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Cc: [Amanda Haight](#)
Subject: ILSI's Official Relations with the World Health Organization Discontinued
Date: Wednesday, April 08, 2015 2:23:10 PM

To the ILSI North America Board of Trustees:

As you are aware, at the 2015 ILSI Annual Meeting, the ILSI Board passed a bylaw amendment under Article 2, Section I of the ILSI Bylaws which stated, " In addition, a company is ineligible for membership in ILSI if that company or an affiliate engages in the manufacture, production, marketing, sale, or distribution of tobacco products. For purposes of this provision, the term "affiliate" means any company that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with another company." Subsequently, under the guidance of the ILSI Board, ILSI North America also passed a similar bylaw amendment. This was done in an attempt to address concerns regarding ILSI's official relations status with the World Health Organization.

Although these bylaw changes were made, in late January 2015, the World Health Organization's Executive Board decided to discontinue official relations with the International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI). While ILSI has enjoyed official relations status with the World Health Organization (WHO) for over 20 years, this change does not impact the ongoing joint projects between the two organizations, including those being conducted at the ILSI branch level.

ILSI will no longer be able to say that it is recognized by WHO with the official relations status and will no longer be invited to attend the World Health Assembly, the WHO Executive Board meetings, and meetings of the WHO Regional Committees.

This is provided for your information. There are no formal actions needed at this time. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Thank you,

Eric Hentges

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