



**F C T C**

WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION  
ON TOBACCO CONTROL

S E C R E T A R I A T

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CS/HS/21/72

## Statement at the WHO 71<sup>st</sup> Regional Committee for Africa

### Tobacco control and Healthy Ageing

#### Head of the Secretariat of the WHO FCTC and the Protocol

24 August 2021

*Healthy ageing is something we all strive for, and it is required if we are to achieve SDG 3, which calls for good health and well-being for all, at all ages.*

*Ageing, of course, is a dynamic process that needs to be addressed throughout the life course.*

*Maintaining functional ability and intrinsic capacity at an older age depends in large part on how people live from childhood to maturity.*

*And embracing a healthy lifestyle and enjoying a health-enabling environment – from adolescence to adulthood – can lead to a healthy life even as we age.*

*Dementia and other noncommunicable diseases, are major causes of decline in older people, and tobacco is a common contributor to those diseases.*

*Robust implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control – included as a means of implementation of SDG 3.4 – will help African countries decrease the burden of tobacco-related dementia and other NCDs.*

*It will also contribute to making the Decade of Healthy Ageing a success, not only for the African Region, but for the entire world.*

Thank you.

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