# Advocacy and the Challenges for Alcohol Control

# PAHO Alcohol and Health Webinar Series

11 September, 2019

**Paula Johns** 

Paula.johns@actbr.org.br





1200 members

+150 organizations

+400 people trained in Advocacy



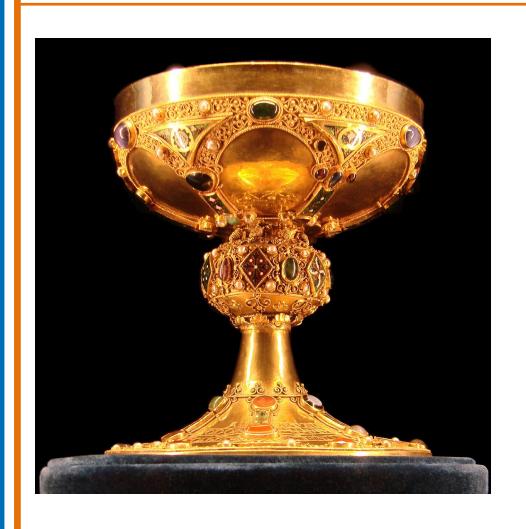








## FCTC & Global Health



FCTC process enshrined the idea that:

- Simple, population-wide policy interventions work! (ad bans, smoke-free spaces, warning labels, taxation)
- Spread them to all sorts of countries where nobody had really done effective tobacco control before that
- Enabled the creation of coalitions globally, regionally and nationally
- Helped to build momentum for action
- Recognition of industry interference (COI) as THE major obstacle

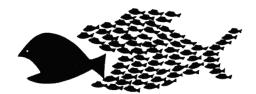


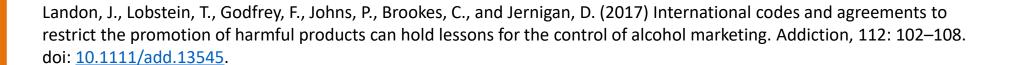
## Lessons learned

The development of treaties and codes for market restrictions include:

- (i) evidence of a public health crisis;
- (ii) the cost of inaction;
- (iii) civil society advocacy;
- (iv) the building of capacity;
- (v) the management of conflicting interests in policy development;
- (vi) the need to consider monitoring and accountability to ensure compliance.









## NCDs and Political Will

UM 3rd HLM Political Declaration – reaffirms, commits, health-in-all policies, multistakeholder, multisectoral, whole-of-government, no one left behind, bla, bla...

"Decade of Action on Nutrition" – Bla, bla, bla...

"Time to Deliver" – Bla, bla, bla....





# What does it mean in real life





## Analysis of the Political Declaration of the 3<sup>rd</sup> High-level Meeting on NCDs

Douglas Webb, Mao Suzuki June 2019





## Background and the Purpose of the Paper

NCDs as a threat to health and development

But the NCDs governance is slow and insufficient

UNGA High-level Meetings on NCD



- Analysis of the 2018 Political Declaration
  - 1. Positions of different stakeholders: States, IGOs, private sector, NGOs and academia
  - 2. Influence of these stakeholders on the text

## Methods

#### Review of 159 documents submitted in the negotiation process

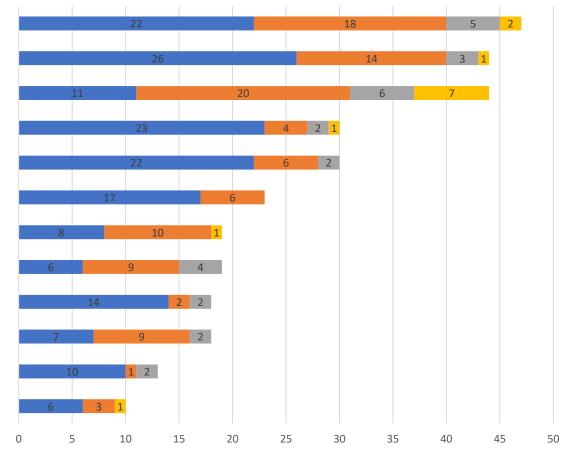
- What positions do the stakeholders advocate? Identifying main messages from stakeholders
- o Interactive hearing (July 5): Feedback on the draft Political Declaration by non-state actors
- High-level meeting (September 28): Statements by member states, IGOs and non-state actors, commenting on the finalized version of the Political Declaration

