

Mexico

Overall score:

59

I. Industry participation in policy development: Two initiatives to reform the General Law on Tobacco Control to regulate ENDS were presented in the Senate. During the development of legislation on ENDS, Philip Morris México was invited by a congressman in the Lower Chamber to present its views. There was no open and public discussion, and within a short period the Health Committee had a resolution. The document content was supportive of industry arguments and detracted from the original content of the initiatives.

II. Tobacco industry-related CSR activities: Senators and the local government of the State of Nayarit participate in Philip Morris Mexico's CSR activities, such as building of community centres, delivering computers to children in rural schools and providing support for tobacco farmers.

III. Benefits given to the tobacco industry: The old NAFTA is still in place where tobacco leaf from US are imported duty free into Mexico.

The government has not granted any requests from the tobacco industry for a longer time frame for implementation or postponement of tobacco control law enforcement.

International travellers are allowed to bring into Mexico 2 cartons of cigarettes or 50 cigars or a kilo of tobacco.

IV. Unnecessary interaction with the tobacco industry: The government does not accept, support, endorse, or enter into partnerships or agreements with the tobacco industry. However, CANACINTRA, the transformation industry chamber (BAT and PM Mexico both are members) awarded BAT-sponsored awards to both presidents of the Health Committees in the Congress.

V. Procedure for transparency measures: There is no specific requirement for the tobacco industry to disclose its entities, affiliated organizations, and individuals acting on its behalf including lobbyists.

The Federal Commission on Sanitary Protection, (COFEPRIS) held meetings with Philip Morris Mexico to look into the process of allowing sale of IQOS.

VI. Avoiding conflicts of interest: The government does not prohibit contributions from the tobacco industry.

The former Commissioner of Telecommunications is now the main lobbyist for Philip Morris Mexico.

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

The government has not formulated or implemented a code of conduct for public officials, prescribing the standards to guide them in their dealings with the tobacco industry.

The government has not put in place a policy to disallow the acceptance of contributions/ gifts from the tobacco industry including offers of assistance, policy drafts, or study visit invitations.



There is no specific requirement for the tobacco industry to disclose its entities, affiliated organizations, and individuals acting on its behalf including lobbyists.



Recommendations

1. Tobacco related CSR activities must be banned.
2. There must be a procedure in place to disclose the records of government interaction with the tobacco industry. A code of conduct should be adopted by the government to guide officials when dealing with the tobacco industry.
3. The tobacco industry should be required to submit information on tobacco business such as market share, marketing expenditures and philanthropy.