
Republic of Korea

**TOBACCO
INDUSTRY
INTERFERENCE
INDEX
2023**

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Background and Introduction

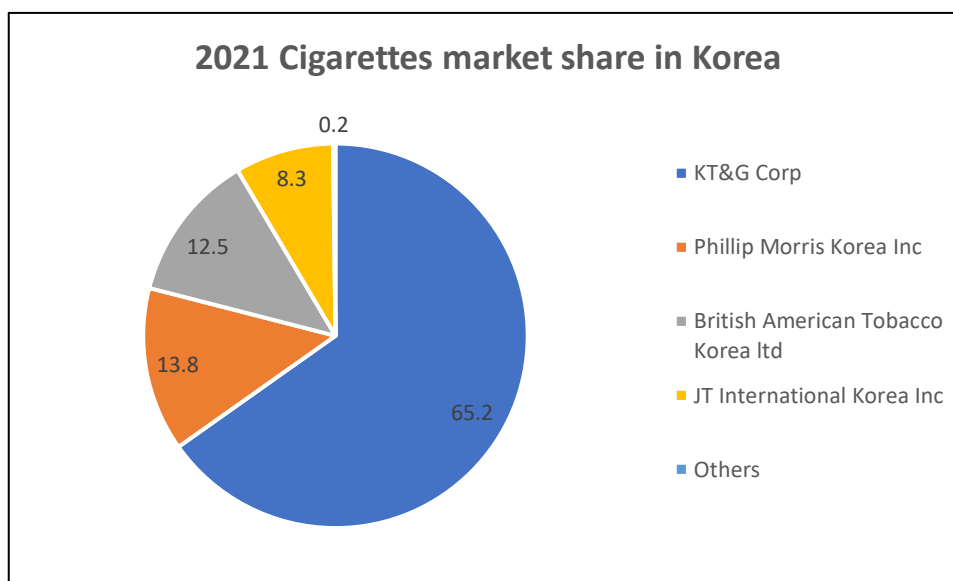
During the COVID-19 pandemic, progress in tobacco control policies in Korea slowed down. The tobacco industry took advantage of this situation and effectively marketed new products, such as heated tobacco products. Like in other countries, the tobacco industry in Korea advertised their social responsibility activities, such as food donations to help those struggling during the pandemic. They also promoted their ESG activities, which helped them connect with high-level government officials.

The Ministry of Health and Welfare was the key government body in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, less attention was given to tobacco control policies over the last three years, which weakened efforts to control the tobacco industry. However, the Ministry of Health and Welfare funded a study to evaluate the implementation of Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC in Korea. The research outcome significantly helped with this year's tobacco industry monitoring activities. However, the Tobacco Business Act, which aims to protect and promote the tobacco business, still poses challenges to the full implementation of Article 5.3.

< 2021 Cigarettes market share in Korea >

company	% share
KT&G Corp	65.2
Phillip Morris Korea Inc	13.8
British American Tobacco Korea ltd	12.5
JT International Korea Inc	8.3
Others	0.2

Euromonitor 2023



In 2020, KT&G was No.5 tobacco company in the world exporting its tobacco products to 90 countries. It reported that by 2025 it is aiming to become world No.4 and double the number of countries it was exporting to.

In 2021, the Republic of Korea scored 55 on the Global Tobacco Index (GTI). However, in 2023, the score increased to 60. The main reason for this increase can be attributed to thorough monitoring activities and better documentation of details supported by the research funding from the Ministry of Health & Welfare for evaluating the implementation of WHO FCTC Article 5.3. Well-trained tobacco control experts were actively involved in monitoring the tobacco industry's activities related to FCTC Article 5.3 in 2022. The findings of this research were effectively utilized in the GTI evaluation for the current year. This significant change allowed for a careful reassessment of scores for each question. The increased involvement of tobacco control experts in monitoring activities, compared to previous years, contributed to this year's results. In addition, considering that the government did not introduce any specific policies or activities to implement the guidelines of FCTC Article 5.3 in Korea, this increase in the score can be seen as a natural outcome.