#### Comparison between the draft and final versions of the Pol Dec

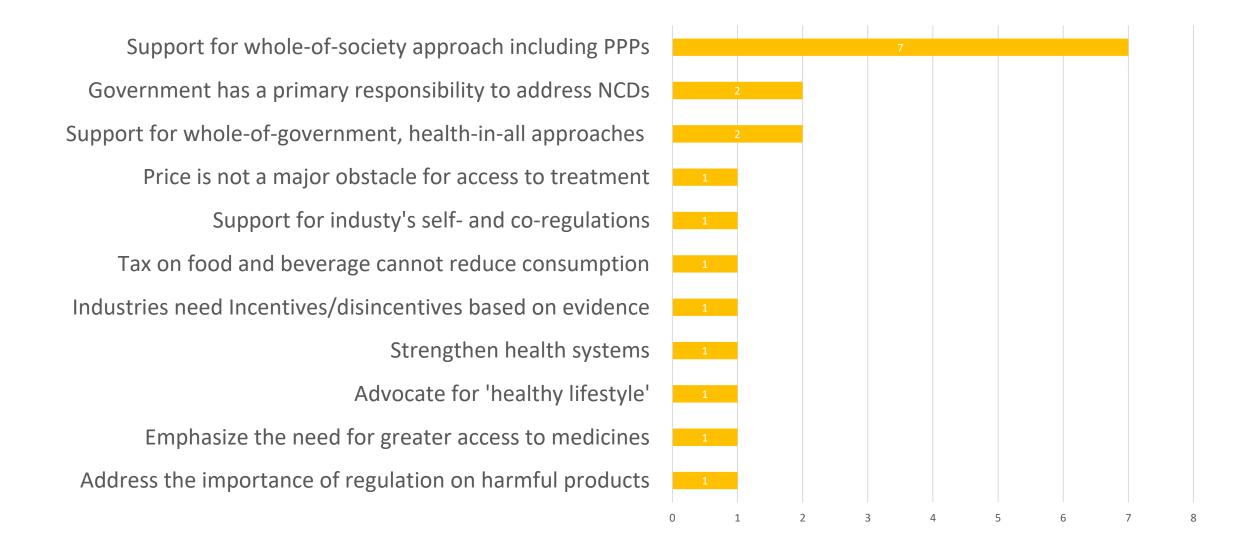
- What messages are added / deleted / ignored to the Declaration?
- Who advocated for these themes?

## Main Feedback Themes (in 159 submissions)

Support for whole-of-government, health-in-all approaches Address the importance of regulation on harmful products Support for whole-of-society approach, including PPPs Emphasize the need for greater access to medicines Warn against industry interference, call for COI management Emphasize the greater role of civil society Advocate for 'healthy lifestyle' Call for more funding and investments to deal with NCDs Need to create better accountability and monitoring systems Address physical environmental risk factors Address vulnerable population Strengthen health systems

