

Iran

Overall score:

30

I. Industry participation in policy development:

The National Tobacco Control law and its bylaws prohibit any support from tobacco manufacturers to tobacco control programs. Hence the tobacco industry cannot participate in tobacco control policy development.

The tobacco industry was not included in the government delegations to FCTC related meetings.

II. Tobacco industry-related CSR activities:

The law bans tobacco related corporate social responsibility activities and there are no instances of any CSR activities.

III. Benefits given to the tobacco industry:

The government has not given any benefit to the tobacco industry to expand its business. In fact, imported tobacco is taxed higher and costs more than local tobacco products.

IV. Unnecessary interaction with the tobacco industry:

Top level government officials do not attend any tobacco related functions nor foster any relationship with the tobacco industry.

V. Procedure for transparency measures:

The Center for Tobacco Planning and Supervision has plans to increase the area under tobacco cultivation. It is not stated how often the Center has to submit reports to its governing body. The Center does not have a procedure for meeting with the tobacco companies and these reports are not made available to the tobacco control committee.

VI. Avoiding conflicts of interest:

Although no government officials hold any office in the tobacco industry, a former head of a tobacco company has been appointed to a senior officer position in the Ministry of industry.

VII. Preventive measures:

There is no permit given to the tobacco industry to attend or engage in any interaction with government officials.

Article 5 of the National Tobacco Control Law and its bylaws bans any support of tobacco manufacturers to tobacco control programs. None of the representatives of national tobacco company are allowed to attend in tobacco control policy making sessions. Article 20 of the National Tobacco Control Law states "It is the responsibility of the Committee to keep the Professional Commission of the Parliament informed of the annual revenues derived from production and imports of cigarettes and tobacco products."

The government has put in place a policy to disallow the acceptance of all forms of contributions/ gifts from the tobacco industry.



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Recommendations

1. Government must expedite the adoption of a code of conduct for all government officials in dealing with the tobacco industry.
2. There must be a registry to provide a record of representatives of the tobacco industry.