

Policies

The FIHO Board of Directors recommends adoption and implementation of these Policies to catalyse Global Industry Growth:

1. Legislation for hemp can be globally harmonised, and it is desirable that this occurs;
2. Industrial hemp is a *Cannabis sativa* L. plant, or any part of that plant, in which the concentration of total available tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in the flowering tops is equal to or less than 1.0%. Note: The term “hemp” is synonymous with “industrial hemp”;
3. THC levels should be regulated in final products, rather than at the crop level, as it is easy to modify THC levels in semi-processed materials;
4. Established safe THC levels permitted in hemp plants and hemp-derived products should be based on scientific risk assessment, not on regulatory aversion to drugs;
5. Industrial hemp should not be treated as an intoxicating drug or poison in national legislation;
6. Developing countries should aim to adopt legislation of developed countries to speed up the adoption of industrial hemp;
7. Countries should aim to remove non-scientific regulatory hurdles that impede growth and development of the global industrial hemp industry;
8. FIHO does not support a policy of appeasement of regulators, and will resist the imposition of unnecessary regulatory hurdles that block the global expansion of industrial hemp;
9. Whole plant utilisation of the hemp plant is desirable, including uses as food, feed, fibre, and bioactive extractions;
10. It is undesirable to impose overly restrictive or arbitrary standards in the name of safety;
11. There is a clear need to improve the availability and accessibility of information about hemp, including the systematic collection and treatment of international and local trade in hemp and its derivatives;
12. Only isolated or concentrated psychotropic cannabinoids having intoxicating, addicting, or habituating effects – including delta-8- tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), delta-10-THC, delta-6a-10a-THC, THC-O-acetate (THC-O), cannabinol (CBN), hexahydrocannabinol (HHC), tetrahydrocannabivarin (THCV), tetrahydrocannabiphorol (THCP), and_ tetrahydrocannabutol (THCB) –should be regulated as drugs, and all other cannabinoids must be excluded from drug legislation and regulation;
13. Harmonized System Codes need to be expanded to facilitate trade in all hemp products and derivatives;
14. Cultivation of industrial hemp should be allowed in all countries;

15. The global expansion of hemp is consistent with good agricultural practices and sustainable agriculture;
16. Hemp sequesters CO₂ effectively and decontaminates environments, and therefore should be strongly supported by national governments, rather than being blocked with inappropriate and fear-based regulatory hurdles;
17. Hemp enables nations to develop agriculture and rural economies;
18. The benefits of hemp cultivation to a nation should drive government investment into the sector;
19. FIHO supports the development of reliable supply chains as a mechanism to enhance investment into the hemp sector;
20. Customs officials should not treat hemp machinery as related to drugs processing;
21. Hemp is such a valuable commodity that Governments should allocate priority investments to relevant research and development for new downstream products and uses;
22. Global adoption of quality standards and definitions will support expansion of the global hemp industry.

FIHO policies are considered to be a living document and will be reviewed periodically.

All interested parties are encouraged to propose new policies and policy amendments for consideration by the FIHO Board.

ADOPTED BY THE FIHO BOARD ON 16 OCTOBER 2024