

Declaration of the 16th World Conference on Tobacco or Health

The 16th World Conference on Tobacco OR Health (16th WCTOH) recognizes that:

All tobacco products are harmful, that they are a leading cause of disease and death worldwide, that they pose an especially heavy burden on low- and middle-income countries and should be de-normalised worldwide,

Addressing the tobacco epidemic must be an essential priority in the context of reducing the burden of noncommunicable diseases and protection of youth,

Harms caused by tobacco are of a multi-dimensional nature, affecting multiple areas of human sustainable development (environmental, poverty, agricultural and gender related),

The tobacco industry is the vector of the epidemic.

Substantial and regular increases in tobacco excise taxes that raise price and make tobacco less affordable can effectively reduce tobacco consumption and improve public health as well as generate additional revenue that can be applied toward public health objectives.

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Post Date: Thursday, 26 March, 2015

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