

Senegal



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

1. Industry Participation in Policy Development

No evidence was found of any collaboration or support involving the tobacco industry (TI) in the adoption of laws or decrees, nor in partnerships related to defining public health policy.

2. Industry CSR Activities

Since 2009, the government has not participated in or endorsed the TI's corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities. To strengthen CSR governance, the government, through Law 2021, 2815-2021, introduced legal provisions regulating CSR activities. The ministry responsible for the social economy is tasked with developing and implementing a national CSR promotion strategy in collaboration with relevant ministries. Under this framework, each ministry must also design and execute its own sectoral strategy in coordination with local authorities.

3. Benefits to the Industry

An Investment Code was established to attract foreign investors. The TI, as a business, has benefited from the same favorable conditions for establishing operations in Senegal. As such, the industry enjoys exemptions from specific import taxes on tobacco.

4. Unnecessary Interaction

There was no evidence of unnecessary interaction between the TI and public authorities during the survey period.

5. Transparency

The government does not publicly disclose meetings or interactions with the TI in cases where such interactions take place. The government has not yet put in place rules to obligate the TI to provide information relating to the registration of their entities or front groups.

6. Conflict of Interest

There is no evidence that senior civil servants, such as a former Prime Minister, former Ministers, or department heads, work for any tobacco companies in Senegal. There is also no evidence that civil servants or their relatives in positions to play a role in the elaboration and implementation of public health policies concerning tobacco control have declared any current or previous work in TI entities, including consultancy positions.

7. Preventive Measures

Currently, there is no procedure for disclosing documents relating to interactions with the TI in Senegal. The government has not yet drawn up, adopted, or implemented a code of conduct for public officials. There is no evidence of a regulatory text requiring the TI to periodically provide information on its activities.



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Make information about the TI accessible for all citizens without restriction, in accordance with Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC and its guidelines.
2. Sensitize sectoral ministries of government (e.g., Economy and Finance, Trade and Industry) to update their websites to facilitate access to information about the TI and ensure transparency.
3. Develop a code of conduct for public officials in dealing with the TI.
4. Advocate with authorities and community actors on the TI's interference and tactics that undermine tobacco control policies.
5. Produce periodic reports on monitoring the TI and share them with relevant ministries and the public.
6. Collect scientific information necessary for understanding new tobacco products.
7. Protect tobacco control policies and activities from commercial interests related to new tobacco products in accordance with Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC.