

## Investor Statement in Support of World No Tobacco Day

We, the undersigned investors, health systems, and pensions, representing US \$4.03 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 taxes<sup>1</sup>.

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.<sup>2</sup>

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.

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<sup>1</sup> Which the WHO estimated at about \$269 billion in 2013-2014

<sup>2</sup> 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



GuildSuper



ACTIAM



Hamilton Wealth Management



Altius Asset Management



Handelsbanken Asset Management



Arabesque Asset Management

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

ASR Nederland N.V.



SUPERANNUATION  
RETIREMENT  
FUND

Australian Catholic Superannuation and Retirement Fund



Austrlian Ethical Investment



Avaron Asset Management



Bank of New Zealand



HESTA



KLP



LA FINANCIERE DE L'ECHIQUIER

La Financiere de l'Echiquier



Local Government Super



Manulife



assureur militant

MAIF

**BLUE STAMP**  
C O M P A N Y

Blue Stamp Company

**Miller Howard**  
I N V E S T M E N T S , I N C

Miller/Howard Investments Inc.



**BNP PARIBAS**  
**CARDIF**

BNP Paribas Cardif



Mirova



Boston Common Asset Management



National Reinsurance Corporation of the  
Philippines



Caisse des Dépôts – Etablissement Public



NEI Investments



Cancer Research UK



New Zealand Superannuation Fund



Candriam Investors Group



NGS Super



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Pensioenfond's Zorg & Welzijn



Coinvest Ltd.



Perspective Investments



Continental Reinsurance plc



QIC Limited



Dana Investment Advisors



Salt Funds Management



Samsung Fire & Marine Insurance



Domini Impact Investments LLC



Solaris Investment Management



Dongbu Insurance



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Wingate Asset Management