

Tobacco Industry Interference Index in Jordan

Country Status implementation of the World Health Organization
Framework Convention on Tobacco Control Article 5.3.



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About Framework Convention Alliance (FCA):

Framework Convention Alliance (FCA) represents the civil society voice, was created in 1999 and formally established in 2003. It is made up of nearly 500 organizations from over 100 countries. FCA works on the development, ratification and implementation of the international treaty, the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC). The WHO FCTC is the world's first modern-day global public health treaty. It requires Parties to the treaty (countries) to adopt a comprehensive range of measures designed to reduce the devastating health and economic impacts of tobacco. FCA is also a leading advocate for including the FCTC and global tobacco control in the international health and development framework, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that were adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015.

For more information, visit: <https://www.fctc.org/>

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INTRODUCTION:

About WHO FCTC Article 5.3

The World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) is a legally-binding international treaty that establishes universal standards of controlling tobacco and limiting its use in all forms worldwide. The WHO FCTC Article 5.3 developed and approved by WHO FCTC signed Parties (181 countries) with a guideline for implementations to assist countries with reaching legal obligations ensuring the protection of tobacco control efforts, from tobacco industry interest and its activities. This article is the backbone of the treaty; the treaty cannot succeed if industry interference is not rooted out.

Under this article parties (181 countries) should exclude tobacco companies and do not include them as «stakeholders» while drawing their public health policy, as there is a conflict between the interests of public health policy and tobacco industry interest. WHO FCTC Article 5.3 establishes that, in setting and implementing their public health policies with respect to tobacco control, Parties (181 countries) shall act to protect these policies from commercial and other vested interests of the tobacco industry. Parties (181 countries) of the WHO FCTC have agreed that there is a fundamental and irreconcilable conflict between the tobacco industry's interests and public health policy interests.

This conflict principle based on the fact that, tobacco contributes and causes deaths, diseases and have other negative impacts on many other levels e.g. social, environmental and economic. Countries should not invest in tobacco industry nor collaborate with them to promote or address public health, or accept any form of assistance including schemed marketing tool «corporate social responsibility». Because Tobacco product is lethal, the tobacco industry should not be giving any incentives to establish or run its businesses.

For more information, visit:

https://www.who.int/tobacco/wntd/2012/article_5_3_fctc/en/ or https://www.who.int/fctc/guidelines/adopted/article_5_3/ar/

About Tobacco Industry Interference Index (TIII)

The Tobacco Industry (TI) Interference Index is a civil society report assessing the implementation of FCTC Article 5.3. This is an initiative from the South Asia Tobacco Alliance (SEATCA) and the WHO FCTC Knowledge Hub on Art.5.3.

For more information, visit:

<https://seatca.org/?p=6221> and <https://untobaccocontrol.org/kh/article-53/>

Limitations of this report

This report is based on information available on the public domain (news, articles, social media, etc.) and interviews with different stakeholders in Jordan. Potential limitations include limited access to confidential information on interaction between Government and tobacco industry, limited access to undisclosed contributions of tobacco industry to governmental employees and government activities, limited access to information on parliamentarians or governmental officials' investments in tobacco industry.

“The days when tobacco industry representatives could offer self-serving advice and influence policy-makers by providing resources are coming to an end. But we have to put the nails in the tobacco industry’s coffin and ensure that its interference is ended”

- Vera da Costa e Silva, Head of WHO FCTC Secretariat

2018 Jordan Status on the Implementation of WHO FCTC Article 5.3

1. Background

The tobacco epidemic is on the rise in Jordan and defined as a public health emergency by the United Nations (United Nations, 2018). Prevalence of tobacco smoking among adult males is estimated at 70.2% (Drope J, 2018; World Health Organization, 2019), which is the highest in the Eastern Mediterranean Region and the second highest in the world after Indonesia. Additionally, the prevalence is also high among youths aged 13-15; 45% have ever tried to consume tobacco products (Ministry of Health, 2014a). This is also the highest prevalence in the region among youth (Arrazola et al., 2017). Tobacco consumption also affects second-hand smokers, with 68% of adults (Ministry of Health, 2007) and 62% of youth (Ministry of Health, 2014a) exposed to second-hand tobacco smoking. Tobacco also harms the environment with cigarette butts, which are the most commonly discarded solid waste worldwide (Healton, Cummings, O'Connor, & Novotny, 2011).

