



A GLOBAL
TOBACCO
INDUSTRY
WATCHDOG

April 30, 2020

Ms. SANDA OJIAMBO

CEO & Executive Director

UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT

New York, NY 10017

Dear Ms. Ojiambo,

We, the undersigned civil society representatives, request that the [Eliminating Child Labour in Tobacco-Growing Foundation](#) (ECLT) be removed as a participant to the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC), in accordance with UN policies, including UNGC's 2017 policy update,¹ the Model Policy for Agencies of the United Nations System on Preventing Tobacco Industry Interference (Model Policy),² and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), which embody the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC).³ ECLT has undeniable ties with the tobacco industry and has failed in its stated objective of ending child labor in tobacco—a problem directly linked to the exploitative business practices of its funders and members.

- I. **ECLT is a corporate alliance of tobacco producers and manufacturers.** British American Tobacco (BAT), Philip Morris International (PMI), Imperial Tobacco (Imperial) and Japan Tobacco International (JTI) are members, along with leaf suppliers and the International Tobacco Growers Association (ITGA),⁴ and are represented on its governing board.⁵ Notably, ITGA itself is also funded and directed by tobacco companies.⁶ Evidence recently provided to UNGC by OxySuisse further confirms that ECLT was established to advance tobacco industry interests.
- II. **ECLT is promoted by tobacco companies in their public relations activities as evidence of their corporate social responsibility (CSR), aiming to “gain political support and weaken opposition.”**⁷ PMI,⁸ BAT^{9, 10}, JTI,¹¹ and Imperial^{12, 13, 14, 15} cite ECLT as evidence of compliance with standards in human rights or sustainability in their environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) reporting; BAT highlighted ECLT's provision of loans and engagement of policymakers in its 2020 ESG report, even while an ongoing legal suit filed against the company alleges that it continues to profit from child labor.¹⁶
 - a. **Other UN agencies have declined or ended partnerships with ECLT.** For example, following an open letter from over 100 civil society organizations,¹⁷ the International Labour Organization (ILO) terminated its funding partnership with ECLT in 2018 to avoid hindering State Parties' achievement of the WHO FCTC and to ensure coherence with policies of the UN System, particularly the Model Policy adopted by the UN Economic and Social Council (and State

Parties).^{18 19}

III. ECLT is an integral part of tobacco companies' so-called CSR, which itself is problematic:

- a. CSR is banned in many countries.** Article 13 of the WHO FCTC mandates that governments adopt a comprehensive ban on tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship (TAPS) including activities described as socially responsible. Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC requires governments to protect their public health policies from tobacco industry interests, including rejecting and denormalizing the industry's so-called CSR activities that are used as a means to access policymakers²⁰ for the purpose of weakening tobacco control legislation and subverting WHO FCTC implementation. Over 180 Parties are bound by the WHO FCTC and 63 countries have a comprehensive ban on TAPS.
- b. It diverts attention from tobacco companies' violations of human and workers' rights.** According to a union of tobacco workers in its letter to the ILO,²¹ ECLT serves to detract from important issues behind child labor: poverty perpetuated by the very tobacco companies that fund ECLT, unfair contracting schemes and denial of rights to organize and enter into collective bargaining agreements, among others.
- c. It detracts from tobacco companies' liability for profiting from child labor.** The tobacco companies behind ECLT, the ultimate buyers of tobacco leaves, are primarily responsible for child labor and should be held liable for the consequences. A lawsuit has been filed against the main founder of ECLT, BAT,²² seeking compensation for "widespread use of unlawful child labour... and the systematic exposure... to extremely hazardous working conditions with minimal protection against industrial accidents, injuries and diseases."²³ Studies show that in Malawi alone, the tobacco industry enjoyed substantial economic benefit from unpaid child labor, of up to 20 times the total budget of ECLT.²⁴
- d. It is a smokescreen for tobacco companies' strategies to evade responsibility.** In appearing to address child labor, tobacco companies distract from their creation of legal structures to shift the burden to third parties—distancing themselves from the problem to evade culpability.^{25, 26} Instead of paying a nominal amount for ECLT to implement inadequate and ineffective programs, the companies should pay fair prices²⁷ that could ultimately pull farmers out of poverty and consequently prevent practices of child labor.

Stop ECLT and the tobacco industry from exploiting UNGC and the International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour.

