
Dominican Republic

**TOBACCO
INDUSTRY
INTERFERENCE
INDEX
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Background and Introduction

The Dominican Republic, known for its rich history and vibrant economy, has found itself at a crossroad in recent years due to its role in the tobacco industry. Despite its strong tradition of tobacco production, the country has struggled with the dilemma of supporting its burgeoning tobacco industry while ensuring the protection of public health. This situation was reflected in the 2021 Global Tobacco Industry Interference Index, where the Dominican Republic scored the worst, underscoring the complex dynamics between the state and the tobacco industry.

In the Dominican Republic, tobacco is not just a product, but an important part of the country's economy, driving growth and providing employment for thousands of people. This strong and deeply rooted sector has led the state to support and provide various economic measures to keep the tobacco industry afloat. However, this emphasis on economic development has posed significant challenges in terms of public health.

Facing the challenge of balancing tobacco production as a market good and the need to regulate its use in line with global public health standards has been a persistent problem for the Dominican Republic. Despite attempts to implement regulations to control tobacco use, the state has struggled to draw an effective line to support the tobacco sector without compromising public health.

This struggle is further evidenced by an examination of the benefits received by the tobacco industry. In the Dominican Republic, the state projects itself as a "tobacco state," and instead of following the global trend of regulating the tobacco industry, it appears to be going backwards. The industry receives a plethora of benefits, including tax exemptions, state-backed international lobbying, locally favorable legislation, and the ability to interfere in local health governance.

Tobacco use by age-adjusted sex in the Dominican Republic according to ENDESA 2013 national demographic and health survey.

Gender	Age	Yes (%)	Cigarette (%)	Pipe (%)	Other (%)	No (%)	N
Male	15-19	6.9	2.8	0.1	4.8	93.1	1833
	20-24	11.9	6.4	0.2	6.6	88.1	1651
	25-29	11.5	7.5	0.5	4.9	88.5	1324
	30-34	13.4	9.9	0.2	4.6	86.6	1226
	35-39	11.7	8.7	0.1	3.9	88.3	1098
	40-44	14.2	12	0.2	3.4	85.8	988
Female	45-49	16.4	14.2	0	3.1	83.6	904
	15-19	2.1	1.3	0	0.7	97.9	1820
	20-24	2.6	1.7	0.2	1	97.4	1651

	25-29	2.5	2.2	0	0.4	97.5	1383
	30-34	5	4.6	0	0.7	95	1290
	35-39	5.7	5.3	0.3	0.6	94.3	1147
	40-44	6.2	5.8	0.1	0.4	93.8	1059
	45-49	11.3	10.3	0.1	1	88.7	1022

CESEDEM. Encuesta demográfica y de Salud (ENDESA). 2013. Santo Domingo. Data available at: <https://dominicanrepublic.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/DRDHS2013-Final02-10-2013.pdf>

This introduction provides a background to the following assessment of the extent to which the Dominican Republic allows the tobacco industry to interfere in the state's efforts to protect public health from 2021 to 2023. This report is based on a questionnaire developed by the Southeast Asia Tobacco Control Alliance. There are 20 questions based on the guidelines in Article 5.3 of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC). The information used in this report is obtained from the public domain only. A scoring system is applied to perform the assessment. The score ranges from 0 to 5, where 5 indicates the highest level of industry interference and 1 is low or no interference. Therefore, the lower the score, the better for the country. A score of 0 indicates no evidence or not applicable. The report includes information on incidents from April 2021 to March 2023, but also includes incidents prior to 2021 that are still relevant today.

Financial data

The Dominican Republic's tobacco sector has demonstrated strong growth in recent years, strengthening export capacity, contributing significantly to the local economy. Despite the challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the tobacco industry exhibited resilience, registering significant increases in export figures. In 2021, the Dominican tobacco industry reached an all-time export record, totaling US\$1,236 million, representing a 31.9% year-on-year growth over 2020^{1,2}. This increase is largely attributed to the export of cigars and cigarillos, which experienced a significant rise from US\$787 million in 2020 to US\$1,047 million in 2021³. Similarly, raw tobacco exports showed significant growth, rising from US\$10 million in 2020 to US\$50 million in 2021⁴. These increases suggest a growing global demand for high-quality tobacco products, which the Dominican Republic has proven capable of supplying.

While tobacco exports have increased, imports have declined. In 2022, cigarette import collections decreased by 14%, equivalent to RD\$541.9 million less compared to 2021^{4,5}. It is important to consider the possible factors that could explain this decrease in imports. In our opinion, the most important factor is the governmental support to local production and commercialization of national products through the actions emanated by the Plan for the Relaunching of the Tobacco Industry. Another possible explanation could be an increase in the demand for locally sourced tobacco and tobacco products, which could be driven by a growing preference for domestic products, which could be related to the perception of higher quality and authenticity. On the other hand, one could

also consider a possible increase in local tobacco production, which could have reduced the need for imports.

Despite the decline in imports, the Dominican Republic's tobacco industry has proven to be a strong and resilient sector, with a remarkable capacity to adapt to the challenges of the global environment. The industry remains an important source of employment and contributes significantly to the country's Gross Domestic Product. However, it is essential that the tobacco industry commits to sustainable and responsible practices. As global demand for tobacco products continues, it is crucial to bring its production and export of tobacco products in line with global standards of regulation of the industry, its influence and impact on health systems.

OEC World (2021). Rolled tobacco in Dominican Republic. Imports and Exports. Retrieved from: <https://oec.world/es/profile/bilateral-product/rolled-tobacco/reporter/dom>, 2. ProDominicana. (2022). Tobacco exports grow 30.5% from January to March 2022 compared to pre-pandemic period. Retrieved from: <https://prodominicana.gob.do/Noticias/NoticiasDetalle?IdNoticia=226>, 3. Presidency of the Dominican Republic (2022). DR breaks tobacco export record in 2021 with 1,236 million dollars. Retrieved from: <https://presidencia.gob.do/noticias/rd-rompe-record-de-exportacion-de-tabaco-en-2021-con-1236-millones-de-dolares>, 4. El Dinero (2023). Dominican tobacco exports start with increases in 2023. Retrieved from: <https://eldinero.com.do/223511/la-exportacion-de-tabaco-dominicano-se-inicia-con-aumento-en-2023/>, 5. El Dinero. (2023). Tobacco: exports begin with a boost in January, registering US\$79.7 million. Retrieved from: <https://eldinero.com.do/222733/tabaco-exportacion-comienza-con-empuie-en-enero-al-registrar-us79-7-millones/>

Environmental data

Tobacco production and marketing represent a significant environmental degradation factor worldwide and the Dominican Republic does not escape this reality. Although tobacco is often thought of in terms of its harmful effects on human health, its consequences for the environment are equally devastating. Tobacco production involves a massive waste of water, the destruction of land and trees, and the emission of carbon dioxide, contributing to global warming.

