



Japan Society for Tobacco Control

日本禁煙学会

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Head of local governments:

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Financial affairs/taxation (donation) chief

Donations from Japan Tobacco Inc. (JT)

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Recently, with the spread nationwide of "novel coronavirus", I have come into contact with news reports of municipalities receiving donations from Japan Tobacco, Inc. (JT) under the names of "support for parents of children with the coronavirus disease" and "medical support". (See "Media" reference)

However, local governments receiving donations from the tobacco industry for corporate social responsibility (CSR) violates articles 5(3) and 13 (FCTC) of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), ratified by Japan in 2005.

This violation was also problem after the 2011 Tōhoku earthquake and tsunami, when the tobacco industry donated large sums to the Japanese Red Cross Society and

the Nippon Foundation. But the violation of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control became an international issue, and funds were quickly returned. Philip Morris and others also donated to the Red Cross Museum, an action which was reported by Reuters, and then the donation was returned by the International Federation of Red Crescent Societies.

Please be careful that municipal governments not accept donations from JT, in contravention of international treaties.

Conclusion

References

"Framework Convention on Tobacco Control" (FCTC)

Article 5 paragraph 3

"4.10 Parties should not allow any official or employee of government or of any semi/quasi-governmental body to accept payments, gifts or services, monetary or in-kind, from the tobacco industry."

Article 13 "26. Such donations have the purpose of directly or indirectly promoting and encouraging tobacco products and tobacco use. Because of these effects or the potential for them to occur, they should be banned comprehensively."

(FCTC article 5 clause 3 guidelines)

6.4 Parties should not allow acceptance by any branch of government or the public sector of political, social, financial, educational, community or other contributions from the tobacco industry or from those working to further its interests, except for compensations due to legal settlements or mandated by law or legally binding and enforceable agreements.

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/topics/tobacco/dl/fctc_5-3_guideline_120506.pdf

(FCTC Article 13 Guidelines)

26. Some tobacco companies make financial or in-kind contributions to organizations, such as community, health, welfare or environmental organizations, either directly or through other entities. Such contributions fall within the definition of tobacco sponsorship in Article 1(g) of the Convention and should be prohibited as part of a comprehensive ban, because the aim, effect or likely effect of such a contribution is to promote a tobacco product or tobacco use either directly or indirectly.

27. Tobacco companies may also seek to engage in “socially responsible” business practices (such as good employee–employer relations or environmental stewardship), which do not involve contributions to other parties. Promotion to the public of such otherwise commendable activities should be prohibited, as their aim, effect or likely effect is to promote a tobacco product or tobacco use either directly or indirectly.

Source: World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (MOFA website)

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/who/fctc.html>

(News reports)

Donated by JT: 300,000 yen to the Matsuyama City Consultation Center to support families with children, 1 July

<https://www.ehime-np.co.jp/article/news202007010081>

In support medical workers, JT donated to Okinawa prefecture, 28 June

<https://www.qab.co.jp/news/20200628127241.html>

The Japanese tobacco industry donated 1 million yen to Yamanashi Prefecture to support medical workers responding to the novel coronavirus, 24 June

