

HISTORY OF THE ITGA

Prior to 1984, tobacco worldwide had no unified voice. This changed on November 26th of that year when farmers from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Malawi, the U.S.A. and Zimbabwe agreed to form an organization to promote and develop their common interests throughout the world. From that agreement emerged the International Tobacco Growers' Association (ITGA).

Recognizing the need to give their arguments a collective voice, national grower organizations from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Malawi, U.S.A. and Zimbabwe proceeded to found the ITGA in 1984.

The founder members have been joined by 18 other countries in the Association's worldwide membership.

The ITGA is financed by dues paid by member organizations and determined by the Board after approval of the operative Budget.

There are three levels of membership which are chosen by members on joining the ITGA according to their own requirements and budgetary restraints.

The ITGA is run by a Board of Directors, comprising those members whose categories of membership entitle them to be Directors of the Association. It is administered by a Secretariat based in Portugal, whose Chief Executive reports to the Chairman of the Board.

The ITGA facilitates open exchange on technical matters but does not provide direct commercial advice or assistance. ITGA's charter specifically excludes its participation in any activities relating to the management or commercial policies of any of its members organizations.

The ITGA is an organization for the largest and smallest grower organizations. All tobacco growers are faced with similar threats, regardless of the size of their production. The ITGA's strength is in providing a collective voice for growers. Its influence is directly related to the number of members it can represent.





International Tobacco Growers' Association

The ITGA's long-term aim is to represent the world's 100-plus grower nations to provide a strong collective voice on an international and national scale to ensure the long-term security of tobacco markets.

For non-growers associations type of membership, please contact:
itga@tobaccolleaf.org

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