There is an ongoing argument regarding the revision of the Tobacco Business Act or the development of a new tobacco control law. The existence of two different laws, namely the Tobacco Business Act and the National Health Promotion Act, overseen by two separate government bodies, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Health & Welfare, poses a real challenge in implementing the guidelines of WHO FCTC Article 5.3. Tobacco control experts in Korea are advocating for the establishment of a new law that regulates tobacco and nicotine products, allowing for the comprehensive application of all the guidelines outlined in Article 5.3. The Korean government should carefully consider this important change and take action to enact a new law in Korea.

Furthermore, there is still a significant lack of information regarding the importance of implementing Article 5.3 and the tobacco industry's interests in tobacco control policies. There have been little efforts made by the Ministry of Health & Welfare to disseminate information about FCTC Article 5.3 to other government bodies. Additionally, the media and the public should be provided with opportunities to learn about the significance of implementing Article 5.3 in Korea.

This report is based on a questionnaire developed by the Southeast Asia Tobacco Control Alliance. There are 20 questions based on the Article 5.3 guidelines. Information used in this report is obtained from the public domain only. A scoring system is applied to make the assessment. The score ranges from 0 - 5, where 5 indicates highest level of industry interference, and 1 is low or no interference. Hence the lower the score, the better for the country. The 0 score indicates absence of evidence or not applicable. The report includes information on incidents from April 2021 to March 2023.

Summary Findings

I INDUSTRY PARTICIPATION IN POLICY DEVELOPMENT

The government does not accept, support, or endorse policies or legislation that are drafted by or developed in collaboration with the tobacco industry. In addition, the Korean delegation did not include any representative from the tobacco industry to COP9 in 2021.

However, the Ministry of Health and Welfare permitted the tobacco industry's voluntary regulatory code, which prevents tobacco advertisements inside tobacco retail stores from being exposed outside tobacco retail stores.

2 INDUSTRY CSR ACTIVITIES

The Tobacco Business Act facilitates public-private partnership and enables the tobacco industry to conduct CSR activities. The Minister of Strategy and Finance can request the Corporation to carry out public activities such as public health, medical care, environmental protection, and support for tobacco cultivation.

KT&G Corp. has partnered with Suwon City to tackle the negative impact of cigarette litter on the environment by setting up cigarette butt bins as part of an environmental program. They have also signed an MOU with the National Institute of Ecology to protect the ecology of the country, and committed to replacing their company cars with eco-friendly models by 2030. The Minister of Environment was present at the company's ceremony to commemorate the occasion.

In addition, KT&G has donated approximately USD 140,000 to support the Ministry of Justice's efforts in their social resettlement of persons subject to legal protection. Meanwhile, Philip Morris Korea has donated food to help Yangsan City overcome the COVID-19 pandemic, and the government has requested KT&G's assistance in contributing to a fund aimed at compensating victims of forced labor during Japan's occupation.

3 BENEFITS TO THE INDUSTRY

KT&G has received permission to sell tobacco products at highway service areas, and Sejong City has provided infrastructure support for the construction of KT&G's new factory. The Cooperative Act on the Production of Dried Tobacco Leaf Produce states that the government and public organizations should provide facilities and equipment preferentially. The Tobacco Business Act allows the company to take off 5 won per 20 cigarettes production stabilization fund to directly support tobacco farmers.

4 UNNECESSARY INTERACTION

Awards ceremony is the main way through which unnecessary interactions have taken place. KT& continues to be awarded the Prime Minister's award for various categories where the ceremonies are hosted by various government departments.

KT&G signed an MOU with Sejong City to establish a new printing factory in the city. The signing ceremony was attended by the Mayor of Sejong City. Additionally, KT&G announced its plan to replace its fleet of 1,200 company cars with eco-friendly vehicles by 2030 during a ceremony attended by the Minister of Environment.

5 TRANSPARENCY

The government does not have an official system in place to disclose its meetings and interactions with the tobacco industry to the public, nor is there a registry for the representatives and executives of the tobacco industry.

6 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Although there is no explicit prohibition on contributions from the tobacco industry for political campaigns, the Code of Conduct for Public Officials prohibits current government officials from holding positions in commercial businesses. Moreover, top-level government officials do not typically join KT&G after their retirement.