<https://www.msn.com/ja->

[jp/news/national/%E6%96%B0%E5%9E%8B%E3%82%B3%E3%83%AD%E3%83%8A%E
3%81%AB%E5%AF%BE%E5%BF%9C%E3%81%99%E3%82%8B%E5%8C%BB%E7%99%8
2%E5%BE%93%E4%BA%8B%E8%80%85%E6%94%AF%E6%8F%B4%E3%81%AB%E5%B
D%B9%E7%AB%8B%E3%81%A6%E3%81%A6-%E6%97%A5%E6%9C%AC%E3%81%9F%
E3%81%B0%E3%81%93%E7%94%A3%E6%A5%AD%E3%81%8C%EF%BC%91%EF%BC%
90%EF%BC%90%E4%B8%87%E5%86%86%E5%AF%84%E4%BB%98/ar-BB15UcDs](https://www.msn.com/ja-
jp/news/national/%E6%96%B0%E5%9E%8B%E3%82%B3%E3%83%AD%E3%83%8A%E
3%81%AB%E5%AF%BE%E5%BF%9C%E3%81%99%E3%82%8B%E5%8C%BB%E7%99%8
2%E5%BE%93%E4%BA%8B%E8%80%85%E6%94%AF%E6%8F%B4%E3%81%AB%E5%B
D%B9%E7%AB%8B%E3%81%A6%E3%81%A6-%E6%97%A5%E6%9C%AC%E3%81%9F%
E3%81%B0%E3%81%93%E7%94%A3%E6%A5%AD%E3%81%8C%EF%BC%91%EF%BC%
90%EF%BC%90%E4%B8%87%E5%86%86%E5%AF%84%E4%BB%98/ar-BB15UcDs)

Ceremony to present a list of donators to Kagawa (prefecture) branch of Japan

Tobacco Inc., 24 June

https://www.pref.kagawa.lg.jp/content/dir1/dir1_6/dir1_6_2/wd0bty200623140218.shtml

JT donates to Kumamoto prefecture for novel coronavirus measures (Kumamoto)

<https://www.fnn.jp/articles/-/55621>

"For Corona countermeasures" 500,000 yen donated to Fukuyama city by the JT branch office, 23 June

https://www.chugoku-np.co.jp/local/news/article.php?comment_id=655149&comment_sub_id=0&category_id=118

Japan Tobacco Inc., China branch Tottori (prefecture) branch store, donation ceremony for the purposes of the novel coronavirus infections, 19 June

<http://db.pref.tottori.jp/pressrelease.nsf/webview/AE32FD80CB2015D14925858C002388A5?OpenDocument>

Japan Tobacco Industry (JT) donates to Kagoshima prefecture by utilizing the business tax contribution for local governments, 19 June

<https://kifu.rcf311.com/news/233/>

Fukuoka city received a donation from Japan Tobacco Inc. to support novel coronavirus countermeasures, 19 June

https://www.city.fukuoka.lg.jp/shimin/koeki/life/asuminnyumefando/npohojyokinbosyu2020_3_2.html

1 million yen donation from the Japanese tobacco industry to support coronavirus countermeasures [Yamaguchi prefecture], 18 June

<https://www.minato-yamaguchi.co.jp/yama/e-yama/articles/11486>

Miyazaki News UMK | UMK TV Miyazaki www.umk.co.jp ›news

2020/06/10 In addition, the Japan Tobacco Inc. Miyazaki branch donated 1 million yen, saying "I want the affected citizens to benefit." In response, Governor Kono said, "I would like to sincerely thank you for your valuable donation." While the novel coronavirus measures cost a lot of money, in May the prefecture...

Donation ceremony from Japan Tobacco Inc. (Tokushima Prefecture), 8 June

<https://www.pref.tokushima.lg.jp/ippanokata/kurashi/chihososei/5037846>

Regarding the donation from Japan Tobacco Inc. for the novel type of coronavirus infection countermeasures to support medical workers (Tochigi prefecture), 8 June

<http://www.pref.tochigi.lg.jp/f01/houdou/houdou/20200610jtkihukinn.html>

JT donates 1 million yen to Shimane Prefecture | NNN News-NTV

NEWS24www.news24.jp ›nnn› news8759889

2020/05/30-JT and others in the Japanese tobacco industry presented a gift of 1 million yen to Shimane prefecture as a countermeasure against the costs of the novel coronavirus. As a contribution to society, JT is donating money to support the novel coronavirus countermeasures throughout the country. On the 29th, Mr. Shoichi Mizuno of JT Matsue branch visited the Shimane prefectural office and...

Reference: JT Group's local community initiatives in response to the spread of novel coronavirus infection

https://www.jti.co.jp/csr/contribution/covid19_support/index.html