In Jordan, there are two main forms of tobacco consumptions; cigarettes and water pipes (Jawad, Lee, & Millett, 2016; Ministry of Health, 2007). Although cigarettes are still the most commonly used form of tobacco, the rise in numbers of water pipe consumers are alarming (Jawad, Lee, et al., 2016). This fact is noticeable in the rising number of female (Jawad, Abdulrahim, & Daouk, 2016) and youth water pipe smokers in Jordan (Jawad & Roderick, 2017; Ministry of Health, 2014a), as it is a practice considered to be more culturally acceptable (Jawad, Abdulrahim, et al., 2016; Jawad, Lee, et al., 2016; Jawad & Roderick, 2017). In addition, a water pipe session (45 minutes to 1 hour) (Waziry, Jawad, Ballout, Al Akel, & Akl, 2017) exposes the smoker to an equivalent harm of smoking 60-200 cigarettes (Ali & Jawad, 2017; Bou Fakhreddine, Kanj, & Kanj, 2014; Masters, Tutt, & Yaseen, 2012).

In 2004, Jordan ratified the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (United Nations Treaty Collection, 2019), a legally binding international treaty signed by the Prime Minister and approved by His Majesty King Abdullah II. Following Jordan's ratification, the country made great progress in developing its first Tobacco Control Law as a part of Public Health Law 47 (Ministry of Health, 2008). This law was endorsed in 2008 with further amendments in 2017.

Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC calls on Parties to establish formal mechanisms to protect against tobacco industry influence with tobacco control policies (World Health Organization, 2003). Jordan, despite being one of the first countries in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region to ratify the WHO FCTC (United Nations Treaty Collection, 2019), has experienced continual interference from the tobacco industry. The tobacco industry has been pushing back against the implementation of tobacco control laws for decades (World Health Organization, 2013). Additionally, by engaging in so-called corporate social responsibility activities, tobacco companies aim to enhance their image with the public, media, and even government, further undermining effective tobacco control (World Health Organization, 2013).

2. Tobacco industry profile

Presently, there are five major tobacco companies operating in Jordan, with the International Tobacco and Cigarette Company (ITCC), Union Tobacco, PMI, BAT and JTI. Although cigarettes were initially produced principally for domestic consumption, the Jordan tobacco industry now produces cigarettes for export to markets in the region (Euromonitor International, 2018).

The tobacco industry (TI) has impeded the passage and enforcement of tobacco control legislation in Jordan in the past (M. o. H. World Health Organization, 2015). For example, recent efforts to raise taxes on tobacco products were offset by the tobacco industry when they initiated a 25% cigarette price reduction in early 2013 (M. o. H. World Health Organization, 2015). Tobacco companies asserted that the reduction was an attempt to decrease cigarette smuggling; however, the net effect was to reduce the impact of higher taxes, keeping cigarettes affordable (M. o. H. World Health Organization, 2015).

The tobacco industry in Jordan has also engaged in so-called corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities to enhance its image with the public, media, and government (World Health Organization, 2013). These activities have included

funding educational programs, community development initiatives, and others. The evidence indicates that the tobacco industry consistently opposes tobacco control efforts to improve public health (World Health Organization, 2013).

Another example is the availability of waterpipes in restaurants and cafes, with delivery services in the country, which hinders the implementation of the smoke-free public places law. After 8 years of declaring hotels, malls, restaurants and cafes as public places, the vast majority still allow smoking indoors, claiming that serving shisha is their core business. Penalties given to such business are being closely controlled by a committee composed, among other institutions, of the Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Health, and Jordan Restaurant Association, which protects the interests of the above businesses (Ministry of Tourism, 2015). Based on this committee's rule, decisions on inspections and penalties given to any touristic establishment must be agreed to by all members of the committee (Ministry of Tourism, 2015).

3. Legislative overview

In Jordan, many laws address tobacco control legislation, mainly, Public Health Law 47/2008 (Ministry of Health, 2008). The law addresses smoke-free places, tobacco advertising and promotion ban, tobacco products display, and provides sanctions to violations.

Other regulations that address tobacco control are under the Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization (JSMO) which regulates pictorial health warnings (PHW), tobacco specifications, packaging and labeling (Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization, 2000). Jordanian Standard 466/2012 technical regulation addresses cigarettes' packaging and labeling (Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization, 2012a), and Jordan Standard 787/2014 technical regulation addresses water pipe content (molasses) and its specifications (Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization, 2014a). Other laws that address tobacco control include the Traffic Law of 2008 that prohibits smoking while driving (Ministry of Interior, 2008) and Juvenile Conduct Law (2006) that prohibits the sale of tobacco to minors (Ministry of Interior, 2006).