In the Dominican Republic, tobacco production has expanded in recent decades. According to data from the Tobacco Institute of the Dominican Republic (INTABACO), in the past 10 years, the cultivation area increased from 30.8 million square meters in 2012 to 69.0 million square meters in 2022[1]. This growth brings with it a significant environmental impact. The carbon footprint of the tobacco industry is considerable. Each year, tobacco production emits 84 million tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere [2]. This greenhouse gas contributes to global warming and the destruction of the ozone layer. Tobacco production also involves the use of 22 billion tons of water each year [2], a resource that is becoming increasingly scarce in many regions of the planet. In addition, tobacco production causes deforestation and loss of biodiversity. Every year, 3.5 million hectares of land are destroyed to grow tobacco, which depletes soil fertility and contributes to biodiversity loss [1]. In the Dominican Republic, the curing house program has significantly increased the demand for timber: the number of trunks (each representing one tree felled) increased from 5,974 in 2019 to 63,711 in 2022[3].

Tobacco marketing also has important environmental consequences. Cigarette filters, which contain microplastics, are the second highest form of plastic pollution in the world [2]. Every year, 4.5 billion of these filters pollute oceans, rivers, soils, parks and beaches [2]. Tobacco cultivation requires intensive use of pesticides and

fertilizers, which contribute to soil degradation and pollute lakes, rivers and drinking water. In 2022, an estimated 4.97 to 6.98 million kg of fertilizers were used in tobacco production in the Dominican Republic [4].

It is essential to recognize and address the environmental impact of tobacco production and marketing in the Dominican Republic. The tobacco industry has a considerable environmental cost, including deforestation, loss of biodiversity, greenhouse gas emissions, and pollution from tobacco waste. It is necessary to implement policies to reduce tobacco cultivation, reforest deforested areas and migrate to other agricultural crops that have a lower environmental impact.

Tobacco Institute of the Dominican Republic. Annual reports. [Internet]. Available at: <https://www.intabaco.gob.do/transparencia/index.php/plan-estrategico-de-la-institucion/memorias-anuales>. Accessed May 25, 2023. Pan American Health Organization. World No Tobacco Day May 31, 2023. [Internet]. Available at: <https://www.paho.org/es/campanas/dia-mundial-sin-tabaco-31-mayo-2023>. Accessed May 25, 2023. Tobacco Institute of the Dominican Republic. Cure House Program Statistics, 2018-2022. [Internet]. Available at: <https://www.intabaco.gob.do/transparencia/index.php/datos-abiertos/category/712-estadisticas-del-programa-de-casas-de-curado-2018-2022>. Accessed May 25, 2023. 4. Dominican Republic Tobacco Institute. Dark Tobacco in Dominican Republic Cultivation, Processing and Manufacturing. [Internet]. Available at: <https://www.intabaco.gob.do/>. Accessed May 25, 2023.

Tobacco Control

In the last 20 years there have been no new or relevant laws for tobacco control in the health regulation sector. The last laws that included tobacco control measures are 20 years old (2001, Law 42-01, art. 40, p. 42 and Law 48-00) and have never been amended.

Summary Findings

1 INDUSTRY PARTICIPATION IN POLICY DEVELOPMENT

The level of industry involvement in policy development is high in the Dominican Republic, where the government actively collaborates with the tobacco industry in various aspects. The tobacco industry is involved in the development of national plans, lobbying and promotion of tobacco use. The government supports and endorses policies or legislation developed in collaboration with the tobacco industry, including the "Law that declares tobacco and the Dominican cigar as cultural heritage of the Dominican Republic". In addition, the government allows the tobacco industry to participate in multisectoral committees and advisory groups that establish public health policies. However, the Dominican Republic is a non-Party to the WHO FCTC, and its delegation to the COP did not include tobacco industry representatives.

Law 341-22 was approved, which declares tobacco and cigarettes as cultural heritage of the Dominican Republic. More evidence is added to leave no doubt about the island's economic dependence on tobacco production.

2 INDUSTRY CSR ACTIVITIES

The tobacco industry in the Dominican Republic is actively engaged in various corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities. Government agencies and officials endorse, support, and form partnerships with the tobacco industry for socially responsible initiatives, such as supporting rural women in agricultural projects, offering technical and degree scholarships in agriculture, and collaborating with a tobacco industry foundation to build schools. The tobacco industry also collaborates with various organizations to hold graduation ceremonies for artisanal cigar production courses, organize tribute events, and make donations to support local communities and institutions.

3 BENEFITS FOR THE INDUSTRY

The tobacco industry in the Dominican Republic benefits from the relief and privileges from the government. In the last 20 years there have been no new or relevant tobacco control laws in the health regulation sector, and the last laws that included tobacco control measures have never been amended. The government also offers privileges, incentives and tax exemptions to the tobacco industry. Only imported components used in the manufacture of tobacco products are subject to taxation, and the National Tobacco Revival Plan aims to further eliminate taxes on locally manufactured tobacco. In addition, international travelers over the age of 16 may import up to 200 cigarettes duty free when entering the country.

The Tourism, Foreign and Export Center will include cigar and tobacco in its international promotion areas as a lobby to integrate the image of the Dominican Republic with tobacco.

4 UNNECESSARY INTERACTION

In the Dominican Republic, there are various forms of unnecessary interaction between government officials and the tobacco industry. High-level government officials, including the president and vice president, meet and foster relationships with tobacco companies by attending social functions, events, and meetings. They have also participated in events celebrating the tobacco industry.

The government welcomes assistance from the tobacco industry in law enforcement activities, such as the fight against smuggling and illicit tobacco trade. This includes signing treaties and cooperation agreements with tobacco industry representatives and companies to develop technical capabilities, improve anti-smuggling laws, and collaborate in the implementation of measures to combat tax evasion and illicit trade in tobacco products.

5 TRANSPARENCY

The government of the Dominican Republic lacks transparency in its interactions with the tobacco industry. Meetings and interactions with the tobacco industry, such as the closed-door meeting with the acting president, are not publicly disclosed in detail, leaving the public uninformed about the issues discussed. In addition, although INTABACO, a national infrastructure with legal autonomy, is meant to maintain records of tobacco industry entities and act as a state-sponsored lobbyist, transparency in these processes is limited.

6 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There are conflicts of interest in the government of the Dominican Republic in relation to the tobacco industry. The government does not limit financial support from the tobacco industry to political entities, in accordance with Electoral Law 275-97. In addition, retired and current government officials, such as former president Hipólito Mejía and current vice-president Raquel Peña, have held executive positions in the tobacco industry. The Minister of Industry, Commerce and SMEs, Víctor-Ito-Bisonó, has also shown strong support for the tobacco sector, highlighting its importance in the creation of employment in the country.