ECLT is an alliance of tobacco companies that is governed and used by those companies to give the appearance of complying with the Guiding Principles on Human Rights and the UN Principles of Responsible Investment (ESG), and of fulfilling commitments toward the UN declaration of 2021 as the International Year for the Elimination of

Child Labour. In reality, the tobacco industry's interests are irreconcilable with the interests of human rights and sustainable development²⁸ and are antithetical to UNGC's mission.²⁹

The tobacco industry undermines UN policies against tobacco, including using the UN likeness and name to create a misleading impression of contributing to sustainable development³⁰ while working to escape liability for harms caused to humanity, including child labor, and to the planet. Allowing ECLT to be a part of UNGC legitimizes the tobacco industry's tactics, which hinder achievement of the WHO FCTC and UN SDGs.³¹

We urge UNGC to act according to its mandate, practice good governance and align its policies with those of UN agencies, international bodies and member states that accord with WHO FCTC Article 5.3 and work to protect policy, health and development objectives by rejecting partnerships and interactions with the tobacco industry and its allies.³² End ECLT's participation in UNGC.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this issue further, please contact us.

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Anna Gilmore



Sandra Mullin



On behalf of STOP, a global tobacco industry watchdog, and 176 organizations and individuals.





Signatories

Organizations:

1. **Action on Smoking and Health (ASH US)**, Laurent Huber, Executive Director, United States
2. **ACT Promoção da Saúde**, Monica Andreis, Diretora Executiva, Brazil
3. **ACT-Alliance contre le tabac**, Marion Catellin, Directrice, France
4. **Advocacy Center "LIFE"**, Lilia Olefir, Executive Director, Ukraine
5. **African Tobacco Control Alliance (ATCA)**, Sessou Leonce Dieudonne, Executive Director, Togo
6. **African Union of Consumers (AUC)**, Daouda Elhadj Adam, Chairperson, Chad
7. **Afrique Contre le Tabac (ACONTA)**, Salif Nikiema, Burkina Faso

8. **Aerospace Action on Smoking and Health**, Errol E. Povah, President, Canada
9. **Alcohol and Drug Information Center (ADIC)** , Pubudu Sumanasekara, Sri Lanka
10. **Alianza Dominicana Antitabaquismo**, Samuel Ramos, Republica Dominicana
11. **Allianza ENT-Perú**, Carlos Farias, Presidente, Perú
12. **Alternatives Durables pour le Développement**, Stanislas Binelli, Secrétaire Général, Cameroun
13. **Alzheimer Mexico IAP**, Laura Elena Cortes, Directora, Mexico.
14. **Advocacy Center "LIFE"**, Lilia Olefir, Executive Director, Ukraine
15. **ASH Finland**, Mervi Hara, Executive Director, Finland
16. **ASH Ireland**, Council of the Irish Heart Foundation, Mark Murphy, Ireland
17. **ASH Scotland**, Sheila Duffy, Chief Executive, United Kingdom
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19. **Asociación Dominicana de Médicos Internistas**, Republica Dominicana
20. **Asociatia Generatia Romania Sanatoasa 2035**, Ramona Brad, Romania
21. **Association PROI**. Uliana Bakh, Executive Director, Bosnia
22. **Asthma Association of Zambia**, Dean Nsabashi, Executive Director, Zambia
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24. **Australian Health Promotion Association**, Gemma Crawford, President, Australia
25. **Austrian Council on Smoking and Health**, Kurt Aigner, President, Austria
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27. **Cancer Council Australia**, Tanya Buchanan, Chief Executive Officer, Australia
28. **Center for Public Health Development Fund**, Jamilya Sadykova, Director, Kazakhstan
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38. **Comité Nacional para la Prevención del Tabaquismo (CNPT)**, Andrés Zamorano Tapia, CNPT President, Spain
39. **Comité National Contre le Tabagisme (CNCT)**, Pr Yves Martinet, President, France
40. **COPPT**, Emanuel Gomes Esteves, Director, Portugal
41. **Corporación Colombiana de Padres y Madres - Red PaPaz**, Carolina Piñeros, Executive Director, Colombia

