

# Chad



## Summary of Findings

### 1. INDUSTRY PARTICIPATION IN POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Since the entry into force of Decree 1523 on the prevention of tobacco industry (TI) interference, the Government has prohibited TI support in policymaking. No evidence of interference or offers of support was found.

### 2. INDUSTRY CSR ACTIVITIES

There were no corporate social responsibility activities supported by the TI during the period recorded from April 2021 to March 2023.

### 3. BENEFITS TO THE INDUSTRY

In April 2021, with the entry into force of the 3rd phase of health warnings, a cigarette importing company called Segum International requested for an additional period of 5 months to allow it to deplete finish its stocks furnished with with the old images of health warnings. The reasons provided were due to challenges presented by measures impacting the transport of goods. The reasons given are the difficulties of transport due to the measures taken by the countries that impact the transport of goods. All Exceptionally, all manufacturers and importers were granted an additional period of 3 months. In principle, Decree 1523 prohibits granting any preferential treatment to the TI tobacco industry. But with the unusual circumstances following argument of the situation of the Covid-19 pandemic, an exception was granted.

The specific tax on tobacco products was halved, from XAF 100 per pack of cigarettes, this tax was reduced to XAF 50 from 1 January 2023. This is reduction in price was to the direct benefit of the TI.

### 4. UNNECESSARY INTERACTION

Administrative interactions are justified as the National Council of Chadian Employers (CNPT), of which the Manufacture des cigarettes du Tchad (MCT) is a member, defends the interests of all its members - especially with the Ministries responsible for Trade and Finance and the Economy. Given the weakness of Chad's industrial fabric, government officials were suitably convinced by the arguments presented.

Senior officials did not attend meetings organized by TI, and some politicians made public statements to suppress the TI.

### 5. TRANSPARENCY

Decree 1523 is clear on transparency, stating that "the relationship between the State and the tobacco industry is covered by the principle of transparency". In practice meetings are held in total secrecy. Neither the agenda, list of participants, nor minutes are communicated. This is a direct contradiction of the provisions outlined in Decree 1523 relating to the communication of information.

### 6. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Decree 1523 does not list contributions to political parties or campaigns as prohibited, though it has set rules for other cases regarding conflicts of interest.

The prohibitions mainly concern public officials who have exercised public responsibilities related to health or taxation, who specifically cannot work in the industry until 5 years have passed following the end of their official activities.

In Chad, the entire TI is the responsibility of the domestic or foreign private sector. There are no public officials in



the industry structures; but the current President of the National Council of Chadian Employers is also the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Social Insurance Fund (CNPS), and was Deputy Secretary General of the Presidency of the Republic of Chad. Employers are known to be the ally par excellence of the tobacco industry.

## 7. PREVENTIVE MEASURES

The relationship between the State and the TI is governed by Decree 1523 on the prevention of interference by the TI. It obligates, for any meeting, to communicate the agenda and the contact details of the participants. It deals with principles and rules, conflicts of interest and lists the information to be provided in the semi-annual reports.

Decree 1523 serves as a code of conduct for public servants, prescribing standards to be followed in their interactions with the TI.

Chad has adopted a multisectoral strategic plan for tobacco control for the period 2018-2022 that includes a training and awareness-raising component. Not all of the activities provided for in this strategic plan, including the aforementioned training and awareness-raising, were carried out.