

## **IOGT International Official Statement UN Interactive Hearing on NCDs**

### **Panel 3: Promotion of multisectoral partnerships for the prevention and control of Non-Communicable Diseases**

**05.07.2018**

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Thank you for the opportunity to address you today, on behalf of the members of IOGT International.

In the era of the Agenda 2030, effective partnerships across sectors are critical for sustainable progress. But not all partnerships are conducive to reaching the SDGs. Some partnerships are laden with fundamental conflicts of interest, for instance those involving the alcohol industry. Therefore, partnerships with the alcohol industry to help beat NCDs are incompatible.

The alcohol industry not only profits from harmful products and practices but also deliberately chooses unethical business methods. It has been shown that the alcohol industry – some lobbyists are unfortunately in the room today – buys science, doesn't pay their fair share of taxes, for example in Sub-Saharan Africa, lobbies to obstruct, derail and undermine evidence-based public health policies and spreads doubt about alcohol's harm, for example concerning cancer and heart disease, and exposes children and youth to alcohol marketing.

It is therefore of utmost importance to protect efforts to beat NCDs and promote health and well-being from undue influence by health-harmful industries, to terminate existing and avoid any future incompatible partnerships in health and development with health harmful industries, and to safeguard against conflicts of interest.

I thank you for your attention.

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