42. **Corporate Accountability**, Michél Legendre, Associate Campaign Director, United States
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44. **Corporate Europe Observatory**, Olivier Hoedeman, Belgium
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46. **Dominicana Saludable**, Dominican Republic
47. **European Network for Smoking and Tobacco Prevention-ENSP**, Cornel Radu-Loghin, Secretary General, Belgium
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49. **FAECAP Federation of Family and Community Nursing Associations**, Adelaida Lozano Polo, Coordinator group of smoking, Spain
50. **Foundation Smart Health-Health in 3D**, Krzysztof Przewozniak, Poland
51. **Fresh (Making Smoking History)**, Ailsa Rutter, Director, United Kingdom
52. **Fundación Anaás**, Blanca Llorente, Colombia
53. **Fundación Dominicana de Obesidad y Prevención Cardiovascular**, Dominican Republic
54. **Fundacion Canaria Dental**, Francisco Cabrera Panasco, President, Spain
55. **Fundación Interamericana del Corazón-Argentina**, María Elisabeth Pizarro, Codirectora Ejecutiva, Argentina
56. **Fundación Interamericana del Corazón-Bolivia**, Alejandra Garrón, Bolivia
57. **Global Center for Good Governance in Tobacco Control**, Nuntavarn Vichit-Vadakan, Chair, Thailand
58. **Grambangla Unnayan Committee (GUC)**, Khandaker Reaz Hossain, Director, Programmes, Bangladesh
59. **Health Healing Network Burundi-HHNB**, Roger Ciza, Executive Chief Coordinator, Burundi
60. **Health Mission**, Srmena Krstev, Vice President, Serbia
61. **HealthBridge Foundation of Canada Vietnam Office**, Nguyen Thi An, Director, Vietnam
62. **Heart Foundation of Jamaica**, Barbara McGraw, Global Health Advocacy Project, Jamaica
63. **Institute of Public Health of the American College of Greece**, Panagiotis Behrakis, Director, Greece
64. **Israeli Medical Association for Smoking Cessation and Prevention**, Yael Bar-Zeev, Chair, Israel
65. **Jamaica Coalition for Tobacco Control/Healthy Caribbean Coalition**, Barbara McGraw, Tobacco Control Advisor, Jamaica
66. **Kenya Tobacco Control Alliance**, Achieng Otieno, Communications and Digital Advocacy, Kenya
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68. **l'Association pour la défense des droits des consommateurs (ADC)**, Yaya Sidjim, Coordonnateur Programme antitabac ADC, Chad
69. **Lentera Anak Foundation**, Lisda Sundari, Chairperson, Indonesia
70. **Lithuanian Tobacco and Alcohol Control Coalition**, Nijole Gostautaitė Midttun, President, Lithuania
71. **Malaysian Green Lung Association**, Ho Rhu Yann, Founding President, Malaysia
72. **Manbhum Ananda Ashram Nityananda Trust**, Nirmalya Mukherjee, Director, India
73. **Movicancer-Nicaragua Foundation**, Orlando B. Martinez-Granera, Vice President of programs and

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74. **MyWATCH (Malaysian Women's Action for Tobacco and Health)**, Liza Ali, President, Malaysia
75. **National Action for Quality Education in Zambia**, Aaron Chansa, Executive Director, Zambia
76. **Nofumadores.org (non-smokers.org)**, Raquel Fernandez Megina, President, Spain
77. **Norwegian Cancer Society**, Nonguebzanga Maxime Compaore, Special Advisor, International Affairs, Norway
78. **Official College of Dentists and Stomatologists of Santa Cruz Tenerife**, Coral Malfaz, Spain
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81. **Pratyasha Anti-Drugs Club**, Helal Ahmed, Secretary General, Bangladesh
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83. **PROGGA**, ABM Zubair, Executive Director, Bangladesh
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86. **Salud Justa**, Erick Ochoa, Director, Mexico
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89. **Smoke Free Israel**, Shira Kislev, CEO, Israel
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- 106. The Union**, Gan Quan, Director of Tobacco Control, United States
- 107. Tobacco Control Commission - Brazilian Medical Association (AMB)**, Alberto José de Araújo, Chairman, Brazil
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- 109. Tobacco - Free Association of Zambia**, Brenda Chitindi, Executive Director, Zambia
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- 114. Vision for Alternative Development (VALD)**, Labram Massawudu Musah, Program Director, Ghana
- 115. Vital Strategies**, Sandra Mullin, Senior Vice President, United States
- 116. WACASA Foundation**, Irene Chiwama, Executive Director, Zambia
- 117. Zambia Consumer Association**, Juba Sakala, Executive Director, Zambia
- 118. Zambia Heart and Stroke Foundation**, Grace Tembo, Communication Manager, Zambia
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30. **Michael Moore**, Past President, World Federation of Public Health Associations, Australia
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32. **Mike Daube**, Emeritus Professor, Curtin University, Australia
33. **Mira B. Aghi**, Consultant, Healix Sekhsaria Institute of Public Health, India
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35. **Naomi Oreskes**, Harvard University, Co-author of “Merchants of Doubt”, United States
36. **Norbert Hirschhorn**, Tobacco Industry watcher, United Kingdom
37. **Nydia Amador Brenes**, Costa Rica
38. **Pamela Morales**, Foro Nacional del Cáncer, Chile
39. **Patagonias Behrakis**, George Behrakis Research Lab of the Hellenic Cancer Society, Greece
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- 56. Zaliwe Banda**, Zambia Women in Tobacco Control, Zambia

