

Mauritius



Summary of Findings

1. INDUSTRY PARTICIPATION IN POLICY DEVELOPMENT

There is no evidence of tobacco industry (TI) participation in policy development, and the government did not allow representatives from the TI in the delegation to the WHO FCTC Conference of Parties.

2. INDUSTRY CSR ACTIVITIES

TI-related corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities are banned in the country. There was no partnership with the TI during the COVID-19 pandemic, and no record of TI-related CSR endorsed by government officials in the public domain.

3. BENEFITS TO THE INDUSTRY

In November 2022, an authorization was granted by the Ministry of Commerce for an exception to justify importation of 24,025 boxes of “Roll Your Own Cigarette” paper by a private company.

4. UNNECESSARY INTERACTION

No unnecessary interaction with the TI has been recorded.

5. TRANSPARENCY

The government does not publicly disclose meetings or interactions with the TI.

6. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no evidence of any conflict of interest with the TI and government officials.

7. PREVENTIVE MEASURES

The government does not have a program to consistently raise awareness within its departments on policies relating to WHO FCTC Article 5.3 Guidelines.

The government does not accept any contributions or gifts from the tobacco industry or accept any assistance from it, but it has also not put into place a procedure for interactions with the TI should engagement become necessary.

Recommendations

1. Discourage any form of TI interference at the highest level of the Ministry of Health.
2. Implement a code of conduct for public officials, prescribing the policies relating to FCTC Article 5.3 Guidelines.
3. Sensitize government officials that the TI should receive no benefits as the products they sell are harmful.
4. Put in place a procedure for disclosing the records of the interaction (such as agenda, attendees, minutes and outcome) with the TI and its representatives when these interactions are held when strictly necessary.
5. Consistently raise awareness within its departments on policies relating to WHO FCTC Article 5.3 Guidelines.