

COP11 News

GENEVA 17 - 22 November 2025



International Tobacco Growers' Association
Echoing Tobacco Growers' Voices since 1984

ITGA's Secretariat is in Geneva to follow COP11



Meeting at the Brazilian embassy in Panama during COP10. Afubra and ITGA

Main Agenda Items

1. Opening of the session
 - 1.1 Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
 - 1.2 Credentials of participants
2. Applications for the status of observer to the Conference of the Parties
3. Global progress in implementation of the WHO FCTC, followed by a general debate
4. Treaty instruments and technical matters
 - 4.1 Forward-looking tobacco control measures (Art 2.1)
 - 4.2 Liability (Art 19)
 - 4.3 Protection of the environment and the health of persons (Article 18)
 - 4.4 Regulation of contents and disclosure of tobacco products (Articles 9 & 10)
 - 4.5 Implementation of measures to prevent and reduce tobacco consumption, nicotine addiction and exposure to tobacco smoke, and the protection of such measures from commercial and other vested interests of the tobacco industry in light of the tobacco industry's narrative on "harm reduction" (Articles 5.2(b) and 5.3))
5. Reporting, implementation assistance and international cooperation
6. Budgetary and institutional matters
7. Date and place of the Eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties
8. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Conference of the Parties
9. Closure of the session

20 Years of WHO FCTC: Keeping a Wary Eye

This year marks the **20th anniversary** of the **World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC)**. Throughout this week, we will share key milestones and reflections on the evolution of the treaty and its impact over the past two decades. Since its **unanimous adoption in 2003** by the World Health Assembly and its **entry into force in 2005**, the WHO FCTC has stood as the **first international treaty negotiated under the auspices of the WHO**. Today, it remains **one of the most widely ratified treaties in United Nations history**. Over the years, the Convention has **expanded its scope and influence**, shaping global tobacco control policies and inspiring new international frameworks. At the same time, the **International Tobacco Growers' Association (ITGA)** has played a key role in **advocating for the concerns of tobacco-growing communities**, especially in response to proposals that could directly impact tobacco production and rural livelihoods.

Follow our **daily bulletins** for more insights into the **20 years of the WHO FCTC**, its achievements, challenges, and the perspectives that continue to shape its future.

The ITGA's Position at COP11 – By José Aranda ITGA President

The ITGA has conducted field research to understand how growers are coping with rising challenges. The WHO FCTC is one of these, as experience shows that new agenda items have sometimes been introduced without notice, in a manipulative way.

Our goal at COP11 is to promote dialogue and provide reliable data on the tobacco sector's socioeconomic contribution in producing countries. The data presented at COP meetings often fail to reflect reality, and the stigma against our sector persists.



Growers at COP4 2010 in Uruguay

The ITGA legitimately represents tobacco growers worldwide. Farmers and rural communities remain the weakest link in the value chain and deserve to be heard. Any measure affecting their livelihoods could have irreversible consequences, ultimately impacting the entire value chain.

Folha do Mate (Brazil): <https://www.tobaccoleaf.org/media/ulzjc02a/folha-do-mate-en.pdf>

GAZ (Brazil): <https://www.tobaccoleaf.org/media/0sbdoq4o/gazeta-en.pdf>

World Tobacco Growers Day (Global): <https://www.tobaccoleaf.org/sustainability/world-tobacco-growers-day-2025/>

InterTabac 2025 (Germany): <https://x.com/TobaccoGrowers/status/1970121913524752759>

UNITAB 38th Congress (Italy): <https://x.com/TobaccoGrowers/status/1971555229880685017>