

Short Country Reports

Human Rights and Tobacco
Control Network

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Concept

- ONE page
- Easy to read
- Predictable
- Repeatable
- Simple
- Topline
- Direct

Countries

Started in 2011 – 46 & 47th Sessions

- Argentina
- Cameroon
- Turkmenistan
- Estonia
- Israel
- Bulgaria
- Spain
- Ecuador
- Ethiopia
- Mauritania
- Tanzania
- Slovakia
- New Zealand
- Peru

Cameroon

- Cameroon is to be commended for ratifying the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in February 2006.
- ASKS:
- A national comprehensive smokefree law that would include all public places and workplaces.
- Increase tobacco excise taxes; Use a portion of the tax income to support tobacco control nationally and regionally.
- Strengthen and enforce comprehensive advertising bans, including sponsorships and free trial products
- Support agriculture transitions from growing tobacco to a sustainable food crop.
- Establish regular surveillance mechanisms to document and understand the status of tobacco use, including secondhand smoke exposure

COMMENTS:

- The Committee notes with satisfaction the efforts by the State party to promote the implementation of economic, social and cultural rights, including:
(f) Ratification of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control;

Argentina

- Asked:
- 1. Ratify the FCTC: Urge Argentina to ratify the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control
- 2. Clean Indoor Air Laws: Draft and pass national clean indoor air legislation
- 3. Tobacco Taxes
- 4. Smoking Cessation
- 5. Tobacco Industry Influence
- 6. Tobacco Agriculture₁

COMMENTS:

- **The Committee recommends that the State party ratify and implement the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and develop effective public awareness and tax and pricing policies to reduce tobacco consumption, in particular targeting women and youth.**

Turkmenistan

- On August 11, 2011 Turkmenistan became the latest country to sign and ratify the Framework Convention
- ASKS:
- Surveillance: Increase surveillance of tobacco use among youth and adults
- Health Systems: Recognize opportunities to promote tobacco control through existing health regulations, programs and priorities. For example, the Labor Protection Act (1993) gives employees the right to a safe working environment.
- Smoking Cessation: **1.** Strengthen education on tobacco control and smoking cessation among health professionals and encourage smoking cessation in the medical community to create smoke-free role models. **2.** Integrate smoking cessation services such as quit lines and pharmacotherapies into the health system.
- Public Awareness: Encourage policy makers and the public to appreciate the connection between tobacco use and the two leading causes of excess mortality in Turkmenistan:
- Local Tobacco: Develop and enforce specific policies for reducing the use of tobacco particular to Turkmenistan and used frequently by youth.

Comments:

4. The Committee welcomes the ratification by the State party of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the ratification of the International Labour Organization's Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, **the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control**, and the United Nations Convention on the Status of Stateless Persons

Bulgaria

- Enforcement of comprehensive clean indoor air laws: Enforce comprehensive smoke-free legislation that include all workplaces, including bars and pubs.
- Increase tobacco excise taxes of tobacco products with effective implementation to inhibit tobacco smuggling. Use a portion of the income to support tobacco control programs.
- Tobacco Agriculture: Support tobacco farmers to transition away from growing tobacco.
- Regulation of illicit cigarette trade: Work nationally, regionally and internationally to limit illicit tobacco trafficking.
- Monitoring and Evaluation: Incorporate surveillance and evaluation of tobacco control in Bulgaria's new Health Act, National Health Strategy, and National Health Map.

COMMENTS:

- In view of the high prevalence of tobacco consumption in the State party, please inform the Committee on measures taken to enhance the enforcement of the smoke-free legislations, and to incorporate surveillance and evaluation of tobacco control in the Health Act, the National Health Strategy and the National Health Map.

Slovakia

ASKS:

- 1. Surveillance: Strengthen national monitoring and surveillance of tobacco.
- 2. National Tobacco Control Strategy: Develop a national strategic plan for tobacco control that identifies priority areas, outlines goals and includes the participation of civil society and professional organizations.
- 3. Tobacco Taxes
- 4. Clean Indoor Air Laws: Draft and pass national clean-indoor air legislation to restrict tobacco use and limit exposure to second-hand smoke. Current legislation exempts bars, nightclubs, restaurants and private workplaces.
- 5. Smoking Cessation: 1. Implement evidence-based smoking cessation programs by training physicians in smoking cessation and offering people who smoke nicotine replacement and other pharmacotherapies.

COMMENTS:

- In view of the high prevalence of tobacco consumption in the State party, please inform the Committee whether, in addition to its awareness-raising campaigns, a more comprehensive approach, which would include among others the provision of therapy and the enforcement of a ban on indoor smoking in public places, is envisioned by the State party.

Next Countries

- 49th Session

- Azerbaijan
- Iceland
- Iran
- Jamaica
- Japan
- NON-reporting states:
 - Republic of Congo
 - Equatorial Guinea

- 50th Session

- Denmark
- Kuwait
- Lithuania
- Rwanda
- Togo