



CPME/AD/Brd/030905/105/EN

At its Board meeting, Brussels, 3 September 2005, the CPME adopted the following policy: CPME position paper on tobacco (CPME 2005/105 EN/FR)

Fighting tobacco

Tobacco related diseases claim more than 650,000 lives every year in the EU alone, accounting for one in every 7 deaths.

CPME warmly welcomed the entry into force of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, the first-ever international treaty on public health. CPME notes with satisfaction that the European Community has completed its ratification. If correctly implemented, this treaty will save millions of lives worldwide.

However, the European medical profession is concerned that nearly half of the EU member states are still waiting to ratify. CPME urges all governments to ratify the FCTC as soon as possible.

CPME congratulates those governments that have introduced smoke-free legislation, and encourages other governments to take similar comprehensive and evidence-based action to protect their citizens from second-hand smoke.

CPME welcomes the EU-wide ban on tobacco advertising implemented on first of August. Europe's doctors urge all governments to ensure that their country legislation includes a comprehensive ban on tobacco advertising.

CPME is a membership driven association with members from the EU, EFTA and the wider Europe. The CPME represents about 2 million doctors within the EU/EEC. CPME's aim is to promote the highest standards of public health and medical practice at the EU level.