The tobacco advertising and promotion sections of the Public Health Law 47/2008 are largely comprehensive, except it does not address sponsorship, nor cover tobacco products point of sale display (Ministry of Health, 2008). The point of sale display is regulated by the Tobacco Products Display Regulations of 2013 (amended in 2015) (Ministry of Health, 2013), and excludes tobacco shops from most of the regulations (Ministry of Health, 2013). Tourism Law interacts with Public Health Law 47/2008; as it disbanded all previous committees, however, the Ministry of Tourism has taken advantage of this law by limiting inspections to touristic establishments, which is conducted by the Joint Committee of the Ministry of Tourism (Ministry of Tourism, 2015; Ministry of Trade Industry and Supply, 2017).

Jordan is facing multiple violations of the law on a regular basis; including tobacco being sold to minors (Ministry of Health, 2014a), smoking in public places, shisha served in restaurants and cafes, and tobacco advertisements, promotions and sponsorships, among others. This creates a fertile soil for cultural acceptance of tobacco related violations as a part of daily norms. Consequentially, sensitizing the public to Public Health law 47 and having police officers and inspectors investigating tobacco related violations is the first step to counter the current crisis being faced.

4. Tobacco Industry Interference

The tobacco industry lobby and conflict of interest is significant in the country, directly influencing many key decisions affecting the country, and supported by its front groups. Having high-level governmental officials who own shares in the industry or own establishments that serve shisha is a hindrance that contributes to the slow implementation of the smoke-free Public Places Law (Khaberni.com, 2014). Unnecessary interaction is also noted with governmental officials attending ceremonies and events hosted by the industry or their front groups.

Industry interference is mainly due to the fact that ministers and parliamentarians own shares in various tobacco related companies/factories (Jarasanews.com, 2014; Jordan Restaurant Association, 2019a; Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2019a). This direct conflict of interest deprives Jordan of the political will to elicit the change and the full implementation and enforcement of FCTC (Sarayanews.com, 2012).

The tobacco industry has been active throughout the years conducting direct and indirect lobbying through participation with Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization (JSMO), which is the committee on tobacco standards and regulations (Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization, 2012b; Ministry of Health, 2014b), thus reflecting on ministers and parliamentarians to push for more tobacco friendly policies (Jarasanews.com, 2014; Jordan Restaurant Association, 2017; Khaberni.com, 2014; Maraq.com, 2014; Sarayanews.com, 2018b).

The industry is also working with local authorities, communities and NGOs to gain the support from surrounding communities to support locating their factories and manufacturing sites there (Addustour, 2017; garaanews.com, 2018; Petra Governmental News, 2017). Through CSR activities, the industry is supporting orphans, schools, repairing infrastructure and offering financial support to win public approval and increase its profile (Addustour, 2017; garaanews.com, 2018; Petra Governmental News, 2017).

The challenge lies in the partners of these CSR activities, such as NGOs associated with the Royal family, ministries, and police, among others (Addustour, 2017; Al-Eqbal Investment Company, 2017; Jordanian Renewable Energy Society, 2019; Petra Governmental News, 2017). The tobacco industry utilises the high standing of these organizations to apply pressure at all levels of the government (top to bottom), in a way that can hinder FCTC full implementation and enforcement.

Another challenge is the direct contact the tobacco industry has with different key ministries in the country (e.g. finance, industry and trade) (Albalad News, 2011; Ammon News, 2014; Jafra News, 2017). These governmental institutions play a crucial role in the country, with many decisions that can influence the implementation of tobacco control measures.

5. Front Groups

The tobacco industry has many front groups lobbying against the tobacco control agenda. The government is aware of some of them; however, the majority are not obvious or remain undisclosed. Their influence and participation has a deleterious effect on the implementation of the law, which has led to an increase in tobacco use (shisha in particular) (Ministry of Health, 2011a, 2011b, 2018b).

The most well-known front group is the Jordan Restaurant Association (JRA). This NGO, responsible for documenting and facilitating the work of touristic establishments that serve food or drinks, has participated in different meetings, committees and events that are related to tobacco control (Jordan Restaurant Association, 2017; Ministry of Health, 2011a, 2018b). The association, given their interests in shisha and tobacco consumption, has been the primary antagonist to the efforts of the MOH and NGOs to implement the law through the establishment of indoor designated smoking areas in cafes and restaurants (Jordan Restaurant Association, 2017; Ministry of Health, 2011a; PKF ProGroup, 2009; Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2019a; Rum Online, 2010).