7 PREVENTIVE MEASURES

The government has not implemented any specific measures or codes of conduct to safeguard against the influence of the tobacco industry on government administration. However, in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Public Officials (Presidential Decree), government officers are prohibited from receiving any form of gifts or favors from individuals or organizations that may benefit or suffer as a direct result of government policies or public projects (defined in Article 2.1(g)). Additionally, according to a government report submitted to the COP, all individuals involved or engaged in tobacco control related projects are required to certify any potential conflicts of interest they may have with the tobacco industry. Specifically, those individuals who may directly or indirectly influence tobacco-related decision-making, such as members of the Tobacco Health Warnings Committee, must sign a conflict of interest statement.

Republic of Korea

Tobacco Industry Interference Index 2023

Results and Findings

	0	1	2	3	4	5
INDICATOR 1: Level of Industry Participation in Policy-Development						
1. The government ¹ accepts, supports or endorses any offer for assistance by or in collaboration with the tobacco industry or any entity or person working to further its interests. ² in setting or implementing public health policies in relation to tobacco control ³ (Rec 3.4)				3		
<p>Despite concerns about tobacco industry involvement in healthcare, KT&G and Asan Medical Center, the largest public hospital in Korea, were selected as the preferred bidder for Cheongna Medical Complex Town in Incheon. KT&G was part of a consortium that won the bid. The local government, Incheon City, approved the tobacco industry's participation in the project.⁴</p> <p>The Ministry of Health and Welfare permitted the tobacco industry's voluntary regulatory code, which prevents tobacco advertisements inside tobacco retail stores from being exposed outside tobacco retail stores.⁵</p>						
2. The government accepts, supports or endorses <u>policies or legislation drafted</u> by or in collaboration with the tobacco industry. (Rec 3.4)	0					
There were no reports on this issue. The government is committed to tobacco control.						
3. The government allows/invites the tobacco industry to sit in government interagency/ multi-sectoral committee/ advisory group body that sets public health policy. (Rec 4.8) Never 5 Yes		1				
There were no reports on this issue.						
4. The government nominates or allows representatives from the tobacco industry (including State-owned) in the delegation to the COP or other subsidiary bodies or accepts their sponsorship for delegates. (i.e. COP 4 & 5, INB 4 5, WG) ⁶ (Rec 4.9 & 8.3) For non-COP year, follow the previous score of COP year. For non-Parties, apply a score of '0'		1				

¹ The term "government" refers to any public official whether or not acting within the scope of authority as long as cloaked with such authority or holding out to another as having such authority


² The term, "tobacco industry" includes those representing its interests or working to further its interests, including the State-owned tobacco industry.

³ "Offer of assistance" may include draft legislation, technical input, recommendations, oversees study tour

⁴ Ifezjournal. Asan Medical Center Consortium, selected as the preferred bidder for Cheongna Medical Complex Town. Sep 7, 2021. <http://www.ifezjournal.co.kr/en/asan-medical-center-consortium-selected-as-the-preferred-bidder-for-cheongna-medical-complex-town/>

⁵ Ministry of Health & Welfare. Corrective measures for external exposure of tobacco advertisements, proceeding with self-regulation between the industry and retail stores. Apr 23, 2021. <https://www.korea.kr/news/actuallyView.do?newsId=148886647>

⁶ Please annex a list since 2009 so that the respondent can quantify the frequency, <http://www.who.int/fctc/cop/en/>