7 PREVENTIVE MEASURES

The government of the Dominican Republic has not implemented sufficient preventive measures to regulate its interactions with the tobacco industry. There is no obligation to disclose records of interactions, nor is there a code of conduct for public officials dealing with the industry. Although companies are

required to provide production and marketing information for tax purposes, there is no evidence of lobbying, philanthropy or political contribution requirements. As a "non-Party" to the WHO FCTC, the government does not sensitize its departments to the FCTC Article 5.3 Guidelines. In addition, there are no policies prohibiting the acceptance of contributions or gifts from the tobacco industry.

The previous score placed the Dominican Republic in the worst position globally. The difference this year is minimal/zero. The first report evidenced the tobacco industry's interference as a major problem that has gone from being a novelty to a focal point for public health measures. The time elapsed between the two reports and the lack of action to reverse the first score reveals the political will in favor of maintaining the Dominican state as an extension of the tobacco industry.

In fact, it can be said that the Dominican state has only increased its commitment to the tobacco industry. This alone generates a work agenda that is incompatible with state priorities.

In order to work on this issue, we suggest to conduct a transparency report on smoking and tobacco interference from state mechanisms with oversight from international bodies to define the situation with internal metrics. Update the smoke-free environment control law to reflect both a solution to the current and international regulatory framework. Diagnosis and correction of compliance (or lack thereof) with current control measures.

Dominican Republic

Tobacco Industry Interference Index 2023

Results and Findings

	0	1	2	3	4	5
INDICATOR 1: Level of industry participation in policymaking						
1. The government ¹ accepts, supports or endorses any offer of assistance by or in collaboration with the tobacco industry or any entity or person working to promote its interests. ² in the establishment or implementation of public health policies in relation to tobacco control ³ (Rec 3.4)						5
<p>The tobacco industry is involved in the development of a national plan that interferes in economic areas, national and international lobbying and promotion of tobacco consumption. This document specifies the active role of the committee in a short period (30 to 60 days) for tobacco advocacy against regulatory measures, including health-related regulations⁴.</p> <p>A project for tobacco production was presented to President Luis Abinader by the Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples de Medianos y Pequeños Productores, Extirpadores y Cigarros (Cooperative of Multiple Services of Medium and Small Producers, Extirpators and Cigars)⁵.</p> <p>Luis Abinader highlighted the growth experienced by the tobacco industry and reiterated the Government's commitment to the development of the sector⁶.</p> <p>While the tobacco industry is being promoted, tobacco control measures remain weak and stalled.</p> <p>The Premium Cigar Association (PCA) of the United States recognized the Dominican Embassy in the U.S. for its efforts on behalf of the cigar industry with the U.S. government⁷.</p> <p>INTABACO received the General Director of Social Policy of the Cabinet of the Government of the Dominican Republic, showing him the experiments and processes of production, tobacco handling and cigar manufacturing⁸.</p>						

¹ The term "government" refers to any public official, whether or not acting within the scope of his or her authority, whenever he or she is vested with such authority or appears to another as having such authority.

² The term "tobacco industry" includes those who represent its interests or work to promote its interests, including the state-owned tobacco industry.

³ The "offer of assistance" may include legislative projects, technical input, recommendations, supervision of study tours, etc.

⁴ Tobacco industry relaunch plan up to date: https://micm.gob.do/images/pdf/noticias/Plan-de-relanzamiento-de-la-Industria-del-tabaco_actualizado.pdf

⁵ <https://lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/santiago-de-los-caballeros/productores-presentan-proyecto-produccion-de-tabaco-de-olor-al-presidente-luis-abinader>

⁶ <https://lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/santiago-de-los-caballeros/presidente-destaca-en-santiago-crecimiento-industria-del-tabaco>

⁷ <https://lainformacion.com.do/economia/economia/reconocen-embajada-dominicana-en-ee-uu>

⁸ <https://www.lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/villa-gonzalez/tony-pena-quaba-visita-instalaciones-del-intabaco>

	0	1	2	3	4	5
<p>INTABACO received in its offices the regional director of the National Housing Institute (INVI) in order to provide the necessary orientation and information on the "Mi Vivienda" housing plan to the public servants of this institute⁹.</p> <p>In order to continue strengthening the promotion of Dominican tobacco and cigars, representatives of the Ministry of Tourism of the Dominican Republic visited INTABACO's facilities¹⁰.</p>						
<p>2. The government accepts, supports or endorses <u>policies or legislation developed</u> by or in collaboration with the tobacco industry (Rec 3.4).</p>						5
<p>There were many instances where government agencies accepted and endorse policies that were developed in collaboration with the tobacco industry to protect and promote it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tobacco industry formalized its internal and external product protection plan through the diplomatic corps with Chilean-Dominican representation in the national policy team (high-level representatives/senate)¹¹. • The main representatives of the tobacco industry met publicly with the representative of the executive branch in charge of industry and commerce. This meeting generated short-term objectives to establish government-driven measures to promote training, research, logistics and economic support to the industry's activity¹². • The government (2020-2024) generated a common national and international promotion plan for the tobacco industry through the Executive Branch in which the tobacco industry was actively consulted and represented by the director of the Tobacco Institute (INTABACO)¹³. • The Government will call a tender to award the shares received in La Tabacalera¹⁴. • The Executive Branch promulgates Law No. 341-22 that declares tobacco and Dominican cigars as cultural heritage of the Dominican Republic¹⁵. INTABACO welcomed the bill approved on first reading by the Chamber of Deputies, which declares tobacco and cigars as cultural heritage of the Dominican Republic¹⁵. • PROCIGAR reiterated before the Chamber of Deputies its request for tobacco to be declared "Cultural Heritage of the Dominican Republic"¹⁶. • The Ministry of Industry, Trade and MSMEs and ISA University agreed on the design and implementation of the pilot project "Export it at once", which will provide comprehensive support to SMEs in the tobacco sector¹⁷. 						