¹ United Nations Global Compact. Updated 13 October 2017. UN Global Compact integrity policy update. Available from: https://d306pr3pise04h.cloudfront.net/docs/about_the_gc%2FIntegrity_measures%2Fintegrity-recommendation-2017.pdf (accessed 13 April 2021). See also: United Nations Global Compact. 19 July 2017. UNGC Board Meeting Report. Available from: https://d306pr3pise04h.cloudfront.net/docs/about_the_gc%2FUNG-Board-Meeting_Report_07-19-17.pdf (accessed 13 April 2021); United Nations Global Compact. 2021. Who should join? Available from: <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/participation/join/who-should-join> (accessed 13 April 2021). – UNGC’s 2017 policy update precludes tobacco producers or those deriving revenue from the same from being a participant of UNGC). The Policy Update states that “participating companies whose business involves manufacturing or producing tobacco products will be delisted effective 15 October 2017” and indicates that the UN Global Compact will accordingly “review engagement with existing participants.” The UNGC participation guide also provides that those that “derive revenue from the production and/or manufacturing of tobacco” “cannot be recognized as participants of the UN Global Compact” while the UNGC website itself explains that “[t]his decision recognizes that tobacco products are in direct conflict with UN goals, particularly with the right to public health, and undermines the achievement of SDG 3.”

² Model policy for agencies of the United Nations system on preventing tobacco industry interference. n.d. Available from: <https://www.who.int/ncds/un-task-force/events/model-policy-agencies-united-nations1.pdf?ua=1> (accessed 13 April 2021).

³ See: Target 3.a. In: United Nations. Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. Targets and indicators. Available from: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal3> (accessed 13 April 2021).

⁴ ECLT Foundation Board Members Pledge of Commitment. 2014. Available from: <https://www.eclt.org/en/downloads/ECLT-Members-Pledge.pdf> (accessed 13 April 2021). See also, for example: British American Tobacco. Human rights and child labour in tobacco growing. Available from: https://www.bat.com/group/sites/UK_9D9KCY.nsf/vwPagesWebLive/DOAK8P8D (accessed 13 April 2021).

⁵ ECLT Foundation Board Members Pledge of Commitment. 2014. Available from: <https://www.eclt.org/en/downloads/ECLT-Members-Pledge.pdf> (accessed 13 April 2021). See also: ECLT Foundation. 2019 ECLT annual report. Available from: https://www.eclt.org/user/pages/10.annual-report/ECLT_AR_2019.pdf (accessed 13 April 2021).

⁶ Framework Convention Alliance. 2014. International Tobacco Growers’ Association (ITGA): Frequently asked questions. Available from: https://fctc.wpengine.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/ITGA_FAQ.pdf (accessed 13 April 2021).

⁷ Ramos AK. December 2018. Child labor in global tobacco production: A human rights approach to an enduring dilemma. Health and Human Rights Journal. 2018;20(2):235-248. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6293346/#> (accessed 13 April 2021).

⁸ Philip Morris International. Integrated Report 2019. p. 110. Available from: https://www.pmi.com/resources/docs/default-source/sustainability-reports-and-policies/pmi-integrated-report-2019.pdf?sfvrsn=b85807b4_6 (accessed 13 April 2021).

⁹ British American Tobacco. ESG Report 2020. Available from: [https://www.bat.com/group/sites/UK_9D9KCY.nsf/vwPagesWebLive/DOAWWEKR/\\$file/BAT_ESG_Report_2020.pdf?open&v=1](https://www.bat.com/group/sites/UK_9D9KCY.nsf/vwPagesWebLive/DOAWWEKR/$file/BAT_ESG_Report_2020.pdf?open&v=1) (accessed 13 April 2021). See also: Rossel S. 1 April 2021. People first. Tobacco Reporter. Available from: <https://tobaccoreporter.com/2021/04/01/people-first/> (accessed 13 April 2021). – BAT considers Child Labor as most pressing issue and cites ECLT as its banner program to counter the same.