Under the umbrella of Ministry of Tourism (MOT), JRA has formulated a joint committee responsible for inspecting touristic establishments (Ministry of Tourism, 2015, 2017). Upon amending Public Health Law 47, they pushed for a Tourism Law amendment to restrict inspections of touristic establishments to the Joint Committee (Ministry of Tourism, 2017). After adoption of the Inspection Law, the committee was reformulated under its wing (Ministry of Trade Industry and Supply, 2017).

The front groups have been vocal since the adoption of Public Health law 47 in 2008. They have been calling for extensions multiple times, and successfully lobbied to give new licenses for shisha places on multiple occasions. The result is massive, with more than 700 shisha places (touristic and non-touristic) licensed in the country (Jordan Restaurant Association, 2017). This number is even higher as most of the businesses that sell shisha do not have a licence.

6. Objective

The objective of this report is to perform a comprehensive summary and assessment of tobacco industry interference in Jordan, using the index developed by the Southeast Asia Tobacco Control Alliance (Kolandai, 2018).

The index represents a tool used in Asia to assess governmental response to the tobacco industry's interference, and their efforts to implement Article 5.3 guidelines in improving national tobacco control, according to the WHO FCTC treaty (Kolandai, 2018).

7. Summary findings of the index

a. Industry participation in policy development

Tobacco companies sit in Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization (JSMO) Committee for tobacco products' packaging and labelling specification issues (Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization, 2012b; Ministry of Health, 2014b). They also have, through their front groups, interfered with smoke-free public places law (Art.8) implementation by proposing amendments on separation regulations and tobacco display (Ministry of Health, 2011b), fighting for inclusion of ministries that will support their interest, such as the Ministry of Tourism (Ministry of Tourism, 2015, 2017), and have successfully lobbied to be part of the committee that inspects Public Health Law implementation through the joint committee of Ministry of Tourism (Ministry of Tourism, 2015).

They also are included through their front groups in the National Joint Committee of the Government of Jordan that decides on Tobacco Control and FCTC implementation across the government (Ministry of Health, 2018b).

b. Industry related Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Activities

The four top tobacco companies operating in Jordan are Phillip Morris International (PMI), Union Tobacco International, Japan tobacco International and British American Tobacco.

These Companies in Jordan supported many initiatives by giving donations, supporting training activities, or provide funds for many programs (Addustour, 2014, 2016; Department of Statistics, 2016; pmi.com, 2019).

The Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Naour Municipality, National Police, Parliamentarians and other governmental agencies have endorsed CSR activities of PMI (Addustour, 2014, 2016, 2017; Petra Governmental News, 2017).

According to Department of Statistics (DOS), tobacco industry spent 273,000 JOD in donations and sponsorship in 2015 (Department of Statistics, 2016). However, no more recent report exist.

c. Benefits given to the Tobacco industry by the government

According to the Ministry of Health official interviewed, tobacco companies were granted an extended period for implementations of many laws, e.g implementation of the pictorial health warning; tobacco industry were granted a period of six months before implementing the new pictorial warnings on cigarette packs (Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization, 2012c, 2014b).

In addition, the government postponed the implementation of the public health law 47 due to the lobbying of industry front groups. Rather than implementing smoke-free public places law, especially in restaurants, cafes and hotels, they allowed them to establish designated smoking areas as a transition phase towards a full implementation (Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2017). This "transition phase" approach which started in 2010 still continues leading to a confusion among the public, and creates resistance of smoke-free implementation due to a costly separation and ventilation investments. Recently, the government is considering to re-allow cultivation of tobacco in the country and formed a committee to study the feasibility (Sarayanews.com, 2018b).

d. Forms of unnecessary interactions

According to interviewed officials, there are no meetings or participation from the Ruling Monarchy with the tobacco industry. However, there has been signs of support to many youth prevention programs executed by NGOs run by royal family members (Addustour, 2017; pmi.com, 2019).

Signed agreements between tobacco companies and government agencies are documented; Customs Department with Phillip Morris international conducted an anti-smuggling training program for in 2014 (Addustour, 2014) and 2016 (Addustour, 2016).