⁹<https://www.lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/villa-gonzalez/director-regional-del-invi-visita-el-intabaco-para-orientarles-sobre-plan-vivienda-del-gobierno>

¹⁰<https://www.lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/villa-gonzalez/comision-ministerio-de-turismo-realiza-visita-al-intabaco>

¹¹<https://www.senadord.gob.do/comision-de-relaciones-exteriores-del-senado-recibe-la-visita-del-embajador-dominicano-en-chile/>

¹²<https://www.micm.gob.do/noticias/micm-y-philip-morris-aliados-en-el-combate-del-comercio-ilicito-de-productos-de-tabaco>

¹³https://micm.gob.do/images/pdf/noticias/Plan-de-relanzamiento-de-la-Industria-del-tabaco_actualizado.pdf

¹⁴<https://www.diariolibre.com/economia/negocios/2022/07/29/gobierno-licitara-acciones-recibidas-en-la-tabacalera/1977613>

¹⁵<https://www.consultoria.gov.do/Consulta/Home/FileManagement?documentId=3399521&managementType=1>

¹⁶<https://lainformacion.com.do/sociales/interlineas/interlineas-edicion-18-de-mayo-2022>

¹⁷<https://www.lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/santiago-de-los-caballeros/ministerio-industria-y-comercio-y-universidad-isa-acuerdan-proyecto-para-promover-mipymes>

	0	1	2	3	4	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Dominican Association of Cigars and Tobacco (ADCT) held a meeting with the Director General of Migration to seek solutions to the migration problems affecting the sector¹⁸. • INTABACO is working on a protocol to start exporting tobacco to China¹⁹. • The Minister of Industry, Commerce and MSMEs (MICM) gave an update on the plan to relaunch the tobacco industry, after President Luis Abinader instructed the creation of a commission to relaunch this industry²⁰. • The National Council of Export Processing Zones, chaired by Víctor Bisonó, approved the installation of 10 companies, with a projected investment of RD\$ 887.5 million²¹. 						
3. The government allows/invites the tobacco industry to be part of the inter-institutional/multi-sectoral committee/government advisory group that sets public health policy. (Rec 4.8)						5
<p>Genuine enforcement of public health tobacco control policies is limited. The possibility of interfering in official business without being sanctioned is high, as the government stipulates that all such interactions are "cooperation" without regard to the issues involved.</p> <p>The commission for the relaunching of the tobacco industry is made up of Limbert Cruz, Minister of Agriculture; Ulises Rodríguez, director of Proindustria; Rosa Santos, governor of Santiago; Biviana Riveiro, executive director of the Center for Export and Investment of the Dominican Republic (CEI-RD); Rafael Almonte, director of INTABACO; Fernando Durán, administrator of the Agricultural Bank; and Daniel Liranzo, director of the National Council of Free Export Zones (CNZFE)²².</p>						
4. Government appoints or allows tobacco industry (including state) representatives on delegation to COP or other subsidiary bodies or accepts their sponsorship for delegates. (i.e. COP 4 and 5, INB 4 5, WG) ²³ (Rec 4.9 and 8.3) For non-POP year, follow previous COP year score. For non-Parties, apply a score of "0".	0					
<p>The Dominican Republic participated as a "non-party state" during the last COP9 held in November 2021²⁴. There was no one from the health sector in the Dominican delegation. The representatives were from the diplomatic corps, and the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, which is pro-tobacco industry.</p>						
INDICATOR 2: CSR activities of the industry						

¹⁸ <https://www.lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/santiago-de-los-caballeros/asociacion-de-cigarros-y-tabaco-sostiene-encuentro-con-director-de-migracion>

¹⁹ <https://www.lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/santiago-de-los-caballeros/intabaco-trabaja-en-protocolo-para-iniciar-exportacion-de-tabaco-a-china>

²⁰ <https://www.lainformacion.com.do/economia/empresas/micm-pasa-balance-en-santiago-a-ejecucion-industria-del-tabaco>

²¹ <https://lainformacion.com.do/nacion/santo-domingo/consejo-zonas-francas-aprueba-10-nuevas-empresas-generaran-1-374-empleos>

²² <https://www.micm.gob.do/noticias/ito-bisono-el-tabaco-dominicano-vivira-su-mejor-momento>

²³ Please attach a list since 2009 so that the respondent can quantify the frequency, <http://www.who.int/fctc/cop/en/>.

²⁴ <https://www.resumendesalud.net/45-educacion/30592-delegacion-dominicana-trata-de-boicotear-la-cop9>

	0	1	2	3	4	5
5. A. Government agencies or their officials endorse, support, partner or participate in tobacco industry activities described as "socially responsible" or "sustainable". For example, environmental programs (Rec 6.2).						
B. The government (its agencies and officials) receives CSR contributions ²⁵ (monetary or otherwise, including CSR contributions) from the tobacco industry or those working to promote its interests during the pandemic. (Rec 6.4) <i>NOTE: exclude law enforcement activities, as they are covered in another question.</i>						5

- The tobacco industry assisted rural women in women-led agricultural projects through a cooperative structure²⁶.
- INTABACO (governmental institute for the promotion of tobacco) offers technical and undergraduate scholarships in agriculture with a special focus on tobacco-producing geographical areas²⁷.
- The representative of the Ministry of Higher Education (executive branch) works with a tobacco industry foundation (Smoke of Love) to build schools²⁸.



Figure 2: *Ciro Cascella (representative of the Humo de Amor Foundation) and Peña Mirabal (former Minister of Education of the Dominican Republic) signing the agreement.*

²⁵ political, social, financial, educational, community, technical or training contributions to fight against smuggling or any other form of contribution

²⁶ <https://www.pmi.com/markets/dominican-republic/es/sostenibilidad/responsabilidad-social>

²⁷ <http://www.intabaco.gob.do/index.php/noticias/item/301-convocatoria-para-becas-de-agronomia-en-la-universidad-isa>

²⁸ <http://ministeriodeeducacion.gob.do/comunicaciones/noticias/minerd-y-fundacion-humo-de-amor-firman-acuerdo-que-garantiza-un-nuevo-centro-educativo-publico-en-bonao>

- The tobacco industry has assisted rural women in women-led agricultural projects through a cooperative structure²⁹³⁰.
- The XXVII graduation ceremony of the Cigar Crafting Course was held in collaboration with CEECAPI-PISANO, ADOZONA, and INFOTEP³¹.
- INTABACO held a tribute ceremony on International Women's Day³².
- Tabadom Holding, Inc. opens Tabadom Learning Center and softball field³³.
- The Tobacco Institute of the Dominican Republic (INTABACO) launched the Tobacco Farm School in Matayaya, San Juan province³⁴.
- The XXVI graduation ceremony of the Cigar Crafting Course was held in collaboration with CEECAPI-PISANO, ADOZONA, and INFOTEP³⁵.