See also: British American Tobacco. Human rights and child labour in tobacco growing. Available from: https://www.bat.com/group/sites/UK_9D9KCY.nsf/vwPagesWebLive/DOAK8P8D (accessed 13 April 2021).

¹⁰ British American Tobacco. Human rights and child labour in tobacco growing. Available from: https://www.bat.com/group/sites/UK_9D9KCY.nsf/vwPagesWebLive/DOAK8P8D (accessed 13 April 2021).

¹¹ Japan Tobacco International. JT Group Sustainability Report FY 2018. Available from: https://www.jti.com/sites/default/files/JT_Group_Sustainability_Report_FY2018_GRI.pdf (accessed 13 April 2021).

¹² Imperial Brands PLC. Modern Slavery Statement 2020. Available from: <https://www.imperialbrandspc.com/content/dam/imperial-brands/corporate/sustainability/sustainability-documents/ModernSlavery/Modern%20Slavery%20Statement%202020.pdf> (accessed 13 April 2021).

¹³ Imperial Brands PLC. Reinvesting in society: Tackling child labour. Available from: https://www.imperialbrandspc.com/content/dam/imperial-brands/corporate/responsibility/Sustainability_policies/Reinvesting_Society_Tackling_Child_Labour.pdf (accessed 13 April 2021).

¹⁴ Imperial Brands BPLC. Annual report and accounts 2020. Available from: https://www.imperialbrandspc.com/content/dam/imperial-brands/corporate/investors/annual-report-and-accounts/2020/Online-Annual-Report/Annual_Report_2020.pdf (accessed 13 April 2021).

¹⁵ STOP. 15 May 2020. When it comes to sustainability, the tobacco industry should stop blowing smoke. Available from: <https://exposetobacco.org/resource/sustainability-blowing-smoke/> (accessed 19 April 2021); University of Bath – Tobacco Control Research Group. 21 December 2020. Greenwashing. Tobacco Tactics. Available from: <https://tobaccotactics.org/wiki/greenwashing/> (accessed 19 April 2021); University of Bath – Tobacco Control Research Group. 14 April 2021. Eliminating Child Labour in Tobacco-Growing Foundation (ECLT). Tobacco Tactics. Available from: <https://tobaccotactics.org/wiki/eclt/> (accessed 19 April 2021); University of Bath – Tobacco Control Research Group. 23 December 2020. CSR: Child Labour. Tobacco Tactics. Available from: <https://tobaccotactics.org/wiki/csr-child-labour/> (accessed 19 April 2021); University of Bath – Tobacco Control Research Group. 21 December 2020. CSR Strategy. Tobacco Tactics. Available from: <https://tobaccotactics.org/wiki/csr-strategy/> (accessed 21 December 2020); STOP. 30 April 2020. Seeing green: How tobacco companies exploit sustainability to boost profits and improve their image. Available from: <https://exposetobacco.org/news/greenwashing/> (accessed 19 April 2021).

¹⁶ Davies R. 18 December 2020. BAT and Imperial tobacco firms profited from child labour, law firm alleges. The Guardian. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/dec/18/bat-imperial-tobacco-firms-child-labour-law-firm-alleges> (accessed 13 April 2021).

¹⁷ Framework Convention Alliance. 7 June 2018. More than 100 organisations call on ILO not to renew tobacco industry contracts. Available from: <https://www.fctc.org/iilo-tobacco-industry-more-than-100-organisations-caution-against-contract-renewals/> (accessed 19 April 2021); Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. 31 October 2018. Organizations around the world call on International Labour Organization to sever ties with tobacco. Available from: https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/press-releases/2018_10_31_iilo (accessed 19 April 2021); Unfairtobacco. 30 October 2018. Open letter to ILO governing body. Available from: <https://unfairtobacco.org/en/open-letter-to-iilo-governing-body/#/> (accessed 19 April 2021).

¹⁸ Framework Convention Alliance. 31 October 2019. The ILO ends contracts with tobacco companies. Available from: <https://www.fctc.org/the-iilo-ends-contracts-with-tobacco-companies/> (accessed 13 April 2021).

¹⁹ International Labour Organization, Governing Body. 2018. An integrated strategy to address decent work deficits in the tobacco sector. Fifth item on the agenda. 334th Session, Geneva, 25 October to 8 November 2018. GB.334/POL/5. 11 October 2018. Available from: https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---relconf/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_646755.pdf (accessed 13 April 2021).

