### WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON TOBACCO CONTROL HEARINGS

#### Pre-hearing Submission

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#### Actavities of the Organization

- To increase the role of women in combating the danger of smoking persuasively, wisely and prudent, because the role of a mother in the family is determining.

- To encourage the society awareness and concern that smoking is not only a hazard for their own life but also to the society around him.

- To provide informations and basic knowledge on the hazards of smoking to junior and senior high school students at their schools so that they will take the right attitude in facing the problem especially in preventing smoking habit since the early stages.

#### Why are you interested in the FCTC

A treaty is needed because tobacco is now transboundry problem that knows no border, and it is needed to help the poor. In the near future nearly 70% of tobacco users will be in developing countries where national legislation is often weak and multinationals are making inroads under the WTO. A strong treaty on tobacco control would provide a legally binding counter force to the tobacco industry’s expansion.

#### Who funds your activities

The community through donations.

I will not be able to present this statement in Geneva at the hearings.
Should your organization support a convention on tobacco control? If so, why? Please illustrate with examples from your own experience.

As a working network of Indonesian women, which members are mostly mothers, who are called by their nature to contribute and to give a little bit effort in the well being of the future young generation, WITT feels strongly responsible to do something in preventing the young generation from the danger of tobacco against their health.

The promotion of public health in developing countries, including Indonesia, especially on the danger of tobacco against people’s health is very limited comparing with the marketing promotion of the tobacco industry. The attitude of the government towards the tobacco industry is still positive taking into consideration that the industry is one the biggest source of income tax and the biggest job provider. Although the Indonesian government has issued a government decree on the safeguarding cigarettes for health protection, it does not have a strong support from the public on the enforcement of the regulation. The world needs a strong, enforceable convention that holds tobacco companies accountable and support governments in their effort to protect and promote public health.

In Indonesia the promotion of tobacco products are not well regulated, the media does not make any restrictions on how and when the advertisement can be published or broadcasted. The advertising agencies did not make any consideration on the effects of the tobacco products on the public health, because the tobacco industry is still the biggest income producer for these agencies and the media. The cigarette advertisement in the television is still on prime time and the period of health warning is only a few second so that people cannot have the time to read. In the printing media the object is a person smoking.

Are women and youth targeted by the tobacco industry in your country? If so, give examples.

There is no restriction on the place of sale for cigarette, it can be sold any where to everyone without any age restrictions and since the target are also the lowest level of the society which is the biggest portion of the society cigarette is sold by the piece.

Young generation male or female is the target of the tobacco industry through musical and sport promotions. Most of the big/popular musical events and sports events (especially relating to cars and motor cycles) are sponsor by the tobacco industry. The whole entertainment industries are closely related to the tobacco products. Most of the objects of the cigarette advertisements are young generation male and/or female and relate to fashion, life style and entertainment.
Why should the FCTC deal with smuggling, taxation or advertising?

The problems caused by tobacco use are not confined to developed countries. Increasingly, the burden of tobacco related death and disease is being borne by developing countries. The FCTC should provide strong international measures to control problems that cannot be handled on a national or local level, such as smuggling and advertising that cannot be stopped at borders, e.g. internet and satellite television advertising.

The FCTC should make certain that provisions are included to ensure strong national tobacco control measures in areas that are traditionally domestic, such as taxation, employment opportunities and severe penalties against any violation of the tobacco control regulations.

The FCTC should also covers that the signatory countries of the convention should recognize any class actions brought against the tobacco industries in any country which is for the advantage of the public.

Nothing in the Framework Convention or related protocol should reduce, relax or in any other way diminish existing tobacco control initiatives, regulations, laws, or practices in any signatory country. The FCTC should provide support and encouragement for national policies and multilateral measures that would stem the disastrous global public health epidemic occurring as a result of tobacco use.

How would your community and country benefit from such measures?

The world needs a strong, enforceable convention that holds tobacco companies accountable and supports governments, especially from developing countries, in their effort to protect and promote public health. The tobacco industries in developing countries are very much influence by the strong policies and unity with the multinational tobacco industries which have big funds on for promotion. The FCTC should provide for stringent restrictions on all direct and indirect advertising, which covers all the signatory countries. Provisions of the Framework Convention and its related protocol should be made legally binding on tobacco companies and therefore be implemented by legislation or regulation within signatory countries.

Without strong international support and cooperation, the Indonesian government has a lot of difficulties in implementing the promotion and protection of public health; therefore the measures to be taken in the Framework Convention will benefit the community and the country signing the convention.

What will you do to support the FCTC?
WITT has worked hand with other members of the civil society especially those who sit together in the National Committee for the protection of health from tobacco to participate in the pre-hearing submission and will encourage and lobby the government to actively participate in the hearings.

We will socialize the efforts of WHO to achieve the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in Indonesia and will fully integrate into the Framework Convention process.

**What do you think governments and/or the UN should do for the FCTC?**

The governments and the UN should actively serve in any official capacity in the process of negotiating or implementing the Convention; they should be proactive in the whole process and to seek funds for ensuring strong representations of NGOs especially from developing countries.