- In collaboration with CEECAPI-PISANO, ADOZONA and INFOTEP³⁶, the graduation ceremony of the 25th graduating class of the Artisanal Cigar Making Course was held.
- Procigar donates US\$50,000 to the Jesus with the Children Volunteer Program of the "Dr. Arturo Grullón" Children's Hospital³⁷.
- The current president of the Dominican Municipal League visited the municipality of Villa González, known as the Tobacco Capital of the World, where he delivered three million pesos for the construction of a softball field³⁸.
- Under the guidance of Father Manuel González Quevedo, a project was developed for the creation of an educational school for the children of the workers of the Tabacalera³⁹.
- The closing of the 2022 edition of the PROCIGAR Festival featured an auction whose proceeds will support the work of the Jesus with Children Volunteer Group and St. Vincent de Paul Hospice⁴⁰.
- INTABACO graduated 19 artisans in the production of handmade cigars, thanks to the training and education program developed by the tobacco industry's governing body, together with PISANO and INFOTEP⁴¹.

²⁹<http://ministeriodeeducacion.gob.do/comunicaciones/noticias/pena-mirabal-visita-politecnico-de-villa-tapia-y-centro-de-formacion-integral-cigar-family-en-bonao-esta-estudiantes-a-pensar-en-su-pais>

³⁰<https://www.micm.gob.do/noticias/micm-presenta-plan-de-accion-para-el-relanzamiento-de-la-industria-del-tabaco#:~:text=The%20president%20of%20the%20Public%20Republic%20and%20the%20reactivation%20of%20the>

³¹<https://www.lainformacion.com.do/economia/economia/escuela-para-tabaqueros-del-intabaco-gradua-nuevos-artesanos>

³²<https://www.lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/santiago-de-los-caballeros/intabaco-realiza-acto-de-homenaje-al-dia-internacional-de-la-mujer>

³³<https://www.lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/santiago-de-los-caballeros/tabadom-holding-inaugura-un-centro-de-ensenanza>

³⁴<https://www.lainformacion.com.do/nacion/region-sur/intabaco-inicia-finca-escuela-tabacalera-en-las-matas-de-farfan>

³⁵<https://lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/villa-gonzalez/clusuran-xxvi-curso-elaboracion-de-cigarro-artesanal>

³⁶<https://lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/villa-gonzalez/mediante-alianza-de-instituciones-graduan-nuevos-artesanos-del-cigarro-hecho-a-mano>

³⁷<https://lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/santiago-de-los-caballeros/procigar-dona-50-mil-dolares-voluntariado-jesus-con-los-ninos>

³⁸<https://lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/villa-gonzalez/victor-d-aza-entrega-avance-construccion-pley-softbol-en-palmarejo-villa-gonzalez>

³⁹<https://lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/santiago-de-los-caballeros/colegio-la-esperanza-en-santiago>

⁴⁰<https://lainformacion.com.do/sociales/eventos/cena-de-gala-sella-version-2022-de-procigar>

⁴¹<https://lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/santiago-de-los-caballeros/intabaco-celebra-decimo-novena-graduacion-artesanos-de-cigarros>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● INTABACO celebrated at its headquarters the graduation ceremony of a group of young Dominican tobacco artisans⁴². ● INTABACO donates curing house to IS University⁴³. ● The National Institute of Hydraulic Resources (INDRHI) and INTABACO signed an inter-institutional agreement to promote the development of irrigated areas dedicated to tobacco cultivation .⁴⁴ <p>Law No. 341-22 which declares tobacco and the Dominican cigar as cultural heritage of the Dominican Republic. G. O. No. 11076 of July 29, 2022. Article 2.- Declaration. Tobacco and the Dominican cigar are declared as cultural heritage of the Dominican Republic and, therefore, it is of national interest its promotion, preservation, defense and development, within the framework of the policies for the promotion of competitiveness and exports. Article 5.- Coordination of strategies. The Ministry of Industry, Commerce and MSMEs (MICM) shall coordinate the strategies and support mechanisms for the development of these industries, as well as for the expansion of tobacco and cigars before the national and international markets ⁴⁵.</p>						
INDICATOR 3: Benefits to the tobacco industry						
6. The government agrees to tobacco industry requests for a longer time frame for implementation or postponement of the tobacco control law. (For example, 180 days is usual for PHW, tax increase can be implemented in 1 month) (Rec 7.1).						5
<p>In the last 20 years there have been no new or relevant laws for tobacco control in the health regulation sector. The last laws that included tobacco control measures are 20 years old (2001, Law 42-01, art. 40, p. 42 and Law 48-00) and have never been amended. Despite this, there is no evidence that the tobacco industry has been involved in this lack of legislative activity. However during the past 20 years the tobacco industry has flourished.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Law No. 16-19 prohibiting the use of hookah in public and private places. G. O. No. 10934 of February 28, 2019. This is a law of very poor content and is not enforced⁴⁶. ● The health commission of the Chamber of Deputies introduced a bill to modify law 48-00, but the bill was intercepted by deputies who own tobacco companies⁴⁷. ● A commission of the Fondo Patrimonial de las Empresas Reformadas (FONPER) and Japan Tobacco International, main shareholders of La Tabacalera, visited the president of the Chamber of Deputies, Rubén Maldonado, to whom they expressed their rejection to this legislative initiative, considering it contrary to the national interest and representing a competition in disadvantageous conditions for La Tabacalera's products. They also stated that the bill is fundamentally detrimental to the tobacco company's products⁴⁸. 						
7. The government grants privileges, incentives, tax exemptions or benefits to the tobacco industry (Rec 7.3).						5

⁴² <https://www.lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/villa-gonzalez/graduan-nuevos-artesanos-en-elaboracion-de-cigarros>

⁴³ <https://lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/santiago-de-los-caballeros/intabaco-dona-casa-de-curado-a-la-universidad-isa>

⁴⁴ <https://indrhi.gob.do/indrhi-e-intabaco-acuerdan-optimizar-cultivo-de-tabaco-en-areas-bajo-riego/>

⁴⁵ <https://biblioteca.enj.org/bitstream/handle/123456789/124966/LE341-2022.pdf?sequence=1>

⁴⁶ <https://biblioteca.enj.org/bitstream/handle/123456789/80081/LE16-2019.pdf>

⁴⁷ <https://www.diputadosrd.gob.do/sil/iniciativa/140421>

⁴⁸ <https://www.resumendesalud.net/95-especialidades/9910-adat-no-permite-que-tabacaleras-qanen-la-batalla>

- Only imported components used in the manufacture of tobacco products are subject to a taxable transaction⁴⁹.
- The National Tobacco Revival Plan has stipulated long-term measures to further eliminate taxes on locally manufactured tobacco⁵⁰.
- International travelers over 16 years of age may import up to 200 cigarettes duty free when entering the country⁵¹.

INDICATOR 4: Unnecessary interaction forms

8. High-level government officials (such as the President/Prime Minister or the Minister ⁵²) meet with or foster their relationships with tobacco companies, for example, by attending social events and other events sponsored or organized by tobacco companies or that promote their interests. (Rec 2.1)							5
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The president (chief representative of the central government) held a closed-door meeting with representatives of the tobacco industry. More than 50 producers participated in the meeting with the president, including some senior officials. The subsequent report on the president's statement specified the protection of the central government and the involvement of an industry-led committee in these measures⁵³.