²⁰ Fooks GJ, Gilmore AB, Smith KE, Collin J, Holden C, Lee K. 23 August 2011. Corporate Social Responsibility and Access to Policy Élites: An Analysis of Tobacco Industry Documents. PLoS Medicine 8(8): e1001076. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1001076>. Available from: <https://journals.plos.org/plosmedicine/article?id=10.1371/journal.pmed.1001076> (accessed 28 April 2021).

²¹ Tobacco and Allied Workers of Malawi (TOAWUM). 29 September 2017. Letter to International Labour Organization. In: Unfairtobacco. 2021. Tobacco workers to ILO: Quit tobacco industry. Available from: <https://www.unfairtobacco.org/en/tobacco-workers-to-iilo-quit-tobacco-industry/#/> (accessed 27 April 2021). – TOAWUM is a union of tobacco workers in Malawi, one of the 6 major countries where ECLT works in.

²² Davies R. 18 December 2020. BAT and Imperial tobacco firms profited from child labour, law firm alleges. The Guardian. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/dec/18/bat-imperial-tobacco-firms-child-labour-law-firm-alleges> (accessed 13 April 2021).

²³ Davies R. 18 December 2020. BAT and Imperial tobacco firms profited from child labour, law firm alleges. The Guardian. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/dec/18/bat-imperial-tobacco-firms-child-labour-law-firm-alleges> (accessed 13 April 2021).

²⁴ Otañez MG, Muggli ME, Hurt RD, and Glantz SA. June 2006. Eliminating child labour in Malawi: A British American Tobacco corporate responsibility project to sidestep tobacco labour exploitation. Tobacco Control. 2006;15(3):224-230. Available from:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2564665/> (accessed 13 April 2021).

²⁵ Ramos AK. December 2018. Child labor in global tobacco production: A human rights approach to an enduring dilemma. Health and Human Rights Journal. 2018;20(2):235-248. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6293346/#> (accessed 13 April 2021). –

²⁶ Davies R. 18 December 2020. BAT and Imperial tobacco firms profited from child labour, law firm alleges. The Guardian. Available from: <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/dec/18/bat-imperial-tobacco-firms-child-labour-law-firm-alleges> (accessed 13 April 2021). – Human rights lawyers from Leigh Day argue that “the tobacco industry was structured to give the multinational cigarette companies the appearance of separation from working conditions in the tobacco fields.” The article further reported that, “Firms such as BAT and Imperial typically buy the leaves via third-party dealers, who in turn source them from contract farmers. But the two companies were aware of the conditions faced by farmers in [Malawi](#), including children, according to the claim, and had previously indicated they exert a high degree of control over conditions in their supply chains.”

²⁷ Wurth M and Buchanan J. Becker J, ed. 24 May 2016. “The Harvest is in My Blood”. Human Rights Watch. Available from: <https://www.hrw.org/report/2016/05/24/harvest-my-blood/hazardous-child-labor-tobacco-farming-indonesia> (accessed 13 April 2021)

²⁸ Studies have clearly demonstrated how tobacco production and use (*consumption*) contribute negatively to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), by causing death, disease and disability, as well as further poverty. The tobacco industry’s products claim 8,000,000 lives of our world’s population and are responsible for at least USD 1.4 Trillion in economic losses worldwide.

²⁹ United Nations Global Compact. Our mission. Available from: <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/what-is-gc/mission> (accessed 13 April 2021).

³⁰ STOP. 10 September 2019. More than 100 public health organizations urge a complete rejection of the tobacco industry at the UN General Assembly’s 74th Session. Available from: <https://exposetobacco.org/news/more-than-100-public-health-organizations-urge-a-complete-rejection-of-the-tobacco-industry-at-the-un-general-assemblys-74th-session/> (accessed 13 April 2021).

STOP. 10 September 2019. World leaders should reject engagement with the tobacco industry at the United Nations General Assembly’s 74th session. Available from: <https://exposetobacco.org/news/world-leaders-should-reject-engagement-with-the-tobacco-industry-at-the-united-nations-general-assemblys-74th-session/> (accessed 13 April 2021).

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Global Center for Good Governance in Tobacco Control. 2019. Tobacco industry interference at the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly. Stopping Tobacco Organizations and Products. Available from: <https://exposetobacco.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/UNGA-Brief-Final-English.pdf> (accessed 13 April 2021).

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³¹ STOP. 13 September 2019. Request to reject tobacco industry invitations and partnerships at UNGA. Available from: <https://exposetobacco.org/news/request-to-reject-tobacco-industry-invitations-and-partnerships-at-unga/> (accessed 13 April 2021).