

## Why it Matters

These decisions mark stronger global commitment to not just reduce tobacco use, but also mitigate environmental damage from tobacco.

The focus on liability could push more countries to hold tobacco companies accountable legally.

Banning novel nicotine products in UN premises is symbolic and may set precedent for stricter regulation.

### COP12

Announcement that the 12th Session (COP12) will be held in Yerevan, Armenia (2027).



[Read the WHO FCTC COP11 final news release](#)

## Key Outcomes of FCTC COP11

### Environment & Tobacco Waste

Parties adopted a decision inviting countries to consider comprehensive regulatory options concerning tobacco and nicotine product components, including external components, that contribute to environmental harm.

Special attention to waste from cigarette butts (plastic filters) and electronic nicotine devices.

### Liability (Article 19)

A decision was passed to strengthen implementation of liability measures: Parties are invited to consider legislative action for civil and criminal liability for the tobacco industry's harms. Increased cooperation among Parties on liability.

### Sustainable Funding / Resource Mobilization

Reaffirmed that domestic resource mobilization is a core strategy for long-term, sustainable, and predictable funding for national tobacco control programs.

### Forward-Looking Tobacco Control (Article 2.1)

Parties considered innovative tobacco control approaches beyond what's currently required under the Convention.

### Ban in UN Premises on Tobacco & Nicotine Products

A decision calls for a complete ban on the use and sale of tobacco products (including heated tobacco), and novel nicotine products (e.g. ENDS, nicotine pouches) in all United Nations premises — both indoor and outdoor, globally.

### Protection from Industry Interference

Reinforcement of Article 5.3: stronger measures to protect tobacco control policies from the commercial interests of the tobacco industry, especially concerning new and emerging nicotine products using unproven health claims.

### Liability & Environment Link

Recognition that liability under Article 19 and environmental harms are both central to comprehensive tobacco control.

## WHO FCTC 20th Anniversary

### Final Note by José Aranda. ITGA President: A Critical Turning Point for the Tobacco Sector — The Imperative of Stronger Cooperation

As COP11 concludes and its outcomes set the tone for the years ahead, the International Tobacco Growers' Association (ITGA) reflects on two decades of committed sector-wide cooperation. Since the very inception of the WHO FCTC, the industry has faced intentional consequences that point unmistakably toward an “endgame” approach. Against this backdrop, ITGA has consistently emphasized one message: **cooperation is not optional — it is essential.**

For twenty years, ITGA has been calling for stronger, structured engagement, insisting that tobacco growers must be recognized and respected as **the legitimate representatives of the agricultural side of the sector.** Farmers must not be treated as peripheral actors. Their experiences, realities, and knowledge of production conditions are indispensable to any serious discussion on tobacco policy.

COP11's conclusions will undoubtedly translate into **greater pressure on the very base of the supply chain.** This makes it even more urgent for policymakers, development organizations, and all sector stakeholders to increase direct interaction with farmers' organizations, to listen carefully to evidence from the ground, and to understand the real socioeconomic pressures farmers endure.

In a landscape where most platforms are increasingly closed, ITGA's regional and global meetings **remain unique spaces of open dialogue** — accessible to all players within and outside the tobacco sector, including governments and UN agencies. Crucially, these platforms are **led by farmers and farmers' associations**, ensuring that those who are most affected have a central role in shaping their future.

We close COP11 with a renewed commitment to cooperation and with a reminder of what collaboration has already achieved. Our photo gallery highlights decades of joint initiatives — concrete examples of what becomes possible when farmers, industry partners, and institutions work together toward shared solutions.

**The path forward will demand unity, courage, and stronger alliances than ever before. ITGA stands ready to lead that cooperation.**

José Aranda  
(ITGA President)



TAMA Farmers Trust Annual Meeting, Malawi 2023



ITGA Annual General Meeting, USA 2024



ITGA Americas Regional Meeting, Argentina 2025