It is also documented that previous Prime Ministers had meetings with tobacco industry, front groups or parliamentarians/ministers who own shares in the industry and expressed a pro-tobacco policy as a follow up to these meetings (Jarasanews.com, 2014; Maraq.com, 2014; Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2019b; Rum Online, 2010, 2019).

e. Transparency

The government does not disclose outcome of its meetings or interactions with tobacco companies or their allies such as front groups. The government have no rules defining the level of interaction with the industry or their front groups. However, as part of the Code of Conduct, ministers (Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2018) and public workers (Ministry of Public Sector Development, 2013) have to disclose conflicting interest or previous work with the tobacco industry. This code of conduct does not apply to the Parliament (House of Representatives of Jordan, 2015).

f. Conflict of Interests

According to the received answers, the government has no shares in tobacco companies, but some of the house of representative members and ministers noted to have shares in tobacco companies or own restaurants that serves tobacco products (Maraq.com, 2014). It is also documented that previous Prime Ministers had meetings with tobacco industry, front groups or parliamentarians/ministers who own shares in the industry and expressed a pro-tobacco policy as a follow up to these meetings (Jarasanews.com, 2014; Maraq.com, 2014; Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2019b; Rum Online, 2010, 2019). Previous ministers who worked in the industry or their front groups have been appointed into positions that have a direct conflict of interest such as Ministry of Tourism who is involved in the law enforcement and sanctions of violations (Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2019a).

g. Preventive Measures

According to Ministry of Health, there is information circular shared among governmental agencies prohibiting interaction with the tobacco industry and receiving any form of support or donations or attending any of their sponsored activities (Ministry of Health, 2017, 2018a).

To reduce shisha consumption, no new licenses were issued to cafes and restaurants as of 2017 (Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2017).

8. Conclusions and Recommendations

Since the ratification of the FCTC treaty in 2004 Jordan has shown evidence of some regulation of tobacco companies interactions, however, the index score shows that the level of industry interference is high.

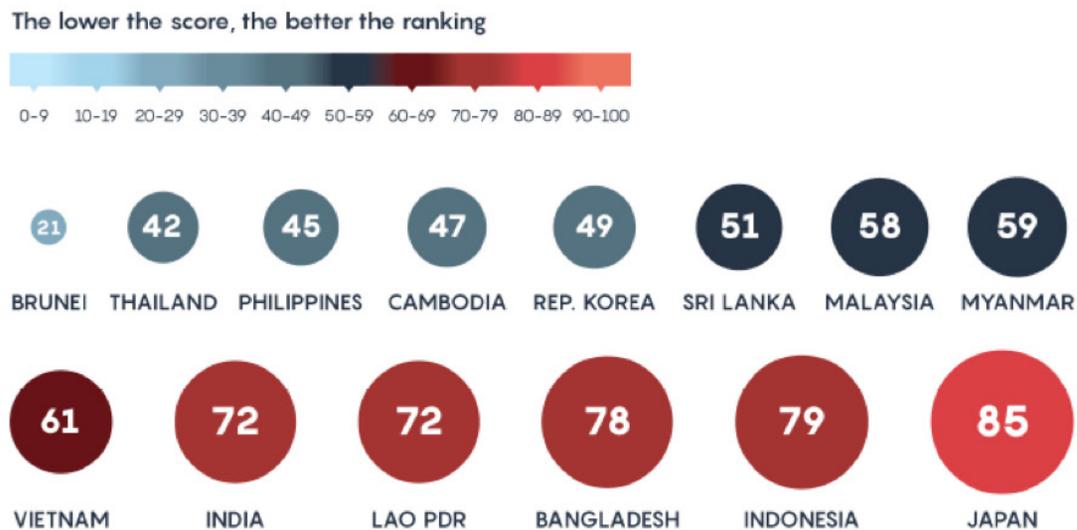
The main causes for the industry and their front groups influence are the lack of laws or regulations that:

- Prohibit accepting support and sponsorship to various projects and causes from tobacco industry through CSR activities.
- Provide transparency.
- Limit their interaction with governmental employees.
- Forces employees to disclose all meetings and necessary interactions with the industry.
- Prohibit all governmental representatives from accepting gifts/support from the industry.
- Prohibit tobacco industry from participation in policy level decisions.
- Prohibits government representatives from endorsing/supporting tobacco industry initiatives.

When tobacco industry interference in Jordan is compared with other countries, the score is the same as Indonesia, and no other country has a higher score than that except for Japan (Kolandai, 2018).

It is hoped the alarming findings in this index will initiate action to implement Article 5.3.

FIGURE 1: TOBACCO INDUSTRY INTERFERENCE INDEX IN ASIAN COUNTRIES



In addition, more attention needs to be given to raising awareness among different ministries other than MOH on FCTC treaty and article 5.3 in specific. There is clear evidence of the need to develop the necessary laws and regulations among all governmental institutions.

