

Investor Statement in Support of World No Tobacco Day

We, the undersigned investors, health systems, and pensions, representing US \$3.53 trillion in assets under management, are writing on the occasion of World No Tobacco Day to openly support the tobacco control measures being taken by governments around the world.

Every year, on May 31st, the World Health Organization (WHO) marks *World No Tobacco Day*, highlighting the threat that tobacco use poses to the health and economic well-being of citizens of all countries, and advocating for effective policies to reduce tobacco consumption. This year, the WHO has chosen ‘Tobacco – a threat to development’ as the theme for World No Tobacco Day 2017.

According to the WHO, tobacco consumption poses a significant risk to global health and economies. Tobacco is a primary driver of today’s dramatic rise in chronic non-communicable disease, killing 6 million people per year, a figure that is expected to rise to 8 million by 2030, mostly in developing countries. Unless urgent action is taken to reverse this trend, tobacco related disease is forecast to result in one billion premature deaths worldwide during the 21st century. Smoking costs the global economy more than \$1 trillion a year, according to a 2017 joint study by the WHO and the U.S. National Cancer Institute, far outweighing global revenues from tobacco taxes¹.

Governments and public health systems across the world are mobilizing to address this cost to development, society and humanity. Their resolve to implement effective tobacco-control measures is enshrined in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the landmark WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, an international treaty with 180 Parties (179 countries and the European Union), making it one of the most widely supported treaties in history. Today, more than half the world’s countries, representing nearly 40% of the world’s population (2.8 billion people) have implemented at least one of the Framework’s measures.²

We in the investment community are becoming increasingly aware of the important role we can play in helping to address the health and societal impacts of tobacco. We strive within our own scope of action to support the ambition of the WHO, in line with our commitment to the positive role finance can play in sustainable development more broadly. It is for this reason we have come together for *World No Tobacco Day* to:

- Applaud the tobacco control measures already taken by governments around the world,
- Encourage them to continue their efforts, and
- Lend our support to global action against the tobacco epidemic and its significant cost to society and development.

¹ Which the WHO estimated at about \$269 billion in 2013-2014

² Data in this paragraph sourced from: <http://www.who.int/campaigns/no-tobacco-day/2017/event/en/>

Signatories:

Leading investors



AXA



CalPERS



AMP Capital



SCOR

Supporting investors



Achmea



Fonds de Réserve pour les Retraites - FRR



ACTIAM



GuildSuper



Altius Asset Management



Hamilton Wealth Management



Arabesque Asset Management

a.s.r.
de nederlandse
verzekering
maatschappij
voor alle
verzekeringen

ASR Nederland N.V.



Australian Catholic Superannuation and Retirement Fund



Australian Ethical Investment



Avaron Asset Management



Bank of New Zealand

Handelsbanken Asset Management

Handelsbanken Asset Management



HESTA



KLP



LA FINANCIERE DE L'ECHIQUIER

La Financiere de l'Echiquier



Local Government Super



Miller/Howard Investments Inc.

BLUE STAMP
C O M P A N Y

Blue Stamp Company



BNP PARIBAS
CARDIF

BNP Paribas Cardif



Boston Common Asset Management



Caisse des Dépôts – Etablissement Public



Cancer Research UK



Candriam Investors Group



Mirova



National Reinsurance Corporation of the Philippines



NEI Investments



New Zealand Superannuation Fund



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Pensioenfonds Zorg & Welzijn



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Perspective Investments



Coinvest Ltd.



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Dana Investment Advisors



Salt Funds Management



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Samsung Fire & Marine Insurance



Domini Impact Investments LLC



Solaris Investment Management



Dongbu Insurance



Trillium Asset Management



East Capital



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Wingate Asset Management