Introduction

Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death in the world today, and is estimated to kill more than five million people every year – more than tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and malaria combined. By 2030, the death toll will exceed eight million a year, unless urgent action is taken. Implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) can reverse this devastating epidemic if it becomes a top public health priority especially for countries’ political leaders.

The Mozambique Report Card on the WHO FCTC provides descriptive analysis of country-level data that reflect the status and progress on some key articles of the WHO FCTC. This is one of a series of Report Cards for countries in the WHO African Region.

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Mozambique signature of the WHO FCTC

18 June 2003

Mozambique has not yet ratified the WHO FCTC
Background

1. WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC)

The WHO FCTC is an evidence-based treaty that was developed in response to the globalization of the tobacco epidemic. It was adopted by the World Health Assembly in 2003 and became international law on 27 February 2005. The treaty contains articles aimed at both reducing the supply of and demand for tobacco. This Report describes country progress on the following key WHO FCTC Articles and relevant Guidelines:

- Article 5.3: Protect public health policies from tobacco industry interference;
- Article 6: Price and tax measures to reduce the demand for tobacco;
- Article 8 provisions and Guidelines: Protection from exposure to tobacco smoke;
- Article 11 and Guidelines: Packaging and labelling of tobacco products;
- Article 13 and Guidelines: Tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship;
- Article 20: Research, surveillance and exchange of information.

2. Reporting Instrument of the WHO FCTC

The WHO FCTC requires countries that are Parties to the Convention (Parties) to submit periodic reports to the Conference of the Parties (COP). The objective of these reports is to “enable Parties to understand and learn from one another’s experiences in implementing the WHO FCTC.”

In accordance with WHO FCTC Article 21, Parties report initially 2 years after entry into force of the WHO FCTC for that Party, and then every 3 years, i.e.:

- Phase 1 (Group 1 questions): within 2 years of entry into force;
- Phase 2 (Group 2 questions): within 5 years of entry into force;
- Phase 3 (Group 3 questions): within 8 years of entry into force.

Reporting tools are provided at the WHO FCTC COP website: [www.who.int/fctc/reporting/reporting_instrument/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/fctc/reporting/reporting_instrument/en/index.html)

3. Global Tobacco Surveillance System (GTSS)

WHO, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and others began development of the GTSS in 1999 with the purpose of enhancing the capacity of countries to design, implement, and evaluate their national comprehensive tobacco control action plan and to monitor some key articles of the WHO FCTC. The GTSS includes four surveys:

- Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS): school-based survey of students aged 13–15 years that provides information on demographics, tobacco use prevalence, and knowledge and attitudes.
- Global School Personnel Survey (GSPS): provides demographics, tobacco use prevalence, knowledge and attitudes information, as well as information on school policy and curriculum.
- Global Health Professional Students Survey (GHPS): school-based survey of 3rd-year students pursuing advanced degrees in dentistry, medicine, nursing, or pharmacy.
- Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS): household survey that tracks tobacco use prevalence, exposure to risk, second-hand smoke, cessation, risk perceptions, knowledge and attitudes, exposure to media and price as well as taxation issues.


These WHO reports detail information on internationally comparable prevalence estimates and data that allows assessment of country compliance with policies on smoke-free environments, treatment of tobacco dependence, health warnings and packaging, advertising, promotion and sponsorship bans, price and taxation levels, and key national capacity indices.
# Status of WHO FCTC in Mozambique

Mozambique has not ratified the WHO FCTC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Mozambique status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Article 5.1 National strategies, plans, programmes and coordinating mechanism</td>
<td>Each Party shall develop, implement, periodically update and review comprehensive multi-sectoral national tobacco control strategies, plans and programmes, establish or reinforce and finance a national coordinating mechanism or focal points for tobacco control.</td>
<td>National strategies, plans and programmes on tobacco control.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Article 6 Price and tax measures to reduce demand for tobacco products</td>
<td>Take account of national health objectives concerning tobacco control and adopt or maintain measures which may include implementing tax and price policies on tobacco products so as to contribute to the health objectives aimed at reducing tobacco consumption; and prohibiting or restricting tax- and duty-free tobacco products.</td>
<td>Total tax on the most sold brand is 48%.</td>
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<td>Article 8 Protection from exposure to tobacco smoke</td>
<td>Adopt and implement measures, providing for protection from exposure to tobacco smoke in indoor workplaces, public transport, indoor public places and, as appropriate, other public places.</td>
<td>Protection from tobacco smoke exposure in health-care and educational facilities, universities, governmental facilities and public transport.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Article 11 Packaging and labelling of tobacco products</td>
<td>Adopt measures within 3 years of entry into force that require display of rotated series of health warnings and other messages on tobacco product packaging that cover at least 30% of the principle display areas--ideally 50% or more, and include pictures or pictograms—and that prevent false, misleading or deceptive packaging and labelling.</td>
<td>Regulations banning deceitful terms and mandating specific warnings on 28% of display area in all packages.</td>
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<td>Article 13 Tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship</td>
<td>Undertake a comprehensive ban of all tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship within 5 years of entry into force.</td>
<td>Advertising ban on national TV and radio, on local magazines and newspapers, on billboards and outdoor advertising. Ban on promotion and sponsorship.</td>
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Mozambique
National action is critical in order to achieve the vision embodied in the WHO FCTC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National strategies, plans and programmes on tobacco control</th>
<th>National agency on tobacco control</th>
<th>National budget for tobacco control</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique has established national strategies, plans and programmes on tobacco control.</td>
<td>There is no national agency on tobacco control.</td>
<td>Mozambique has no national budget for tobacco control.</td>
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The ratification of the WHO FCTC is crucial for Mozambique to allow the country to have a legal framework for effective and timely implementation of its provisions.