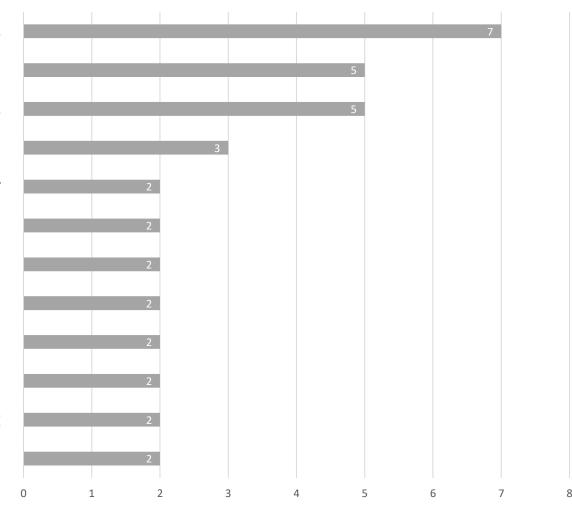


## Private Sector (9)

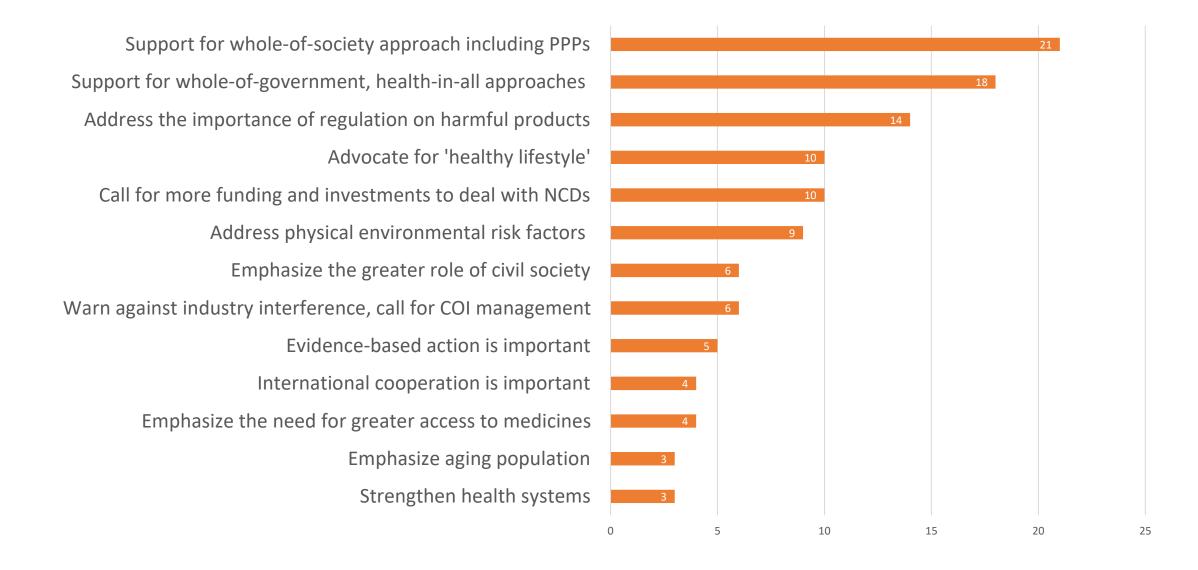


## IGOs (14)

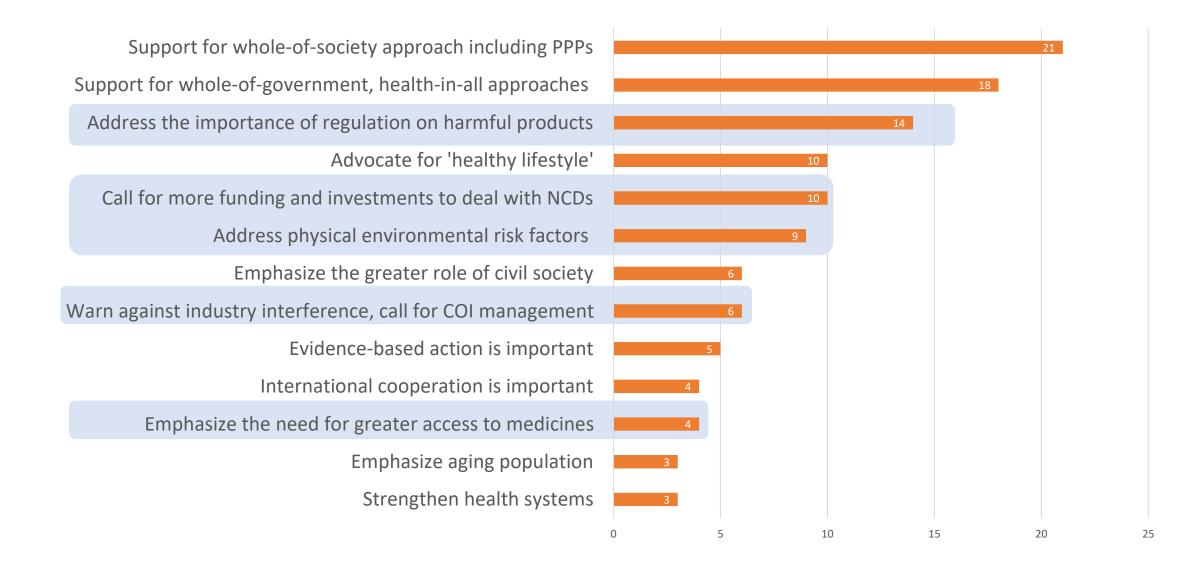
Support for whole-of-society approach including PPPs Support for whole-of-government, health-in-all approaches Call for more funding and investments to deal with NCDs Address the importance of regulation on harmful products Address mental health stronger Emphasize innovation, technology, investments in research Call for technical assistance and capacity building Address vulnerable population Need to create better accountability and monitoring systems Address physical environmental risk factors Warn against industry interference, call for COI management Emphasize the need for greater access to medicines



## Member States (37)

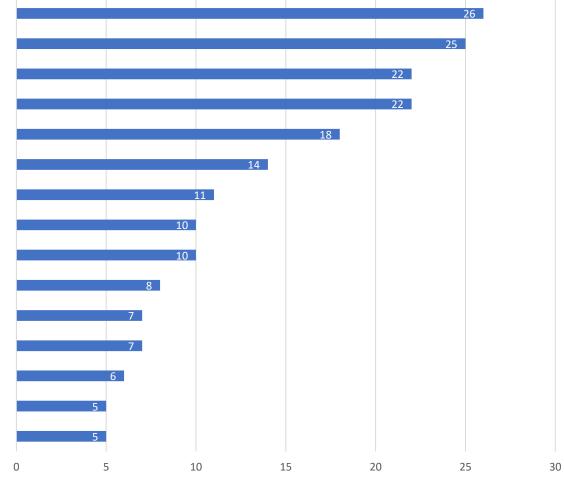


## Member States (37)



## NGOs and Academic Institutions (99)

Address the importance of regulation of harmful products Emphasize the need for greater access to medicines Warn against industry interference, call for COI management Support for whole-of-government, health-in-all approaches Emphasize the greater role of civil society Need to create better accountability and monitoring systems Support for whole-of-society approach including PPPs Address vulnerable population Advocate for 'healthy lifestyle' Address physical environmental risk factors Emphaze children and youth Call for more funding and investments to deal with NCDs Strengthen health systems Emphasize innovation, technology, investments in research Call for evidence-based policies that can fit national contexts



## **Major Changes**

#### Additions (Clear)

- Environmental risk factors
- Concerns of older persons and aging population
- Vulnerable population (women, girls, persons with disability and children)
- 'Healthy lifestyle'

#### Additions (Ambiguous)

- Access to medicines
- Reducing "harmful use of alcohol" and marketing to minors
- Participation of all relevant stakeholders, including the private sectors

#### **Omissions**

- Commercial determinants of health and management of COI
- More funding
- Monitoring system
- Greater role of civil society

## What These Changes Imply...

#### Additions (Clear)

- Environmental risk factors
- Concerns of older persons and aging population
- Vulnerable population (women, girls, persons with disability and children)
- 'Healthy lifestyle'