In general, we should promote the following (non-exhaustive list):

- To not provide “investments benefits” to tobacco industry, as recommended in Article 5.3 guidelines, since tobacco is a harmful product and should be excluded from the benefits given to other sectors.
- Certain governmental institutions are prone to having more interaction with the industry such as, Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization (JSMO) not to include tobacco industry members in their committees, and other ministries to not work with tobacco industry front groups and therefore should have strong regulations in place.
- The Public health law 47 needs review and amendments to tackle the previously highlighted challenges.
- Gaining political support is crucial to initiate the changes needed, which will require presenting evidence to support implementation of Article 5.3 guidelines, advocacy to obtain grassroots support.
- Banning sponsorship and CSR activities of the industry.

The previously mentioned highlights the large gaps that the government needs to work on with the support of civil society to advocate for law amendments that will close these gaps and support a transparent interaction. Sanctions should be included as well to give more power to that law and facilitate the enforcement.

QUESTIONNAIRE

COUNTRY: JORDAN

INDICATORS	0	1	2	3	4	5
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 ² in setting or implementing public health policies in relation to tobacco control ³ (Rec 3.1)						X
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2017, the parliament removed sanctions on selling/buying illicit trade products from Public Health Law 47 (House of Representatives of Jordan, 2017). • JTI has sent an official letter to Ministry of Health asking to not impose restrictions on point of sale display (Japan Tobacco International, 2014). • Jordan Restaurant Association (JRA), a TI front group, has participated in policy development and have a board seat in Ministry of Tourism (Ministry of Health, 2011a, 2011b; Ministry of Tourism, 2017). • JRA was part of the committee drafting Public Health law regulations for restaurants and cafés separations between smoking and smoke-free areas (Ministry of Health, 2011a, 2011b). • JRA is, until now, a member of National Multi-sectorial Committee that discusses Tobacco Control Policies at the governmental level (Ministry of Health, 2018b). • JRA is a member of the Joint Committee of Ministry of Tourism that inspects touristic establishments on Public Health Law 47 implementation (Ministry of Tourism, 2015). • JRA is part of Ministry of Tourism board (board responsible for voting on law amendments before sending it to the minister) that drafted the law on inspection of touristic establishments forbidding any public health law inspection without JRA and MOT being present (Jordan Restaurant Association, 2019b; Ministry of Tourism, 2017). • MOH and Greater Amman Municipality have worked together with JRA to implement the law and to have received their support to reach the restaurants' owners (Jordan Restaurant Association, 2017). • Tobacco industries are part of JSMO committee that decides on pictorial health warnings (Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization, 2012b; Ministry of Health, 2014b). 						

¹The 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.

²The 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.

INDICATORS	0	1	2	3	4	5
2. The government accepts, supports or endorses <u>policies or legislation drafted by or in collaboration with the tobacco industry.</u> (Rec 3.4)					X	
They have accepted drafts by the industry and allow the industry to participate in multiple decision-making committees. See point 1.						
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) 1 Never 5 Yes.						X
Evidence to support your choice. If this is by law, cite the relevant legislation - tobacco industries are part of JSMO committee that decides on pictorial health warnings. See point 1 - JRA is part of Ministry of Tourism (MOT) board that drafted the law on inspection of touristic establishments forbidding any public health law inspection without JRA and MOT being present. See point 1.						
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) ⁴ (Rec 4.9 & 8.3)		X				
For evidence: http://www.who.int/fctc/en/ click on “Conference of the Parties”, “COP Sessions”, select relevant COP, click “Documentation”, “List of Participants”						
So-called CSR activities						
5. A. The government agencies or its officials endorses supports, forms partnerships with or participates in so-called CSR activities organized by the X tobacco industry. (Rec 6.2)						X

⁴Please annex a list since 2009 so that the respondent can quantify the frequency, <http://www.who.int/fctc/cop/en/>

