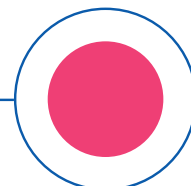


Côte d'Ivoire



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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Industry Participation in Policy Development

During the drafting of the 2025 tax schedule, the Société Ivoirienne des Tabacs (SITAB) sent a letter to the Minister of Finance and Budget with proposals on tobacco taxes it considered appropriate for Côte d'Ivoire. Although the government did not publicly reject the proposals, they did not prevent the Minister of Finance and Budget from increasing the tax from 49% to 70%.

Industry CSR Activities

Over the last five years, there have been no reports of corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities sponsored by the tobacco industry (TI).

Benefits to the Industry

Although legal instruments have been adopted to support tobacco control, the authorities have not implemented them within the deadlines set by these policies. For example, the 2022 decree on packaging, which was scheduled to take effect six months later, has still not been enforced.

Transparency

There is no mechanism to make public the reports or content of government interactions with the TI. Furthermore, there are no binding regulations requiring disclosure of information or registration of TI entities, affiliated organizations, or individuals acting on their behalf.

Conflict of Interest

No evidence of conflicts of interest between public authorities and the TI has been publicly reported. Political parties receive no support from the TI. There is also no evidence of retired or serving civil servants holding positions in the TI. However, an influential TI member, Mr. Magne Woelffell Pierre René of SITAB, sits on the Economic, Social, Environmental, and Cultural Council of Côte d'Ivoire.

Preventive Measures

There is no code of conduct governing interactions with the TI. However, all civil servants are subject to Order No. 2013-660 of September 20, 2013, on preventing and combating corruption and related offenses.



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Establish an interministerial committee that includes civil society representatives to ensure stronger monitoring of interactions between public authorities and the TI.
2. The Ministry of Health, in collaboration with the High Authority for Good Governance, should complete and implement procedures governing relations with the TI and its representatives, including tobacco retailers. These procedures should include charters and codes of conduct for civil servants and specific officials, and require the publication of information on all interactions (agenda, participants, minutes, outcomes).
3. Introduce legal provisions to implement Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC and its guidelines.
4. Develop and implement a systematic communication and awareness-raising plan on Article 5.3, led by the Communications Department of the National Program for the Fight against Tobacco, Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Other Addictions (PNLTA).