- A broad consensus
  - Environmental risk factors (MS & NGO & IGO)
  - 'Healthy lifestyle' (MS & NGO & PS)
- No opponent, advocated by high-income countries
  - Vulnerable population (mainly NGOs, but no opponent, no political cost?)
  - Aging population (mainly high-income states)

## What These Changes Imply...

#### Additions (Ambiguous)

- Access to medicines
- Reducing "harmful use of alcohol" and marketing to minors
- Participation of all relevant stakeholders, including the private sectors

#### Contested

- Access to medicines (NGO vs. PS on high price)
- Regulations on harmful products (NGO, LMICs vs. PS on taxation)
- Participation of all relevant stakeholders (PS, IGOs and MS vs. NGO on the role of business)

## What These Changes Imply...

#### **Omissions**

- Commercial determinants of health and management of COI
- More funding
- Monitoring system
- Greater role of civil society

- Contested
  - Commercial determinants of health and management of COI (NGO and LMICs vs PS)

- Lack of wide support
  - More funding (mainly LMICs)
  - Monitoring system (mainly NGOs)
  - Greater role of civil society (mainly NGOs)

## What These Findings Imply...

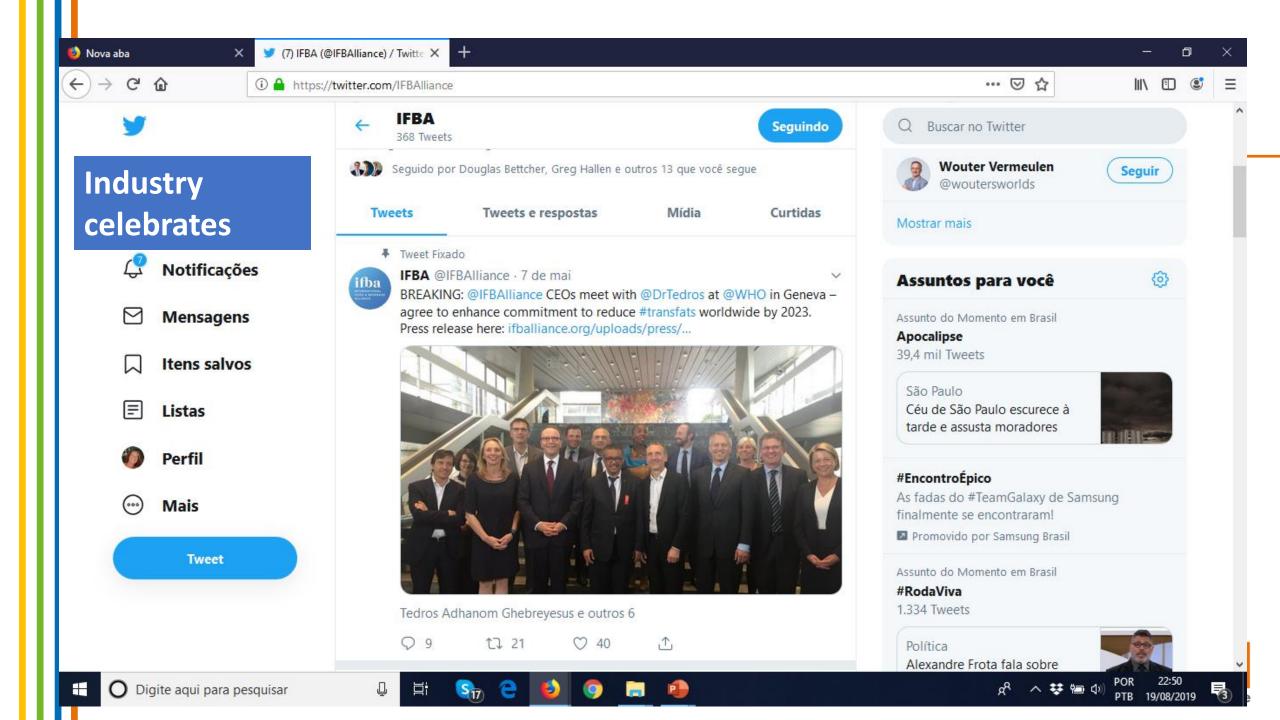
A broad consensus and the lack of 'opponent' is important

