Tobacco Control

The WFPHA’s Tobacco Control Working Group (TCWG) focus is to get involved with global tobacco control representatives and the public policy arena.

The WFPHA has supported the efforts of several PHAs to introduce plain packaging. It also promoted PHA position statements on electronic cigarettes.

The Co-Chair of the TCWG, Professor Mike Daube, is also Vice-Chair of the WHO FCTC Impact Assessment Expert Group, which has been working closely with the WHO and other major health NGOs in international tobacco control processes. He has been awarded the H. Leavell Award during the 15th World Congress on Public Health in Melbourne.

One of the main focuses of the WFPHA and its members is supporting tobacco control in national and global public health conferences. This contribution has been publicly recognized by the World Health Organization, including the work of the TCWG. In January 2016, the TCWG organized and distributed a survey of member PHAs on tobacco control to assist its report submission to renew the WFPHA’s status of observer to the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the WHO’s Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC).

In May 2016, Co-Chair James Chauvin met with the Head of the WHO FCTC Convention Secretariat, Dr. Vera Luiza da Costa e Silva to update the WHO on the WFPHA’s tobacco control activities and further collaboration efforts especially with the COP. The COP is an ongoing opportunity for the WFPHA to strengthen partnerships with other international federations and organizations in tobacco control and as a means of taking common action on global health priorities such as tobacco control. The WFPHA successfully renewed its accreditation as an observer to the WHO FCTC and hopes to strengthen its efforts in tobacco control with its PHA members over the coming years. A special thank you to Mr. Luis Caceres for writing the report and leading the accreditation renewal process again earlier this year. In November 2016, the WFPHA was represented by the Brazilian Public Health Association (ABRASCO) at the COP7 in India. The ABRASCO members were from the Tobacco and Health Studies Center of the National School of Public Health.
Health of the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation. In addition to participating at the COP7, the Brazilian members attended two COP side events to present a proposal to develop a protocol to monitor tobacco farmers’ health and the environmental consequences of tobacco, and the Brazilian Observatory on Tobacco Industry Strategies as a model of a knowledge hub on preventing tobacco industry interference.