National action
Building national capacity to carry out effective and sustainable national tobacco control programmes is one of the most significant measures required to combat the tobacco epidemic. Successful implementation of the WHO FCTC requires establishing a national coordinating mechanism with an official government mandate for developing and coordinating a plan of action as well as for building a national infrastructure to implement and evaluate the plan.

Mozambique has national objectives on tobacco control, but does not have a national office or resources devoted to implementing tobacco control measures. AFRO recommends that Mozambique invest in and establish a national agency on tobacco control.

Cessation
The Mozambique population does not have access to a toll-free quitline. Nicotine replacement therapy, bupropion or vareniclin are not available. Smoking cessation support is available in some hospitals, offices of health professionals and community centres, but not in health clinics or other primary care facilities.
Tobacco use prevalence

Article 20 WHO FCTC on research, surveillance and exchange of information requires Parties to establish, as appropriate, programmes for national, regional and global surveillance of the magnitude, patterns, determinants and consequences of tobacco consumption and exposure to tobacco smoke.

AFRO recommends that countries obtain nationally representative and population-based periodic data on key indicators of tobacco use for youth and adults. AFRO also recommends that countries continue to successfully participate in the GYTS, expand participation in the GSPS, GHPS and GATS as well as other representative national surveys. Countries are also encouraged to report the findings widely and utilize them to inform tobacco control policy development, programme planning and evaluation.

Adult tobacco use

Among adults of 25-64 years old, prevalence of current tobacco use was 24.3% in 2004 with 38.8% males and 15.0% females.

Youth tobacco use

In Maputo in 2002, current cigarette smoking was 3.1% (boys=5%; girls=1.4%) and current use of other tobacco products was 5.8% (boys=5.4%; girls=6%).

In Maputo in 2007, current cigarette smoking was 2.7% (boys=4.5%; girls=1.2%) and current use of other tobacco products was 8.2% (boys=9.6%; girls=6.8%).

In Mozambique, prevalence of use of other tobacco products than cigarettes among boys and girls is at the same level.
Smoke-free policies

Countries should protect people from tobacco smoke

Every person has a right to breathe air free of tobacco smoke.

In addition to protecting the health of non-smokers, smoke-free environments encourage smokers to quit.

Evidence from pioneering countries shows that smoke-free laws do not harm businesses and are popular with the public.

Permitting smoking in designated areas undermines the benefit of smoke-free environments.

Mozambique law

Article 8 of the WHO FCTC mandates protection from exposure to tobacco smoke in indoor workplaces, public transport and indoor and other public places. Guidelines for this Article were unanimously adopted by the Conference of the Parties in July 2007.

AFRO recommends that countries enact and enforce completely smoke-free environments in all indoor public places including workplaces, restaurants and bars. AFRO further recommends that all countries should become compliant with the requirements of Article 8 guidelines, and that 100% smoke-free environments should become the norm in all societies.

Mozambique has regulation to protect from exposure to tobacco smoke in health-care facilities, educational facilities, universities, governmental facilities, and public transport. There is no such regulation in indoor offices, other indoor workplaces, public transport, restaurants, pubs & bars. There are no subnational measures on smoke-free environments.

Youth exposure to second-hand smoke

In 2007, close to three in ten 13-15 years old students (27.3%) lived in homes where others smoked in their presence and over two-thirds (35.7%) students were exposed to smoke outside their homes. 71.8% of students expressed support for banning smoking from public places.
Countries should warn about the dangers of tobacco use and exposure to tobacco smoke.

**Mauritius labeling**

The country mandates that 28% of the principal display area (front and rear combined) on tobacco product packaging be covered by a health warning. Specific warnings appear on each package and outside packaging; describe harmful effects of tobacco and are written in the principal language of the country. There is a ban on use of deceitful terms, such as ‘low tar’, ‘light’ or ‘mild’ on tobacco product packaging. The warnings are not rotating or pictorial, and the law does not mandate the font size, style and colour of health warnings.

