



World Heart Federation letter to its members

Dear members,

Smoking is a major cardiovascular risk factor in both men and women and passive smoking is now proven a cause of cardiovascular disease. At least 20% of the 4 million deaths due to smoking, is cardiovascular disease -related.

It is very important that the Societies of Cardiology and the Heart Foundations act against tobacco and therefore the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) is a good opportunity for us all to get involved.

The World Heart Federation has been active in four rounds of FCTC negotiations by setting a high standard in its advocacy for tobacco control measures and by making regular interventions during the working group sessions. These efforts could be increased with WHF members taking a common stand in the negotiations.

We would very much appreciate your involvement in the FCTC process supporting a strong, comprehensive and coordinated approach towards tobacco control. You will find attached a letter from Professor Mario Maranhão, WHF President, concerning your commitment in the negotiations. It is undeniable that it would increase the power of the advocacy movement against tobacco if all WHF members contact their Minister of Health, and members of the negotiating team, their names are attached.

Please don't hesitate to contact Danielle Grizeau-Clemens (d.g-clemens@worldheart.org) or Manuel Arango (marango@hsf.ca), if you need any further information.

With best regards.

Janet Voûte
Chief Executive Officer, World Heart Federation

