DECISION

FCTC/COP7(25)  Convention Secretariat’s fundraising efforts and collaborative work

The Conference of the Parties (COP),

Emphasizing the need for the Convention Secretariat to raise funds, given that more than half of activity costs in workplans and budgets adopted by the COP, including assistance to Parties and intercountry collaborative work, are dependent on extrabudgetary funds;

Acknowledging that the Convention Secretariat has allocated significant time and effort to raise funds for such activities;

Noting that the COP has not provided guidance on how the Convention Secretariat’s fundraising activities should be structured, nor has it adopted clear guidance for this work;

Acknowledging Convention Secretariat’s report on its fundraising efforts and collaborative work (document FCTC/COP/7/26), which has been reviewed by the Bureau;

Recognizing the sovereign right of the Parties to determine and establish their taxation policies;

1. REQUESTS the Convention Secretariat:
   (a) to further consider various funding options, on the basis of viability, sustainability and cost-effectiveness, including the possibility of an international fund for tobacco control;
   (b) to explore the possibility of a financing dialogue, if possible held immediately following the World Health Organization (WHO) financing dialogue, to facilitate collection of extrabudgetary funds for the COP workplan and budget, and to raise awareness of Parties’ implementation needs in order to mobilize resources for WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) implementation at the country level;
   (c) to base the fundraising strategy of the Convention Secretariat on the WHO Framework of Engagement with Non-State Actors (FENSA), to be supplemented by a number of further provisions that reflect the specificities of the Convention Secretariat. Accordingly the
following paragraphs in document FCTC/COP/7/26 are proposed to be implemented for the Convention Secretariat in addition to and consistent with the FENSA. In the case of conflict, the provisions of FENSA shall prevail:

1. This strategy is intended primarily to assist the Convention Secretariat, WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC), in ensuring full and timely implementation of the work plan adopted by the Conference of the Parties (COP) by mobilizing the necessary funds while protecting its reputation and credibility.

2. This strategy applies in its entirety to all staff of the Convention Secretariat, regardless of the type or duration of appointment, hereinafter referred to as “staff members”.

3. This policy applies to donations dedicated to the implementation of the work plans adopted by the COP, especially those dependent on extrabudgetary contributions, including to donations that are not earmarked for specific activities and thus could be used by the Convention Secretariat to carry out its general functions (such as communications, advocacy, promoting Convention ratification among non-Parties, technical work for which the need emerges during the implementation of particular decisions of the COP, etc.).

4. The types of contributions that could be mobilized are as follows:
   - Flexible: Funds that are not dedicated for a specific activity of the work plan adopted by the COP;
   - Designated: Funds that are donated to be used in a specific area of work or component/activity in the work plan.

5. The list of potential donors may include the following groups:
   - Parties;
   - United Nations organizations;
   - Nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), including but not limited to those that are accredited as observers to the COP;
   - Philanthropic foundations;
   - Private sector entities;
   - Academic institutions;
   - Intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) outside the UN system; and
   - Individuals.


16. In the absence of specific requirements from the donors for acknowledging contributions, contributions for outputs, outcomes and activities shall usually be acknowledged as follows:

   “The Secretariat of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control gratefully acknowledges the financial contribution of [donor’s name] towards [description of the outcome or activity].”

18. In case of specific requirements from donors for acknowledging donations, the Convention Secretariat should apply those requirements, provided they are in line with internal policies. Should that not be the case, the Convention Secretariat shall approach the donors and agree a
mutually agreeable wording of acknowledgment.

| 23. | The Convention Secretariat will encourage WHO and other IGOs, as well as NGOs and philanthropic foundations, to support Parties in meeting the needs identified through joint needs assessments that are led by the Convention Secretariat, and in other ad-hoc technical assistance that Parties may request. |
| 24. | In addition to resources from non-State actors as outlined in FENSA, extrabudgetary contributions from IGOs (United Nations and non-United Nations) should be considered for activities adopted by the COP in the relevant work plan and budget. |
| 36. | To ensure compliance with the above and applicable WHO policies and rules, letters requesting funds or accepting donations from private sector entities should always be drafted in consultation with the WHO Office of the Legal Counsel. |
| 37. | This strategy is aligned with the Guidelines for implementation of Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC and WHO guidelines for responding to requests made by the tobacco industry to meet with staff. |
| 38. | The Bureau oversees the implementation of this fundraising strategy and proposes revisions to it. Any future revisions made to FENSA or other relevant WHO policies and procedures shall also be reported to the Bureau for information and consideration of any action that may be needed. |

(Fifth plenary meeting, 12 November 2016)