



Introduction

The Regional Action Plan for the Tobacco Free Initiative (TFI) 2005-2009 contains the vision and strategic plan for tobacco control in the Western Pacific Region for the next five years. The previous action plans, covering the periods 1990-1994, 1995-1999, and 2000-2004, provide the foundation for this plan.

Based on the recommendations of the Third Meeting of National Focal Persons for the Tobacco Free Initiative (2004), this document builds on the previous plans and highlights the importance of increasing and sustaining momentum for effective tobacco control by:

1. attaining the timely ratification of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC or "the Convention") among Western Pacific Region Member States through a coordinated regional strategy, thus contributing towards the Convention's entry into force; and,
2. further enhancing the capacity of Member States to successfully implement the provisions of the Convention and effectively address the tobacco epidemic.