INDICATORS	0	1	2	3	4	5
B. The government (its agencies and officials) receives contributions ⁵ (monetary or otherwise) from the tobacco industry (including so-called CSR contributions). (Rec 6.4).						X
NOTE: exclude enforcement activities as this is covered in another question.						X
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Education and Naour Municipality (region of Amman) have made a partnership with Philip Morris to fix the infrastructure of ten schools, provide free bags for Naour students in 25 schools, free education classes for high schools students. This event was celebrated to award graduates and beneficiaries from its capacity-building program under the patronage of HE Minister of Labour, and was attended by deputy Mayor of Naour, Parliament members, and police forces (Petra Governmental News, 2017). • According to Department of Statistics (DOS), tobacco industry spent 273,000 JOD in donations and sponsorship in 2015 (Department of Statistics, 2016). Additionally, Philip Morris in a press release, they claim to have provided 600,000\$ over 5 years to provide for the needs of Naour and neighbouring areas (garaanews.com, 2018) • Taxation department employees aim to transfer to tobacco and alcohol industry monitoring departments due to the benefits they receive from the industry (Alrai Newspaper, 2016). 						
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)						X
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tobacco companies were granted an extended period for implementations many laws (e.g; tobacco industry were granted a period of more than six month before implementing the new pictorial warning on cigarette packs (Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization, 2012c). 						

INDICATORS	0	1	2	3	4	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition, the government postponed the implementation of the public health law 47 and gave the restaurant six month for implementation smoke free areas by establishing indoor smoking areas (Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2017). • The extended period was given and documented for more than three extended periods after they submitted a request, using different excuses for extension the period since 2015. • Recently, Restaurants, cafes and hotels have been given by MoH another extension for implementations. • The minister of health called for stopping issuing new shisha licenses in 2010 by considering restaurants and cafes as smoke-free areas (Ministry of health, 2010), but extensions were given to them until the Prime Minister decision in 2017 (Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2017). 						
7. The government gives privileges, incentives, exemptions or benefits to the tobacco industry (Rec 7.3).						X
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additionally, JRA has been given incentives for their work in the Joint Committee of Ministry of Tourism (200 JODs/month), and are given privileges of being part of the committees that draft the laws related to shisha and/or restaurants and cafes (Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2015). • Previously, in 2013 the government reduced taxes on tobacco products as a support to enable their development and flourishment in Jordan (khaberni.com, 2012). • Tobacco industry has been given an exemption from national regulations related to pictorial warnings in duty free areas (%30 warning with no pictures instead of %40 with pictures) and are allowed to have discounts on products (Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization, 2008). • PMI have been promoted recently on Prime Ministry social media page (Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2019b; Rum Online, 2019). 						
Forms of Unnecessary Interaction						

INDICATORS	0	1	2	3	4	5
8. Top level government officials (such as President/ Prime Minister or Minister ⁶) 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)						X
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to interviewed officials, there are no meetings or participation from the king with the tobacco industry. • Public release articles identified prime minister and few parliamentarians attending gatherings (Jarasanews.com, 2014; Khaberni.com, 2014; Maraq.com, 2014) . Also ministers have been invited to multiple tobacco industry meetings and celebrations, the latest was minister of labour (Petra Governmental News, 2017). Another example refers to, the Minister of Industry and Trade being the patron who opened new Japan Tobacco factory (Albalad News, 2011). • Previous Prime Minister met with parliamentarians who own shares in the tobacco industry and discussed opposing tobacco control agenda (Jarasanews.com, 2014; Khaberni.com, 2014; Sarayanews.com, 2012). • Prime minister met with tobacco industry owners (Sarayanews.com, 2018a), and promoted them on the Prime ministry social media page (Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2019b; Rum Online, 2019). • Ministers of Tourism are in direct contact with JRA which is a board member in Jordan Tourism Committee (Jordan Restaurant Association, 2019b; Ministry of Tourism, 2017), and previous/current presidents of JRA were promoted to higher positions such as parliamentarians (Jordan Restaurant Association, 2019a) or ministers (Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2019a; Rum Online, 2010). 						
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).						X

⁶ include immediate members of the families of the high level officials.

INDICATORS	0	1	2	3	4	5
In 2014 (Addustour, 2014) and 2016 (Addustour, 2016) Philip Morris has partnered with Customs Department in training and facilitating of illicit trade control.						
10. The government accepts, supports, endorses, or enters into partnerships or agreements with the tobacco industry. (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.						X
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Custom department have signed agreements with tobacco companies for training their custom officers on illicit trade of tobacco products (Addustour, 2016 ,2014). • Taxation department, part of the ministry of finance endorsed different proposals on taxes from the tobacco industry while negotiating tax increase in Jordan (Ammon News, 2014; Jafra News, 2017) • Tobacco Industry is part of JSMO committee for Pictorial Warnings of tobacco products in Jordan (Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization, 2012b; Ministry of Health, 2014b) • Eqbal Investment (owner of Fakher Molasses the tobacco used for waterpipes and Union Tobacco) is in official partnership with Royal Scientific Society to build a solar city (Alrai Newspaper, 2018). • Eqbal Investment (Spector Corporation) is part of the association that votes on renewable energy regulations (Jordanian Renewable Energy Society, 2019). This can give access to different governmental agencies that are responsible for tobacco and tobacco control. • Eqbal Investment (Spector Corporation) signed a deal with the Royal Hashemite Court on renewable energy (Al-Eqbal Investment Company, 2017). The Royal Hashemite Court is in direct contact with all ministries and governmental agencies, with usual meeting with the royal family including the King. • Philip Morris has organized a conference on investment in Jordan and the outcomes of the conference were endorsed by Ministry of Investment and Ministry of Tourism (Al Ghad News, 2018). 						
Transparency						

