



Japan Society for Tobacco Control

日本禁煙学会

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日本禁煙学会は WHO を支持いたします。

FCTC5 条 3 項に違反する田辺三菱製薬とその子会社 Medicago 社
には、新型コロナの緊急使用許可を与えるべきではありません。

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一般社団法人 日本禁煙学会理事長 作田 学

記

私たちは、WHO の「非国家主体との関与の枠組み (FENSA)」の関与を賞賛いたします。この枠組みは、公衆の健康をタバコ産業とその支援勢力の商業的利益から保護することを目的とした WHO タバコ規制枠組条約 (FCTC) の実施を推進するものです。この関与は、タバコ産業とのパートナーシップおよびコラボレーションを禁止する FCTC 第 5 条 3 項と合致しています。私たちは、WHO が、フィリップモリスジャパン (PMI) が 20% の株式を保有し、開発資金を提供したカナダの Medicago 社による新型コロナワクチン Covienz の緊急使用認可を保留にしたことをうれしく思います。 (<https://www.bnmbloomberg.ca/medicago-s-covid-shot-faces-who-rejection-over-firm-s-tobacco-ties-1.1738759>)

Medicago 社が PMI とつながりを持っていることが誤りの元であると WHO が指摘していることは正鵠を得ています。Medicago 社に対してタバコ産業との資金的つながりを停止するように要求することは何ら理不尽な事ではありません。Medicago 社は過去に、PMI が好ましい投資家であるという認識を公表しています。カナダのヘルスグループは、カナダ政府が、PMI とつながりのある Medicago 社の新型コロナワクチンを世界中で使用できるよう WHO に認可を迫るという FCTC 違反行為を中止し、カナダ政府が、Medicago 社に対してタバコ産業との資金的つながりを停止するように強く要請することを要求しています。

私たちは WHO が、外部の圧力に負けないで、本来の立場を貫くことを要請します。この分野における WHO の主張を踏まえることが重要です。PMI をはじめとするタバコ産業はタバコ産業の開発した新型コロナワクチンを、低～中所得国に提供することを通じた CSR 活動を目論み、激しい戦いを通じて FCTC に盛り込まれたタバコ産業のスポンサーシップ禁止条項を骨抜きにしようとしています。これらの点については、説明資料 ([PMI-Medicago-Vaccine.pdf \(exposetobacco.org\)](https://www.exposetobacco.org/PMI-Medicago-Vaccine.pdf)) を参照してください。ごく最近、FCTC 締約国会議は「FCTC と新型コロナパンデミックからのリカバリーを目指す宣言」を発表しました。これは、タバコ産業が製薬企業を取得することが「タバコ規制対策の推進の妨害をもたらす」

ことに注意を喚起したものです。例えば、政府がタバコ産業の所有する製薬企業に対して保健対策という名目で補助金を支出する可能性があります。

タバコ使用は毎年世界中で 800 万人以上の命を奪い続けています。これはこれまでに新型コロナで失われた命を大きく上回ります。タバコ産業の様々な干渉行為は、タバコ規制の前進を妨げる最大のバリアです。私たちは、WHO がタバコ産業の商業的利益を人々の健康を守る対策の上に置き、タバコ対策を妨害しようとするタバコ産業に対して毅然と立ち向かうことを望みます。

以上

【原文】 STATEMENT OF SUPPORT from ADVOCATES

TO WHO DG

cc. WHO ADG for drug access, vaccines and pharmaceuticals

We applaud the WHO's commitment to the **WHO Framework of Engagement with Non-State Actors (FENSA)** which embodies the WHO Framework Convention for Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) policy of protecting public health from the commercial and vested interests of the tobacco industry. This commitment is also consistent with Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC which denounces partnerships and collaborations with tobacco companies. We are pleased to hear that WHO put on hold Medicago's Inc. request for prequalification for emergency distribution of Covifenz, in light of its 20% ownership by, and project funding from Philip Morris International (PMI).

i <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/medicago-s-covid-shot-faces-who-rejection-over-firm-s-tobacco-ties-1.1738759> The Canadian biopharma company's request for pre-qualification of its Covifenz shot wasn't accepted, according to the WHO's guidance document dated March 2. That means the WHO is unlikely to approve the vaccine for emergency use, which would also keep it out of the Covax global vaccine-sharing facility.

WHO also correctly pointed out that the flaw is Medicago Inc.'s ties with PMI ii. It is not an unreasonable ask for Medicago Inc. to divest its tobacco ownership. Its past statement already revealed that one of its co-owner, PMI, is open to assessing better-suited investors iii. Canadian health groups are also urging the Canada to compel the Medicago Inc. to remove its tobacco interests, instead of forcing WHO to bend treaty rules as this undermines institutional integrity.

We ask WHO to stand firm in its position despite external pressures. The WHO's decision in this area is crucial. A **briefing paper** describes how **Philip Morris International/ the tobacco industry could use the tobacco vaccine to further CSR activities especially in Low-to-Middle-Income Country (LMICs), and undermine hard-fought life-saving corporate sponsorship bans**. Just recently, Parties to the WHO FCTC through the **Declaration on WHO FCTC and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic**, v have raised concerns that **tobacco industry's acquisition in the pharmaceutical sector "could complicate and hinder tobacco control implementation;"** for **instance**, vi it could lead to government incentives for tobacco's pharma entities. vii

Tobacco use claims over eight million lives annually which exceeds the total death toll from COVID-19, and tobacco industry interference has been described as the **largest barrier to tobacco control** globally. We trust that WHO will be steadfast in its effort to protect public health policies from the commercial and vested interests of the tobacco industry.

SIGNED

Footnotes below subject to formatting and finalizing

“Due to its connections -- it’s partially owned by Philip Morris -- the process is put on hold,” Mariangela Simao, WHO’s assistant director-general for drug access, vaccines and pharmaceuticals, said at a media briefing on Wednesday. “The WHO and the UN have a very strict policy regarding engagement with the tobacco and arms industry, so it’s very likely it won’t be accepted for emergency use listing.”

ii However, the health organisation has rejected the approach “because of the linkage with the tobacco industry and WHO’s strict policy on not engaging with companies that promote the tobacco industry”, a spokesman said. He said it had informed Medicago of its decision.

[Philip Morris, one of the world’s largest tobacco groups and the maker of Marlboro cigarettes](#), owns a 21 per cent stake in Medicago and has

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/vaccine-is-opposed-over-ties-to-tobacco-industry-frbw05hx5>

<https://medicago.com/en/press-release/gsk-and-medicago-announce-collaboration-to-develop-a-novel-adjuvanted-covid-19-candidate-vaccine/>

iii <https://www.bloombergquint.com/onweb/glaxo-and-medicago-team-up-on-plant-based-covid-vaccine>

iv Instead of asking the WHO to contravene its own tobacco control treaty, which was ratified by Canada and 181 other countries, the federal Minister of Health and his Quebec counterpart should focus their energies on convincing the tobacco giant to withdraw as a shareholder of Medicago

<https://smoke-free.ca/medicago-philip-morris-and-health-canada-a-predictable-and-avoidable-fiasco/>

v Noticing with increasing concern the recent acquisitions by tobacco transnational corporations of pharmaceutical companies that could complicate and hinder tobacco control implementation,

vi <https://exposetobacco.org/wp-content/uploads/STOP-Pharma-Brief-3.15.22.pdf>

vii Notably, another tobacco giant; BAT, also has its own company, Kentucky Bio, that claims to be developing a tobacco-based vaccine.