

# Senegal

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## Summary of Findings

### 1. Industry participation in policy development

The government rejects the tobacco industry's offer of assistance and support in defining or implementing public health policy, particularly in tobacco control.

### 2. Industry CSR activities

In 2020, the Mauritanian businessman Mohamed Ould Bouamatou, an importer of cigarettes, released 1 billion CFA francs (US \$1.6 million) to Senegal as part of the Force COVID-19 fund set up by President Macky Sall to address the epidemic.

### 3. Benefits to the industry

Due to political stability and an investment code designed to attract foreign investors, the tobacco industry as a firm has been granted the same favorable conditions to set up in Senegal.

However, under articles 410 and 433 of the General Tax Code (CGI), the tobacco industry benefits from exemption from taxes specific to exports and resales of raw tobacco, smoking tobacco, chew tobacco or snuff, cigars, cigarettes and other tobacco that has actually supported the specific tax in Senegal on the following bases: tobacco received in bulk, in manques or leaves when intended for use in Senegal for production of cigars, cigarillos, cigarettes, smoking tobacco and other tobacco, especially chewable or snuff.

### 4. Unnecessary interaction

The tobacco industry is a member of the Senegalese National Employers' Organization. As such, there are some administrative interactions

but no evidence of this with several sectors of the government, including the Ministries of Economy and Finance, Industry and Trade, etc. There is no evidence of unnecessary interactions of the tobacco industry with the public authorities.

### 5. Transparency

In 2017, the tobacco industry asked for a six-month delay in placing health warnings on cigarette packages sold in Senegal, contrary to the provisions of the tobacco control law. Through negotiations that respected the rules of transparency, a conflict was prevented and the problem was resolved.

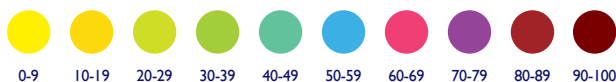
Senegal does not have a code of conduct for government officials vis-à-vis the tobacco industry, least of all a law regulating the relationship between officials and the tobacco industry.

### 6. Conflict of interest

Naturally, there is a conflict of interest between the State of Senegal, responsible for the health of the population, and the tobacco industry, enemy of public health. By signing the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), Senegal has laws and regulations to prevent and manage conflicts of interest with the tobacco industry. There is no tangible evidence of conflict of interest between government agencies and the tobacco industry.

### 7. Preventive measures

The anti-smoking law 2014 -14 of March 28, relating to the manufacture, packaging, labeling, sale and use of tobacco and anti-smoking regimes of Senegal, contains effective preventive measures against the smoking epidemic.



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To strengthen transparency, Senegal should make public the information related to the interactions of the authorities with the tobacco industry in accordance with the WHO FCTC Article 5.3. ”

## Recommendations

**In order to accelerate the implementation of the World Health Organization (WHO) FCTC in Senegal, the following recommendations are made:**

1. Legislate to make access to information mandatory for all citizens, without any form of restriction.
2. Make public the information related to the interactions of public authorities with the tobacco industry in accordance with the WHO FCTC.
3. Develop a regulatory text for interactions between relevant government officials and the tobacco industry.
4. Sensitize the government's sectoral ministries (Ministries of Economy and Finance, Trade and Industry) to update their websites to facilitate access to information and ensure informational transparency.