	0	1	2	3	4	5
The Korean delegation did not include any representative from the tobacco industry to COP9 in 2021. ⁷						
INDICATOR 2: Industry CSR activities						
<p>5. A. Government agencies or their officials endorse, support, form partnerships with or participates in activities of the tobacco industry described as “socially responsible” or “sustainable”. For example, environmental programs. (Rec 6.2)</p> <p>B. The government (its agencies and officials) receives CSR contributions⁸ (monetary or otherwise, including CSR contributions) from the tobacco industry or those working to further its interests during the pandemic. (Rec 6.4)</p> <p><i>NOTE: exclude enforcement activities as this is covered in another question</i></p>						5
<p>According to the Tobacco Business Act: “Article 25-3 (Participation in Public Service Projects by Manufacturers, etc.) It is possible to directly carry out projects such as public service projects and support for tobacco cultivation, or to make contributions to those who carry out these projects. An import seller may directly conduct a public service project pursuant to paragraph (1) or make a contribution to a person conducting the project. In this case, paragraph 1 shall apply mutatis mutandis.”⁹</p> <p>A: National level</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> KT&G has signed an MOU with the National Institute of Ecology to work together in protecting the ecology of the country.¹⁰ The project involves two activities, to protect the Janggu catfish wetland located in Yeongyang-gun, Gyeongsangbuk-do, and conduct research on biodiversity.  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> KT&G has announced its commitment to replace its 1,200 company cars with eco-friendly models by 2030. The Minister of Environment was present at the company's ceremony and even took a photo with the KT&G Vice President to commemorate the occasion.¹¹ 						

⁷ FCTC/COP/DIV/1 List of participants <https://fctc.who.int/publications/m/item/cop-9-div-1-list-of-participants>

⁸ political, social financial, educations, community, technical expertise or training to counter smuggling or any other forms of contributions

⁹ Ministry of Government Legislation. Tobacco Business Act. <https://www.law.go.kr/LSW/lsInfoP.do?efYd=20170726&lsiSeq=195019#0000>

¹⁰ Junyoung Kim. KT&G and National Institute of Ecology cooperate to protect Janggu catfish wetland. Sep 28, 2022. <https://www.segye.com/newsView/20220927509592>

¹¹ Hyeonyoun Park. KT&G converts 1,200 eco-friendly vehicles for business use by 2030. Apr 15, 2021. <https://www.sedaily.com/NewsView/22L3DZ1OFQ>



3. KT&G donated approximately USD 140,000 to support the Ministry of Justice's efforts in their social resettlement of persons subject to legal protection.¹²



4. The government requested KT&G's assistance in contributing to a fund aimed at compensating victims of forced labor during Japan's occupation.¹³

B. Provincial level

1. Suwon City, a local government, and KT&G have formed a partnership to protect the environment from the harmful effects of cigarette butts. Recognizing the negative impact of cigarette litter on nature, KT&G has been allowed to set up 33 cigarette butt bins in 23 public facilities.¹⁴ These collection boxes for cigarette butts is KT&G's 'Sseudam Sseudam (cigarette butts in the trash) Campaign'.
2. Philip Morris Korea donated food to help Yangsan City overcome the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁵
3. The government requested KT&G's assistance in contributing to a fund aimed at compensating victims of forced labor during Japan's occupation.¹⁶

KT&G reports it is contributing CSR activities to improve “smoking environments” by:

¹² Hyedong Hwang. KT&G donates KRW 180 million to support persons subject to protection by the Ministry of Justice. Aug 22, 2022. <https://www.goodmorningcc.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=274832>

¹³ Kyung-min Lee. Korean firms balk at donating to fund compensating victims of Japan's forced labor. Mar 22, 2023. https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/tech/2023/03/419_347548.html

¹⁴ Jungyul Yun. 'Cigarette butt collection box'... Suwon City, KT&G, installed in 23 major public facilities. Feb 21, 2022. <https://www.sedaily.com/NewsView/26287FCA6R>

¹⁵ Taekwon Kim. 'Cheer up, Yangsan'...Philip Morris Korea donates food kits to overcome COVID-19. May 1, 2020. <https://www.busan.com/view/busan/view.php?code=2020050110414971602>

¹⁶ Kyung-min Lee. Korean firms balk at donating to fund compensating victims of Japan's forced labor. Mar 22, 2023. https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/tech/2023/03/419_347548.html

