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Coalition For Tobacco Free Armenia

PRESS RELEASE

June 7, 2007

The Coalition for Tobacco Free Armenia on behalf of its 28 member-organizations sent a message to newly elected members of the National Assembly on the occasion of the first session.

The Coalition members expressed their belief that the newly elected parliament members would do their best to have a strong, independent and blooming homeland, a homeland that can be built only with a healthy body and soul.

The Coalition called for the enforcement of the provisions of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), and specifically to:

- protect every citizen's right to a healthy environment by imposing a 100% ban on smoking in all enclosed public spaces and workplaces
- implement effective price and tax policies on tobacco products by increasing tobacco taxes aiming at lowering the tobacco consumption among youth and ensuring higher revenues for the state budget
- ban all types of tobacco advertisement, promotion and sponsorship, since only a total ban can result in decreased tobacco consumption.

Armenia has officially joined the WHO FCTC on November 29, 2004, after the world tobacco treaty was signed by President R. Kocharyan and ratified by the National Assembly on October 12, 2004.

Note: "The Coalition for Tobacco Free Armenia" was established three years ago on June 11, 2004 by 12 founding non-governmental organizations and today unites 28 member organizations. For additional information please contact Narine Movsisyan, Coalition Coordinator, 51 26 17, nmovsesi@ aua.am



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