President Luis Abinader participated in the logistics and business expansion event of the multinationals Swedish Match and Boombah Inc⁵⁴.

The Vice President of the Republic met with Mr. Ciro Cascella, with whom she discussed the work being done through the Humo de Amor Foundation and the Centro de Formación Integral Familia Cigarrera⁵⁵.

The president and vice-president were together with tobacco industry entrepreneurs celebrating the 30th anniversary of the cigar⁵⁶.

INTABACO celebrated its 60th anniversary with the participation of the Minister of Agriculture, Hipólito Mejía, the director of PROINDUSTRIA, and the Governor of the province of Santiago⁵⁷.

INDRHI participated in the ceremony to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of INTABACO⁵⁸.

⁴⁹ https://micm.gob.do/images/pdf/noticias/Plan-de-relanzamiento-de-la-Industria-del-tabaco_actualizado.pdf

⁵⁰ https://www.micm.gob.do/images/pdf/publicaciones/libros/libros/2020/03-marzo/Perfil_Tabaco_Tomo_1-2020.pdf

⁵¹ <https://www.iatatravelcentre.com/DO-Dominican-Rep.-customs-currency-airport-tax-regulations-details.htm#Import%20regulations>

⁵² Includes immediate family members of senior officials

⁵³ <https://www.elcaribe.com.do/destacado/presidente-abinader-se-reune-con-sector-tabaquero-en-santiago/>

⁵⁴ <https://listindiario.com/la-republica/2022/09/26/740475/embajada-celebra-noche-dominicana-en-austria>

⁵⁵ <https://robertocavada.com/nacionales/2022/08/30/vicepresidenta-de-la-republica-se-reune-con-representante-fundacion-humo-de-amor/>

⁵⁶ <https://lainformacion.com.do/opinion/articulos/hendrik-kelner-los-30-anos-de-procigar>

⁵⁷ <https://lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/villa-gonzalez/intabaco-conmemora-sexagesimo-aniversario-de-su-fundacion-con-varias-actividades>

⁵⁸ <https://indrhi.gob.do/indrhi-participa-de-celebracion-del-60-aniversario-de-intabaco/>

	0	1	2	3	4	5
<p>The white party organized by the Association of Cigar Producers of the Dominican Republic was attended by the Vice President of the Republic⁵⁹.</p> <p>As part of the agricultural and economic development plan established by President Luis Abinader, the Minister of Agriculture visited a model tobacco plantation destined for industrialization and commercialization⁶⁰.</p> <p>In the presence of the Vice President and the Minister of Industry and Commerce, the tobacco companies Insight Pack International and Manojos Tobacco Process were inaugurated⁶¹.</p> <p>Cigar Producers recognize President Abinader for his support through the Tobacco Industry Relaunch Plan⁶², President opens Tobacco Festival and Collado Expoturismo⁶³ and also inaugurates first version of Dominican Cigar Fest in Tamboril⁶⁴.</p> <p>In order to continue strengthening the promotion of Dominican tobacco and cigars, representatives of the Ministry of Tourism of the Dominican Republic visited INTABACO's facilities⁶⁵.</p>						
<p>9. The government accepts assistance or offers of assistance from the tobacco industry in law enforcement matters, such as conducting raids against tobacco smuggling or enforcing anti-smoking or no-sale to minors policies (including monetary contribution for these activities) (Rec 4.3).</p>						5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An agreement was signed between a representation of the Executive Branch and the main representatives of the tobacco industry to develop the technical capacities of the authorities to reduce illicit trade and smuggling of tobacco products⁶⁶. The Vice Minister of Free Zones was present at the signing ceremony. • The national plan for the tobacco revival includes a national committee that will maintain constant communication with the executive representation of the law component. They will improve the current smuggling law and propose amendments to the legislature⁶⁷. • The Directorate General of Customs signed a cooperation agreement with Philip Morris Dominicana to work together in the implementation of actions to combat tax evasion, smuggling and illicit trade of tobacco products⁶⁸. 						

⁵⁹ <https://lainformacion.com.do/sociales/eventos/el-monumento-se-viste-de-blanco-en-procigar-2022>

⁶⁰ <https://lainformacion.com.do/economia/banca-y-finanzas/gobierno-continua-apoyando-sector-tabaquero>

⁶¹ <https://lainformacion.com.do/economia/empresas/grupo-arv-inaugura-dos-nuevas-empresas-en-parque-industrial-de-santiago>

⁶² <https://presidencia.gob.do/noticias/productores-de-cigarros-reconocen-al-presidente-abinader-por-su-apoyo-traves-de-plan>

⁶³ <https://hoy.com.do/presidente-abre-festival-de-tabaco-y-collado-expoturismo/>

⁶⁴ <https://acento.com.do/actualidad/abinader-inaugura-primera-version-dominican-cigar-fest-en-tamboril-9069331.html>

⁶⁵ <https://www.lainformacion.com.do/ciudad/villa-gonzalez/comision-ministerio-de-turismo-realiza-visita-al-intabaco>

⁶⁶ <https://www.micm.gob.do/noticias/micm-y-philip-morris-aliados-en-el-combate-del-comercio-ilicito-de-productos-de-tabaco>

⁶⁷ https://micm.gob.do/images/pdf/noticias/Plan-de-relanzamiento-de-la-Industria-del-tabaco_actualizado.pdf

⁶⁸ <https://www.lainformacion.com.do/economia/empresas/aduanas-y-philip-morris-aunan-esfuerzos-para-combatir-comercio-ilicito-de-tabaco>

	0	1	2	3	4	5
10. The government accepts, supports, endorses or establishes non-binding partnerships or agreements with the tobacco industry or any entity working to promote its interests (Rec 3.1). <i>NOTE: This should <u>not</u> involve CSR, law enforcement activity or the development of tobacco control policies, as these are already covered in the questions above.</i>						5
In the National Tobacco Relaunch Plan (in which industry representatives participated), the only constant in each measure is the industry's collaboration on issues such as financing, infrastructure, technical education, taxes, promotion of tobacco culture, international trade, improvement of the production chain, anti-smoking regulation and confronting illegal trade ^{6970 71}						
INDICATOR 5: Transparency						
11. The government does not publicly disclose meetings/interactions with the tobacco industry where such interactions are strictly necessary for regulation (Rec 2.2).						5
Representatives of the tobacco industry held a closed-door meeting with the acting president on how the government can support the industry. Although the meeting was reported in the press, there is no publicly available document detailing the issues discussed ⁷² . While this information is from 2020, it represents the most important eventuality before this indicator to date. There is no system in place to disclose government interactions with the tobacco industry.						
12. Government requires standards for disclosure or registration of tobacco industry entities, affiliated organizations and persons acting on their behalf, including lobbyists (Rec 5.3).						5
INTABACO is a national public institute with legal autonomy. As part of its objectives, it provides local support to tobacco growers and supports the research of manufacturing companies. In theory, it keeps a register of tobacco industry entities and functions as a state-sponsored lobby ⁷³ .						
INDICATOR 6: Conflict of interest						
13. The government does not prohibit contributions by the tobacco industry or any entity working to promote its interests to political parties, candidates or campaigns, nor does it require full disclosure of such contributions. (Rec 4.11) 1 Never 5 Yes						5