	0	1	2	3	4	5
1. Installing about 370 smoking rooms in large public facilities such as airports. 2. Installing about 100 common trash cans in multi-use facilities such as transportation facilities and maintains them annually. ¹⁷						
INDICATOR 3: Benefits to the Tobacco Industry						
6. The government accommodates requests from the tobacco industry for a longer time frame for implementation or postponement of tobacco control law. (e.g. 180 days is common for PHW, Tax increase can be implemented within 1 month) (Rec 7.1)			2			
<p>No new laws were introduced in the monitoring time period. However, according to the Tobacco Business Act:</p> <p>Article 25-3 (Participation in Public Service Projects by Manufacturers, etc.)</p> <p>(3) The Minister of Strategy and Finance shall consult with the head of the relevant central administrative agency on basic matters pertaining to the business conducted by manufacturers or importers pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2).</p>						
7. The government gives privileges, incentives, tax exemptions or benefits to the tobacco industry (Rec 7.3)					4	
<p>KT&G has been granted the privilege to sell tobacco products at highway service areas.¹⁸</p> <p>Sejong City, a local government, has provided road infrastructure for cars and bikes as well as public transportation to support the construction of KT&G's new factory.¹⁹</p> <p>According to Article 8 of the Cooperative Act on the Production of Dried Tobacco Leaf Produce, the government and public organizations have been actively cooperating with the unions and the central government, and stated that they should provide facilities and equipment preferentially²⁰.</p> <p>In Article 25-3 of the Tobacco Business Act, the Minister of Strategy and Finance asked the Corporation to carry out directly public activities, such as public health, medical care, protection of environment, and projects such as the support for tobacco cultivation, in a limit of 20 won per 20 cigarettes of manufactured tobacco which he distribute.²¹</p> <p>The Tobacco Business Act allows the tobacco manufacturing company to take off 5 won per 20 cigarettes production stabilization fund in order to directly support to the tobacco farmers²².</p> <p>International travellers aged 19 and above coming into Korea are allowed to bring duty free 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 20 milligrams of E-cigarettes or 250g tobacco products.²³</p>						
INDICATOR 4: Forms of Unnecessary Interaction						

¹⁷ KT&G. <https://en.ktng.com/socialContribution>

¹⁸ Yonhapnews. There are only 7 highway rest areas nationwide that sell foreign cigarettes... "KT&G market monopoly". Sep. 26, 2022. <https://www.hankyung.com/economy/article/202209264730Y>

¹⁹ BizFact. KT&G and Sejong City Signed MOU for 'Construction of Printing Factory in Sejong Future Industrial Complex' Aug 31, 2022. <http://news.tf.co.kr/read/economy/1962299.htm>

²⁰ Ministry of Government Legislation. Leaf Tobacco Production Cooperative Act. <http://www.law.go.kr/lsInfoP.do?lsiSeq=181381&efYd=20160302#0000>

²¹ Ministry of Government Legislation. Tobacco Business Act. <http://www.law.go.kr/lsInfoP.do?lsiSeq=195019&efYd=20170726#0000>

²² Ministry of Government Legislation. Tobacco Business Act Enforcement Rules. <http://www.law.go.kr/lsInfoP.do?lsiSeq=205413&efYd=20190101#0000>

²³ South Korea Visa. South Korea Customs Regulations and items restricted from entry <https://bit.ly/3HnaGnV>

	0	1	2	3	4	5
8. Top level government officials (such as President/ Prime Minister or Minister ²⁴) meet with/ foster relations with the tobacco companies such as attending social functions and other events sponsored or organized by the tobacco companies or those furthering its interests. (Rec 2.1)						5

During the monitoring period, KT&G was awarded with a presidential commendation three times which contributes to endorsement of the company by top leaders. In 2021 on 31 May, which coincidentally was also World No Tobacco Day, KT&G was awarded the Prime Minister's Commendation in recognition of its contribution to the development of national industry at the 56th Invention Day commemoration ceremony.²⁵ The ceremony was hosted by the Korean Intellectual Property Office.



