipulative tactics of the tobacco industry on our generation.

We condemned those who prioritized profit over our well-being.

We wish to be heard.

At COP10, let us not echo the tobacco industry's deceptive rhetoric.

Terms like tobacco harm reduction and tobacco sustainability are contradictory and ironic.

We ask for one thing from you this week.

Engage with the youth present at the COP premises.

For example, you're welcome to visit our booth and attend our youth-focused side events on Thursday and Friday.

Youths are experts in our own right and have many ideas your work can benefit from, so we can create a better smoke-free world together going forward.

It's crucial to hold the tobacco industry liable for past, present, and future harms, to protect our environment from tobacco-related damage and dispel the illusion of harm reduction.

According to the Global Youth Tobacco Survey trends, youths in countries with bans on addictive products fare better than those with access restrictions.

Hence, it is important to remove addictive products from any market or platform, including digital ones that can reach the youth.

This COP has the power to change the course of our future.

Throughout this week, Youth Worldwide will be watching and future generations will remember you for being the one who protected them or being the one who felt them and put them in danger.

Thank you.

Thank you.

Thank you, International Pharmaceutical Students Federation.

Is there any other NGO that would like to take the floor?

If none, I would like to take this time to thank your colleagues for all their enriching

discussions that we have had under this agenda item on global progress in the implementation of the WHO FCTC.

I now declare agenda item five closed and with that we conclude our fourth plenary meeting and we shall convene tomorrow morning at 10 a.m.

for the report on the credentials of participants.

Committee A will now commence its work in this meeting room, and I wish you all fruitful deliberations.

However, as the meetings of the committees are not intended for webcasting, we shall have a 10-minute break to allow technicians to switch off the webcasting equipment.

And before I adjourn this plenary session, I would like to give the floor to the Convention Secretariat for any announcements.

There are none.

Thank you very much, distinguished delegates.

The meeting is accordingly adjourned.