To,
The World Health Organization
Geneva

Subject : FCTC Public Hearings

Dear Sir,

I am a Surgical Oncologist from Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India. I am Director of Shree Shree Maa Anantanand Institute of Cancer; Krishna Cancer Hospital; Executive Body Member of International Coalition Against Tobacco and Regional Coordinator of World Youth Festival Conducted By INTERNATIONAL NON GOVERNMENTAL COALITION AGAINST TOBACCO for WNTD 2000.

I was a Research Fellow at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, USA in 1997.

As a Surgeon, I see many patients in their thirties because of their habit of chewable tobacco and they succumb too in this age. I attended the WCTOH and also presented my data on an Industrial Survey of Tobacco Habits in 823 Industrial Workers. I also use video cassettes and pictures of my patients and surgeries for health education.

**Our interest in the FCTC process**
The menace of tobacco is the single largest problem faced by the youth in particular and people in general, all over the world. The financial implications in terms of health care costs are immense. More significant is the amount of man hours lost and the premature loss of life as a result of harmful effects of tobacco. The social and psychological implications in terms of young widows and orphans created as a result of tobacco use can
not be calculated by any simple formula. I strongly believe the financial benefits in terms of revenue earned from the sale of these products are not worth the money in view of the damage done by the use of this product.

In view of this, the attempt made by the premier health body of the world, the **World Health Organization**, is indeed commendable. After going through the details of the FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON TOBACCO CONTROL (FCTC), I on the behalf of my organization fully endorse the FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON TOBACCO CONTROL and wish, the convention is passed unanimously by the governments of all countries of the world at the earliest with the minimum of alterations.

It will be our pleasure and privilege if we can contribute towards the FCTC directly or indirectly in the future.

**Source of funding :**

Donations and Private Funding

With best wishes and warm personal regards for a Tobacco Free Millenium

Dr Kinner Shah
Director
Dept of Surgery