⁶⁹ <https://www.micm.gob.do/noticias/micm-presenta-plan-de-accion-para-el-relanzamiento-de-la-industria-del-tabaco#:~:text=The%20president%20of%20the%20Public%20Republic%20and%20the%20reactivation%20of%20the>

⁷⁰ <https://www.micm.gob.do/noticias/micm-y-philip-morris-aliados-en-el-combate-del-comercio-ilicito-de-productos-de-tabaco>

⁷¹ <https://www.facebook.com/351992718302463/posts/recibiendo-el-apoyo-de-algunos-empresarios-del-tabaco-junto-a-chuvasquez-robinso/1618998058268583/>

⁷² <https://www.elcaribe.com.do/destacado/presidente-abinader-se-reune-con-sector-tabaguero-en-santiago/>

⁷³ <https://fc-abogados.com/es/ley-no-165-01-que-otorga-personalidad-juridica-al-instituto-del-tabaco-de-la-republica-dominicana-intabaco/>

The government, through its electoral law (Electoral Law 275-97, article 47), places no limits on the tobacco industry's financial support to political entities⁷⁴.

14. Retired senior civil servants are part of the tobacco industry (former Prime Minister, Minister, Attorney General) (Rec 4.4)						5
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Former President Hipolito Mejia (2000-2004) and current Vice President Raquel Peña have been tobacco industry executives ,^{75,76} . "I have always worked with many people, at the time of the tobacco harvest, rolling tobacco, and later at the university with people from different social strata," Peña told Listín Diario in an interview during her election campaign⁷⁷.

In 1964, "[Mejia] began a period of study at the University of North Carolina, in the United States, to familiarize himself with industrial tobacco processing procedures. After completing his academic training, Mejía was hired by the Tobacco Institute (INTABACO) as an agricultural researcher. There he carried out field work before becoming, in a very short time and at only 25 years of age, the titular director of this national organization, the fourth director since its creation in 1962. With him at the helm, INTABACO introduced the blond variety for the industrial production of cigarettes"⁷⁸.



⁷⁴ Electoral Law of the Dominican Republic, Electoral Law 275-97, Article 47.- SOURCES OF INCOME.

⁷⁵ <https://www.senadord.gob.do/senado-de-la-republica-reconoce-al-ex-presidente-hipolito-mejia/>

⁷⁶ <https://www.micm.gob.do/noticias/presidente-abinader-designa-a-ito-bisono-coordinador-de-comision-para-relanzar-industria-del-tabaco-en-rd>

⁷⁷ <https://listindiario.com/la-republica/2020/08/16/630918/raquel-pena-del-sector-educativo-a-la-vicepresidencia-de-la-republica-en-menos-de-un-ano>

⁷⁸ https://www.cidob.org/biografias_lideres_politicos/america_central_y_caribe/republica_dominicana/hipolito_mejia_dominquez

	0	1	2	3	4	5
<p>Figure 3 shows Hipólito Mejía, former President of the Dominican Republic, visiting a tobacco greenhouse.</p>						
<p>15. <u>Current government officials</u> and their relatives hold positions in the tobacco business, including consulting positions (Rec 4.5, 4.8, 4.10).</p>						5
<p>Former President Hipólito Mejía (2000-2004) and current Vice President Raquel Peña have been tobacco industry executives⁷⁹.</p> <p>The Minister of Industry, Commerce and Small and Medium Enterprises (MICM), Víctor-Ito-Bisonó, said that "Dominican tobacco will live its best moments. This commission has had very fruitful meetings where the interest and alignment of all the institutions that comprise it have been favorable to the relaunching of this thriving sector of our economy".</p> <p>The Minister of Industry, Trade and SMEs highlighted that the tobacco industry represents the largest number of jobs in the country⁸⁰.</p>						
<p>INDICATOR 7: Preventive measures</p>						
<p>16. The government has established a procedure for disclosing records of interaction (such as agenda, attendees, minutes and outcome) with the tobacco industry and its representatives (Rec 5.1).</p>						5
<p>The government is not required to disclose records of interactions with the tobacco industry.</p> <p>The General Law on Free Access to Public Information (Law 200-04) and Decree No. 130-05, which creates the regulations of the law, in its Article 5 states, "All centralized and decentralized public agencies of the State, including the National District and Municipalities, shall be incorporated into an information system, including the use of the Internet or any other similar system to be established in the future, in order to guarantee direct public access to state information".</p> <p>This is a general measure for all government departments, regardless of the type of interaction and the subject of the interaction. There is no specific tobacco control regulation.</p>						
<p>17. The government has formulated, adopted, or implemented a code of conduct for public officials that prescribes the standards they must meet in their dealings with the tobacco industry. (Rec 4.2); <i>1 for the whole government code; 2 for Yes but partial if only the Ministry of Health has a code of conduct for government officials.</i></p>						5
<p>There is no code of conduct for public officials regarding interaction with the tobacco industry⁸¹. Industry executives such as presidents and chief operating officers of the country's major tobacco companies, freely attend meetings with representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Agriculture, Interior and Police, and Public Works.</p>						

⁷⁹ <https://www.senadord.gob.do/senado-de-la-republica-reconoce-al-ex-presidente-hipolito-mejia/>

⁸⁰ <https://lainformacion.com.do/economia/empresas/victor-bisono-la-produccion-y-exportacion-de-tabaco-representa-el-mayor-numero-de-empleos-en-rd>

⁸¹ <https://www.micm.gob.do/noticias/ito-bisono-el-tabaco-dominicano-vivira-su-mejor-momento>

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18. The government requires the tobacco industry to periodically submit information on production, manufacturing, market share, marketing expenditures, revenues and any other tobacco-related activities, including lobbying, philanthropy, political contributions and any other activities. (5.2)

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It appears that while companies are required to provide production and marketing information for tax purposes, there is no evidence that such requirements are required for lobbying, philanthropy, political contributions and any other activity that does not involve a tax commitment. Therefore, the tobacco industry receives the same tax and regulatory treatment as any other type of industry.