**Mozambique education**

In 2007, 71% of students were taught about dangers of smoking and 65.4% about the effects of tobacco use.

**Best practice**

Article 11 WHO FCTC requires Parties to implement clear health warnings and measures that remove false or misleading promotion of tobacco products.

Relatively few tobacco users fully grasp the health dangers. Hard-hitting anti-tobacco advertising and graphic pack warnings reduce the number of children who begin smoking and increase the number of smokers who quit.

Pictures are more powerful deterrents than words on tobacco packaging warnings, but globally, only 15 countries mandate pictorial warnings. Just five countries meet the highest standards for pack warnings.

Countries should also promote and strengthen public awareness of tobacco control issues, using all available communication tools.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Current warning</th>
<th>Best practice warning</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NO</strong> rotating health warnings or large, clear text</td>
<td>Rotating, specific warnings and large, clear text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>28%</em> of display surface</td>
<td><em>65%</em> of display surface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>NO</em> pictures or pictograms</td>
<td><em>Pictures or pictograms</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>BAN</em> on false, misleading or deceptive packaging and labelling</td>
<td><em>Ban on false, misleading or deceptive packaging and labelling</em></td>
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</tbody>
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Mozambique bans

Mozambique has national bans on direct tobacco advertising on national TV & radio; local magazines and newspapers; billboards and outdoor advertising; there is no ban on international TV, radio, magazines and newspapers, internet and point of sale advertising. Also, there is a ban on all types of promotion and sponsorship (including free distribution of tobacco products; promotional discounts; appearance of tobacco products in TV and/or films and sponsored events).

Youth exposure

In 2007, 52.3% of students reported seeing pro-cigarette advertising on billboards and 44.3% of students saw such advertising in newspapers or magazines. Also, 20.4% of students had an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.

Advertising, promotion & sponsorship

Countries should enforce comprehensive bans on tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship

- Widespread advertising falsely associates tobacco with desirable qualities.
- Studies have found that advertising bans can lower tobacco consumption.
- About half the children of the world live in countries that do not ban free distribution of tobacco products.
Best practices

Tobacco taxes are the most effective way to reduce tobacco use, especially among young people and the poor.

Tobacco tax increases also increase government revenues. Only four countries, representing 2% of the world's population have tax rates greater than 75% of the retail price.

In countries with available information, tobacco tax revenues are more than 500 times higher than spending on tobacco control. In low- and middle-income countries, tobacco tax revenues are more than 9000 and 4000 times higher than spending on tobacco control, respectively.

Mozambique taxes

In 2009 the price of the most sold brand of cigarettes was about US $0.60. The total taxes on most sold brand are 48%; total excise on most sold brand is 34%.

Increasing tobacco taxes by 10% generally decreases tobacco consumption by about 8% in low- and middle-income countries.

*20-cigarette pack of most sold brand
Mozambique policy recommendations

Mozambique should ratify the WHO FCTC

National action

AFRO recommends that successful implementation of the WHO FCTC requires establishing a national coordinating mechanism with an official government mandate for developing and coordinating a plan of action as well as for building a national infrastructure to implement and evaluate the plan.

Mozambique should establish a national tobacco control coordinating mechanism.

Smoke-free policies

AFRO recommends that countries become compliant with WHO FCTC Article 8 requirements and its guidelines and enact and enforce completely smoke-free environments in all indoor public places including workplaces, restaurants and bars.

Mozambique should become fully compliant with WHO FCTC Article 8 requirements and its guidelines.

Health warnings and education

AFRO recommends that countries fully comply with WHO FCTC Article 11 requirements and its guidelines and implement large, prominent, strong and effective graphic health warnings on packages, require effective package warning labels, implement counter-tobacco advertising, and obtain free media coverage of anti-tobacco activities.

Mozambique should comply with requirements of Article 11 for principal display areas, rotation, or font size, style, and colour, and require pictures or pictograms.

Bans on advertising, promotion and sponsorship

AFRO recommends that countries enact and enforce effective legislation that comprehensively bans any form of direct tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship; also, enact and enforce effective legislation to ban indirect tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship in line with WHO FCTC Article 13.

Mozambique should ban advertising on international TV, radio, magazines and newspapers, on the Internet, and at the point of sale of tobacco products.

Tobacco prices and taxes

AFRO recommends that countries increase tax rates for tobacco products to be at least 70% of retail prices and ensure that they are adjusted periodically to keep pace with inflation and rise faster than consumer purchasing power. It is also recommended that countries strengthen tax administration to reduce the illicit trade in tobacco products.

In addition, countries should protect public health policies from tobacco industry interference.

Mozambique should raise tobacco taxes, ensure that they are adjusted periodically, strengthen tax administration and protect public health policies from tobacco industry interference.

References

4. MPOWER: A policy package to reverse the tobacco epidemic, WHO 2008
7. WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, WHO 2003