Photo: Tobacco Reporter

In July 2021, KT&G received a presidential commendation at a ceremony organized by the Ministry of Strategy and Finance for the 2021 Social and Economic Merits.²⁶



Photo: Tobacco Reporter

In December 2022, KT&G received the Prime Minister's commendation in the general environmental, social and governance (ESG) sector at the 2022 Sustainable Management Government Award ceremony at the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry.²⁷

²⁴ Includes immediate members of the families of the high-level officials

²⁵ Tobacco Reporter. KT&G recognized for innovation. 2 Jun 2021 <https://tobaccoreporter.com/2021/06/02/ktg-recognized-for-innovation/>

²⁶ Tobacco Reporter. KT&G recognized for social/economic merits. 13 Jul 2021

<https://tobaccoreporter.com/2021/07/13/ktg-recognized-for-social-and-economic-merits/>

²⁷ Tobacco Reporter. KT&G recognised for sustainability. 13 Dec 2022 <https://tobaccoreporter.com/2022/12/13/ktg-recognized-for-sustainable-management/>



Photo: TobaccoReporter

KT&G and Sejong City signed an MOU to establish a new printing factory in the city, with the Mayor of Sejong City in attendance at the signing ceremony.²⁸

During a KT&G ceremony, the company announced its plans to replace its fleet of 1,200 company cars with eco-friendly vehicles by 2030. The Minister of Environment was also in attendance and took a photo with KT&G's Vice President to commemorate the occasion.²⁹



Photo: KT&G Vice President Bang Gyeong-man (right) and Environment Minister Han Jeong. Tobacco Reporter

<p>9. The government accepts assistance/ offers of assistance from the tobacco industry on enforcement such as conducting raids on tobacco smuggling or enforcing smoke free policies or no sales to minors. (including monetary contribution for these activities) (Rec 4.3)</p>	0					
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There were no reports on this issue.

<p>10. The government accepts, supports, endorses, or enters into partnerships or non-binding agreements with the tobacco industry or any entity working to further its interests. (Rec 3.1) NOTE: This must <u>not</u> involve CSR, enforcement activity, or tobacco control policy development since these are already covered in the previous questions.</p>	0					
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²⁸ KT&G. KT&G and Sejong City signed an MOU for the construction of a printing factory in Sejong Future Industrial Complex. Aug 29, 2022. <https://www.ktng.com/ktngNewsView?cmsCd=CM0019&typeCd=&ntNo=1334&src=&srcTemp=>

²⁹ Hyeonyoun Park. KT&G converts 1,200 eco-friendly vehicles for business use by 2030. Apr 15, 2021. <https://www.sedaily.com/NewsView/22L3DZ1OFQ>

	0	1	2	3	4	5
There were no reports on this issue						
INDICATOR 5: Transparency						
11. The government does not publicly disclose meetings/ interactions with the tobacco industry in cases where such interactions are strictly necessary for regulation. (Rec 2.2)						5
The government does not disclose meetings and interactions with the tobacco industry to the public.						
12. The government requires rules for the disclosure or registration of tobacco industry entities, affiliated organizations, and individuals acting on their behalf including lobbyists (Rec 5.3)						5
No rules exist currently for the disclosure or registration of tobacco industry entities , affiliates and those acting on its behalf.						
INDICATOR 6: Conflict of Interest						
13. The government does not prohibit contributions from the tobacco industry or any entity working to further its interests to political parties, candidates, or campaigns or to require full disclosure of such contributions. (Rec 4.11) / Never 5 Yes						5
The government does not prohibit contributions from the tobacco industry or any entity working to further its interest.						
The Korean National Pension Service owns 7.77% (10,361,273 shares) in KT&G ³⁰						
14. Retired senior government officials form part of the tobacco industry (former Prime Minister, Minister, Attorney General) (Rec 4.4)	0					
There is no incidents of former senior government officials joining the tobacco industry after their retirement.						
15. <u>Current government officials</u> and relatives hold positions in the tobacco business including consultancy positions. (Rec 4.5, 4.8, 4.10)	0					
Based on the Code of Conduct for Public Officials, it is not possible that current government officials can hold positions in other business ³¹ .						
INDICATOR 7: Preventive Measures						
16. The government has put in place a procedure for disclosing the records of the interaction (such as agenda, attendees, minutes and outcome) with the tobacco industry and its representatives. (Rec 5.1)						5
There is no such system in Korea to disclose records of interaction with the tobacco industry.						

