

**MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

No:6814/BYT-KCB

V/v: WHO Recommendation on non-cooperation with Smoke-Free World Foundation funded by PMI

**THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM  
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*Hanoi, November 28, 2017*

To:

- Ministries, and mass organizations
- The People's Committees of the provinces and municipality

The Viet Nam Permanent Representation Mission to the United Nations has sent a letter to the Ministry of Health about WHO Statement on the Foundation for a Smoke-Free World funded by Philip Morris International. Specifically:

According to WHO, if PMI were truly committed to a smoke-free world, it should support the implementation of the WHO FCTC and strong tobacco control policies such as tobacco tax increase, comprehensive bans on advertising, promotion and sponsorship; graphic health warning etc. instead of opposing them.

There is a "fundamental conflict of interest" between the tobacco industry and public health with the Philip Morris International funded Foundation for a Smoke-Free World. Because, while declaring their efforts for a smoke free world, they continue to promote tobacco and do not support tobacco control measures that have proven to be effective globally. Therefore, in order to implement FCTC Article 5.3 on non-interaction with the tobacco industry and their related organizations, the World Health Organization declares that they are not relating and not collaborating with the Foundation for Smoke-Free World funded by PMI.

WHO recommends that Governments and health communities should not cooperate with the Smoke-Free World Foundation funded by PMI. The Ministry of Health would like to convey to you the official letter of the Viet Nam Permanent Representation Mission in the United Nations to coordinate the implementation. For more information on WHO declaration, please refer to the official website of the World Health Organization at: <http://www.who.int/en/news-room/detail/28-09-2017-who-statement-on-philip-morris-funded-foundation-for-a-smoke-free-world>.

**Recipients:**

- As above;
- Minister, MOH;
- Filed at VT,KCB.

**Deputy Minister  
Nguyen Viet Tien**