

THE EXAMINATION

Fearless journalism for a healthier world

Investigating health threats and
empowering communities, covering
Tobacco, Big food, Pollution and more.

www.theexamination.org



How we reported it:

- **First steps: tips and observation**
- **Is there evidence that delegates were protecting the industry / had industry connections / that the industry lobbied?**
 - Public records requests and interviews
 - Research (UCSF docs, clips, company reports...)
 - Experts to understand the background and put things in context for readers
 - Replies
 - Fact-checking
 - Unseen: we didn't find out all we chased

You can read [the story here](#)

THE EXAMINATION

Fearless journalism for a healthier world

Investigating health threats and empowering communities, covering tobacco, big food, pollution and more.



◆ BIG TOBACCO

How **industry capture** of Filipino officials helped deadlock global tobacco control negotiations

A presidential agenda, pro-industry proposals and a probe — documents reveal Big Tobacco's influence in the Philippines and on the international stage.

May 6, 2025

How we reported it:

- **First steps: Analysing investor presentations and monitoring business press coverage**
- **Is there evidence BAT is targeting Gen Z in Kenya and lobbying the government?**
 - Speaking with tobacco control advocates
 - Obtaining leaked documents
 - Analysing social media posts (TikTok)
 - Speaking with academics

Impact:

- Graphic health warnings proposed
- BAT sells nicotine pouch factory equipment
- Public health consultations on health warnings and official mandating of health warnings

You can read the story [here](#)



holds a plastic container from British American Tobacco's Velo brand of nicotine in Nakuru, 2023. Kenyan parliament is debating to ban the Velo brand of nicotine pouches made in British American Tobacco, with concerns arising from the substance addictiveness and adverse health effects on users. James Wakibia/SOPA Images/LightRocket via Getty Images

◆ BIG TOBACCO

British American Tobacco undermines Kenyan health laws in bid for Gen Z

Leaked documents show how lobbying successfully relaxed regulations around Velo nicotine pouches. Experts fear the products will addict a new generation.

This story is published in partnership with [Africa Uncensored](#) and [The Guardian](#).

To contact us:

- Matthew Chapman: matthew@theexamination.org, chapmanmatthew@protonmail.com, [mattchapman.bsky.social](https://bsky.social/profile/mattchapman) and on [LinkedIn](#)
- María Pérez: maria@theexamination.org, maria.jes.perez@proton.me, [@maria-perez.bsky.social](https://bsky.social/profile/maria-perez) and on [LinkedIn](#)

...and to subscribe to our newsletter:

<https://www.theexamination.org/newsletter>