³⁰ KT&G Corporation and Its Subsidiaries. Interim Consolidated Financial Statements. Jun 2022 <https://en.ktng.com>

³¹ Ministry of Government Legislation. Code of Conduct for Public Officials. <http://www.law.go.kr/lsInfoP.do?lsiSeq=186698&efYd=20160928#0000>

	0	1	2	3	4	5
17. The government has formulated, adopted or implemented a code of conduct for public officials, prescribing the standards with which they should comply in their dealings with the tobacco industry. (Rec 4.2); <i>1 for whole of government code; 2 for Yes but partial if only MOH</i>					4	
<p>In accordance with Code of Conduct for Public Officials (Presidential Decree), it addresses the government officials' conduct in general. It prohibits officer to receive all sorts of treats from any individual or organization that will get advantages or disadvantages as a direct result of decision or implementation of government policies or public projects (defined in Article 2.1(g)) as well as encourages impartially performing their tasks³².</p> <p>According to the government report submitted to the COP, everyone involved or engaged in tobacco control related projects, researches, policy development, etc. is asked to certify his/her conflict of interest with tobacco industry. Especially for a person who may affect directly/indirectly tobacco-related decision making, such as a member of Tobacco Health Warnings Committee, should sign the Conflict of Interest Statement.</p>						
18. The government requires the tobacco industry to periodically submit information on tobacco production, manufacture, market share, marketing expenditures, revenues and any other activity, including lobbying, philanthropy, political contributions and all other activities. (5.2)						5
<p>The government has some information on production, manufacture, market share, etc., based on Tobacco Business Act. However the public has no access to this information. The industry is not required to submit information on marketing expenditure, philanthropy or other contributions.</p>						
19. The government has a program / system/ plan to consistently ³³ raise awareness within its departments on policies relating to FCTC Article 5.3 Guidelines. (Rec 1.1, 1.2)						5
<p>There is no such system in Korea.</p>						
20. The government has put in place a policy to disallow the acceptance of all forms of contributions/ gifts from the tobacco industry (monetary or otherwise) including offers of assistance, policy drafts, or study visit invitations given or offered to the government, its agencies, officials and their relatives. (3.4)						5
<p>There is no such system in Korea.</p>						
TOTAL SCORE					60	

³² Ministry of Government Legislation. Code of Conduct for Public Officials.

<http://www.law.go.kr/lsInfoP.do?lsiSeq=186698&efYd=20160928#00000>

³³ For purposes of this question, "consistently" means: a. Each time the FCTC is discussed, 5.3 is explained. AND b. Whenever the opportunity arises such when the tobacco industry intervention is discovered or reported.

Annex A: Sources of Information

	TOP TOBACCO COMPANIES/ DISTRIBUTORS	MARKET SHARE	BRANDS	SOURCE
1	KT&G	65.2%	Essex, Rason, lil,	https://www.ktng.com/
2	Philip Morris Korea	13.8%	Marlboro, Parament, IQOS	https://www.pmi.com/markets/korea/ko/about-us
3	British American Tobacco Rothmans	12.5%	Dunhil, Glo	-
4	Japan Tobacco International Korea	8.3%	Mevius	https://www.jti.com/ko/asia/korea
5	Others	0.2%	Others	-

	TOP MEDIA/ NEWSPAPERS	URL
1	The Korea Times	https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www2/index.asp
2	Seoul Economy	https://www.sedaily.com/
3	Segyeilbo	https://www.segye.com/
4	HankokKyungje	https://www.hankyung.com/
5	The Korea Herald	https://www.koreaherald.com/
6	Chosunilbo	https://www.chosun.com/
7	Dongailbo	https://www.donga.com/
8	Hankyoreh	https://www.hani.co.kr/
9	Joongangilbo	https://www.joongang.co.kr/
10	Munhwaibo	https://www.munhwa.com/

	MAIN TOBACCO INDUSTRY ALLIES/ FRONT GROUPS	TYPE (FRONT GROUP, LOBBY GROUP, INDIVIDUAL)	SOURCE
1	I Love Smoking	Individual	https://www.facebook.com/ilovesmoking2001
2	Smoking Human Rights Solidarity	Individual	https://blog.naver.com/bagsl33