INDICATORS	0	1	2	3	4	5
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)						X
Meetings with the tobacco industry or any other interactions are not disclosed.						
12. The government requires rules for the disclosure or registration of tobacco industry entities, affiliated organizations, and individuals acting on their behalf including lobbyists.			X			
There is the code of conduct for ministers and public workers, however, the house of parliament and the house of representative are not required to disclose any relationship with the tobacco industry (House of Representatives of Jordan, 2015; Ministry of Public Sector Development, 2013; Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2018)						
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) 1 Never 5 Yes						X
There is no evidence of any prohibition or disclosure requirement, regarding any form of contributions from TI to political parties, candidates.						
14. Retired senior government officials form part of the tobacco industry (former Prime Minister, Minister, Attorney General) (Rec 4.4)			X			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no law that prohibit such act by ex-retired governmental bodies. Retired senior government officials in few cases have joined the industry (Jordan Restaurant Association, 2019b; Kamal, 2018; Maraq.com, 2014; sarayanews.com, 2019). • Additionally, previous Minister of Tourism was part of JRA board after retiring (Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2019a). 						

INDICATORS	0	1	2	3	4	5
<p>15. Current government officials and relatives hold positions in the tobacco business including consultancy positions. (Rec 4.5, 4.8, 4.10)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministers and parliamentarians own shares in the tobacco industry A parliament member is the president of JRA (Jordan Restaurant Association, 2019a) Multiple parliamentarians having business interest in shisha serving coffee shops and restaurants which weakened the amendment of the law 2017 (Khaberni.com, 2014; Maraq.com, 2014). 						X
<p>Preventive Measures SCORING for this section: 1. Yes 2. Yes but partial only 3. Policy/ Program being developed 4. Committed to develop such a policy/ program 5. None</p>						
<p>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)</p>					X	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tobacco Industry has participated in JSMO committee and no meeting minutes were publically disclosed JRA has participated in different meetings with MOH, MOT, MOF and GAM and committees including national multi-sectoral committee and only few meeting minutes/agendas were publically disclosed. 						
<p>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)</p>				X		

INDICATORS	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)						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOH has circulated two official letters to all governmental departments to limit interaction with the tobacco industry and decline gifts/donations as per Art.5.3 (Ministry of Health, 2017, 2018a) • The current code of conduct prohibits any gifts/donations from any source, yet it does not include the parliament members (House of Representatives of Jordan, 2015; Ministry of Public Sector Development, 2013; Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2018) • There are no specificities in the code of conduct about the interaction with the tobacco industry. 						
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)				X		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The government requires the industry to submit general information regarding production, manufacturing, market share, expenditure, revenues to be disclosed to the ministry of trade and industry, and ministry of finance. However, this information is not publicly shared. • Lobbying, philanthropy, political contributions, and all other activities are not required to be disclosed. 						
19. The government has a program/system/plan to consistently raise awareness within its departments on policies relating to FCTC Article 5.3 Guidelines. (Rec 1.2 ,1.1)					X	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOH has drafted regulations on article 5.3 and planned to have it endorsed by the government, but were not adopted. MOH is planning to review the previous documents and propose new regulations and program to raise awareness on article 5.3. 						
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)			X			

INDICATORS	0	1	2	3	4	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOH distributed official letters to all governmental establishments regarding the interaction with TI (Ministry of Health, 2017, 2018a). No regulations or existing laws to verify the form of interactions between TI and governmental bodies are in place. • The code of conduct prohibits such acts for public workers and ministers, but does not include parliament members (House of Representatives of Jordan, 2015; Ministry of Public Sector Development, 2013; Prime Ministry of Jordan, 2018). • Additionally, assistance in developing policy drafts and interactions are not included in the code of conduct. 						X
TOTAL 79						

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