

38. Towards implementing effective tobacco tax strategies: success stories and best practices

Friday, 20 March 2015, 09:00 - 10:30



Type	Symposium
Track	Demand side: FCTC Art. 6 14, Art. 20
Topic	Taxes
Description	Tobacco taxation is one of the most effective demand reduction measures in tobacco control. Article 6 guidelines (presented at FCTC COP 6) provide guidance on how to structure tobacco taxes in order to optimize outcomes and recommend that Parties establish long-term tax policies and set health and fiscal objectives that are regularly monitored and adjusted. This session will present country examples of successful tobacco tax policy efforts. Examples of how the industry manipulates tax systems to reduce the impact of such tax policies and how these actions can be countered will be discussed.
Target audience	Policy-makers, tobacco control advocates and researchers
Objectives	1. Increase understanding of best practices in tobacco taxes and the FCTC Article 6 Guidelines 2. Understand the importance of tax structures as a necessary reform in many countries 3. Identify actions taken by the tobacco industry to reduce the impact of tobacco taxes and formulate ways to pre-empt the tobacco industry's influence and impact on tax policy
Keywords	FCTC Article 6; tobacco taxation; tobacco industry; country examples
Coordinator(s)	Johanna Birckmayer (USA), Evan Blecher (USA)
Chair(s)	Evan Blecher (USA), Johanna Birckmayer (USA)
Presentations	09:00 - 09:10» Brief overview and introduction of FCTC Article 6 Guidelines Francis Thompson (Canada) 09:15 - 09:25» Tax increases, stockpiling and cheap cigarettes in the Philippines Jeremias Paul (Philippines) 09:30 - 09:40» Tax increases and tax structure reforms in Kenya and Uganda Vincent Kimosop (Kenya) 09:45 - 09:55» Reducing cross-country tax and price differences in the European Union Stoklosa Michal (USA) 10:00 - 10:10» Key messages Evan Blecher (USA) 10:10 - 10:30» Audience Q&A