Conference of the Parties to the
WHO Framework Convention
on Tobacco Control

Seventh session
Delhi, India, 7–12 November 2016

12 November 2016

DECISION

FCTC/COP7(23) Payment of the voluntary assessed contributions and measures to reduce Parties in arrears

The Conference of the Parties (COP),

Recalling decisions FCTC/COP4(22), FCTC/COP5(17) and FCTC/COP6(21) and report by the Convention Secretariat FCTC/COP/7/24;

Noting with concern that 87 Parties are in arrears, including some registering arrears for one or more biennium;

Welcoming with appreciation the overall spirit of commitment by Parties to meet their financial obligations to support the implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC);

1. URGES the Parties in arrears of their contributions to make full payment before 31 December 2017;

2. DECIDES that for future years, Parties’ contributions shall be designated as Assessed Contributions, and that references to Voluntary Assessed Contributions shall include Assessed Contributions and vice versa;

3. DECIDES to establish the following process and methodology in respect of any Party that is in arrears in the payment of its Assessed Contributions in an amount that equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two full calendar years at the time of the opening of the COP in any future year:

   (a) Towards the end of the year preceding each COP, the Head of the Secretariat shall invite each Party that will, unless corrective action is taken, be in arrears to the extent set out above, to submit to the Bureau a plan for making payments to clear the arrears;

   (b) The Bureau will consider the plan submitted by each such Party and make a recommendation to the COP. The Bureau may recommend the following measures if it is not satisfied with the plan or if no plan is submitted by the Party by the deadline set by
the Head of the Secretariat: the Party will not be eligible to become or nominate a member of any Bureau of the COP; or to chair any subsidiary body or working group;

(c) The COP will consider the Bureau's recommendation and, unless there are exceptional circumstances justifying different measures, will take the measures recommended;

(d) The Secretariat shall report through the Bureau to the COP on the implementation of the Plan of each such Party in future years. If the Plan is not being implemented fully, or if no plan been established, the COP will, unless there are exceptional circumstances justifying different measures, take the following measure: suspension of the right to vote of the Party;

(e) If the Party is no longer in arrears to the extent set out above any measures imposed under paragraph C and D shall lapse;

4. DECIDES to review the process and methodology set out in paragraph 3 above at its 10th session;

5. REQUESTS the Convention Secretariat:

   (a) to invite the Secretariat of the World Health Organization (WHO), in particular through its established regional and country representative office structure, to support the Convention Secretariat in following up with Parties to collect Assessed Contributions;

   (b) to invite the intergovernmental organization observers to the COP, in particular the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through its United Nations Resident Coordinators, to support the Convention Secretariat in following up with Parties to collect Assessed Contributions in countries where there is no WHO country representative office;

6. REQUESTS the Convention Secretariat:

   (a) to communicate this decision to all Parties in arrears of payment of Assessed Contributions;

   (b) to report at each session of the COP the status of Assessed Contributions.

(Fifth plenary meeting, 12 November 2016)

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