Dirección General de Impuestos Internos
Gerencia de Estudios Económicos y Tributarios
Departamento de Análisis de Recaudación y Estadísticas
Sección de Estadísticas



Las estadísticas presentadas a continuación corresponden a la cantidad de Cigarrillos o Tabacos vendidos, según la declaración jurada presentada por los contribuyentes del sector.

Cantidad de cigarrillos declarados por año y mes
En unidades

Mes ^{1/}	Año										
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017 ^{2/}	2017 ^{2/}
Enero	159,271,612	106,397,030	149,297,190	163,467,928	190,005,840	79,207,110	139,420,060	59,710,450	40,367,374	48,501,619	
Febrero	170,432,030	123,764,510	167,517,040	128,241,852	114,374,520	87,101,620	86,184,330	76,591,940	63,762,372	80,745,330	
Marzo	196,227,938	175,749,620	206,244,210	170,016,170	159,026,492	107,332,770	87,000,090	108,743,950	77,521,170	108,807,380	
Abril	198,470,076	189,822,230	179,229,870	170,400,585	137,468,518	120,927,152	103,288,580	109,135,750	82,432,940	94,112,080	
Mayo	200,880,866	178,998,540	185,050,560	165,154,720	173,892,100	138,272,387	115,200,412	111,593,920	85,852,238	103,735,200	
Junio	271,140,100	187,968,560	179,401,870	172,918,368	147,746,700	135,431,704	122,664,850	112,980,580	99,848,282	106,511,330	
Julio	158,524,716	193,600,060	181,551,340	167,063,200	147,049,090	140,392,464	118,021,620	124,447,142	95,865,782	95,148,440	
Agosto	187,143,808	180,190,620	188,087,090	181,927,800	169,664,030	137,335,022	104,679,650	116,219,200	102,126,213		
Septiembre	175,276,358	183,875,980	178,697,410	175,008,228	131,872,792	134,676,102	116,191,285	121,424,760	93,944,514		
Octubre	228,744,958	187,792,020	176,844,020	161,957,602	163,171,260	148,745,160	155,863,187	129,381,610	101,472,240		
Noviembre	192,511,760	186,895,620	203,107,120	189,634,560	206,151,170	183,884,290	120,082,151	101,154,752	109,659,000		
Diciembre	336,910,286	265,064,818	246,787,150	241,063,420	261,479,704	243,506,240	249,271,399	256,992,330	196,978,270		
Total	2,475,534,508	2,160,119,608	2,241,814,870	2,086,854,433	2,001,902,216	1,656,812,021	1,517,867,614	1,428,376,384	1,149,830,395	637,561,379	

^{1/} Se refiere al período en que se realizaron las ventas de cigarrillos y no a la fecha en que fue declarada ante la DGI.

^{2/} A partir de agosto 2017, se trasladó parte de la producción a Zona Franca; por tanto, algunas declaraciones son realizadas en la Dirección General de Aduanas.

Fuente: Declaración Jurada y/o Pago del Impuesto Selectivo al Consumo (Formulario ISC-02) de los contribuyentes. Datos actualizados al 01 de abril de 2021. Los mismos pueden presentar cambios por rectificaciones que efectúan los contribuyentes en sus declaraciones.

Nota: Sólo incluye cantidad gravada por el Impuesto Selectivo al Consumo. No incluye importaciones ni exportaciones.

19. The government has a program / system / plan to systematically sensitize⁸² its departments on policies related to the FCTC Article 5.3 Guidelines. (Rec 1.1, 1.2)

5

None. As a "non-Party" to the WHO FCTC, the provisions of Article 5.3 seem irrelevant. On the other hand, the government, through its various ministries, widely promotes economic and public policy measures for tobacco marketing at all levels^{83,84}.

20. The government has implemented a policy that prohibits the acceptance of any contributions or gifts from the tobacco industry (monetary or otherwise), including offers of assistance, draft policies or invitations to study visits offered to the government, its agencies, officials and family members. (3.4)

5

⁸² For the purposes of this question, "systematically" means: a. Whenever the FCTC is discussed, item 5.3 is explained. And b. Whenever the opportunity arises, for example, when tobacco industry intervention is discovered or reported.

⁸³ https://www.micm.gob.do/images/pdf/publicaciones/libros/libros/2020/03-marzo/Perfil_Tabaco_Tomo_1-2020.pdf

⁸⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/351992718302463/posts/recibiendo-el-apoyo-de-algunos-empresarios-del-tabaco-junto-a-chuvasquez-robinso/1618998058268583/>

	0	1	2	3	4	5
There are no government requirements to limit or refuse contributions, gifts or economic interactions with the tobacco industry.						
TOTAL SCORE						95/95

1. Annex A: Sources of information

	MAIN TOBACCO COMPANIES/DISTRIBUTORS	SOURCE
1	British American Tobacco Company (BAT).	https://bit.ly/2S4rQ2U
2	Philip Morris Dominicana, S.A.	https://bit.ly/2QXxao6
3	General Cigar Dominicana SAS Scandinavian tobacco group	https://bit.ly/3euU1j4 https://bit.ly/3nk8Zwh
4	La Tabacalera S,A	https://bit.ly/3nmatpZ
5	Tabacalera de García SAS Altadis USA	https://bit.ly/2QucXg0 https://bit.ly/3dOxfU0
6	La Aurora	https://bit.ly/3sTjacl
7	Quesada Cigars	https://bit.ly/2QVJpBN
8	Pure PDR	https://bit.ly/3tS8KuS
9	The Dominican Flower	http://laflordominicana.com/

	MAIN MEDIA/NEWSPAPERS	URL
1	Hoy Newspaper	https://hoy.com.do/
2	Listín Diario	https://listindiario.com/
3	Diario Libre	https://www.diariolibre.com/
4	El Nacional	https://elnacional.com.do/
5	The Caribbean	https://www.elcaribe.com.do/

	LEADING TOBACCO INDUSTRY ALLIES/FRONT GROUPS	TYPE (FACADE GROUP, PRESSURE GROUP, INDIVIDUAL)	SOURCE
1	E. León Jimenes	Eduardo León Jimenes Foundation	https://centroleon.org.do/fundacion-elj/
2	Cigar Producers' Association (PROCIGAR)	A Home For My Family	https://procigar.org/charitable-initiative/

Notes: On the pie chart describing the market share per company according to profit or exports: There is no such chart updated due to the absence of update by the national institutes in charge of the said grant in industry and commerce.

1. Press Release PD. INDRHI participates in INTABACO's 60th anniversary celebration [Internet]. [cited 2023 May 23]. Available from: <https://indrhi.gob.do/indrhi-participa-de-celebracion-del-60-aniversario-de-intabaco/>