- Private sector and high-income countries as 'veto players' against NGOs and LMICs?
  - Stricter regulations on harmful products → Omitted
  - Management of COI → Omitted

- Power balance between high- and low/middle-income countries?
  - Aging population (3 statements by rich countries) → Included
  - More funding (9 statements by poorer countries) → Omitted

## Conclusion

- Need to recognize the risks in open and inclusive consultations
  - Negotiation process resembles 'consensus-based' decision making, and
  - The inclusion of business sector seems to cause biases and conflict of interest
  - Such biases and conflicts of interest can accrue to delay the development of cost-effective response frameworks
  - This trend can be seen not only in the making of Political Declaration but throughout the negotiation of NCDs governance (Whitaker and Webb 2018)



# **Civil Society organizations disappointed**

"We are disappointed that this Political Declaration is not nearly as ambitious, innovative nor ground-breaking as it needs to be to deliver on the commitments that Heads of State and Government made in 2011 and 2014," said Katie Dain, CEO of the **NCD Alliance**.

"We are particularly concerned at the lack of accountability mechanisms to track, measure and report on progress on the agreed targets for 2025 and 2030. We also deplore the absence of references to effective WHO Best Buys and policy measures like sugar, alcohol and tobacco taxes (STAX), and the extremely long timeline between now and the next proposed HLM, which not only throws the gate wide open for prolonged procrastination and further preventable suffering and loss of life, but also squanders any opportunity for the world's political leaders to realign the current trajectory of progress on NCD prevention and control if governments remain off track to achieving global targets agreed for 2025.



## **Back to Basics**

"Strengthen our commitment, as Heads of State and Government, to provide strategic leadership for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases by promoting greater policy coherence and coordination through whole-of-government and health-in-all-policies approaches and by engaging stakeholders in as appropriate, coordinated, comprehensive and integrated, bold whole-of-society action and response (UN2018)"

How many countries have the four Basic policies in place for the NCD risk factors??

(Marketing restrictions, Healthy environments, taxation, labelling)



# There is a huge difference between doing something and solving the problem of NCD Prevention/alcohol control



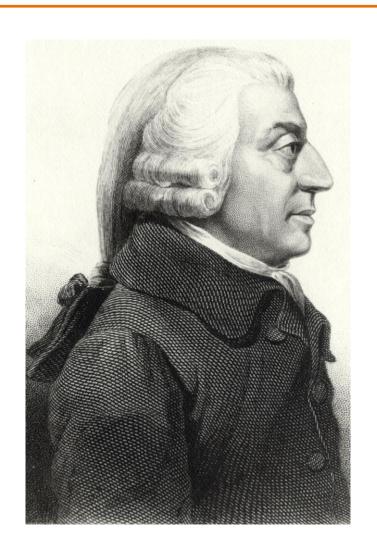
## Lack of Evidence?

#### Public health advocates have to prove:

- That marketing restrictions of harmful products works
- That higher prices decreases consumption
- That clear information is a basic consumer right
- That healthier environments promotes healthier choices



## **Adam Smith**



Sugar, rum and tobacco are commodities wich are nowhere necessaries of life, wich are become objects of almost universal consumption, and wich are therefore extremely proper subjects of taxation.

Adam Smith - An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of The Wealth of Nations - 1776
Fonte: https://www.who.int/tobacco/research/economics/prices\_taxes\_revenues/en/



# NCD ADVOCACY REPORT Fool Me **Twice** With tactics perfected by the tobacco industry over delay and derail policies that save millions of lives. LET'S NOT BE FOOLED AGAIN.

## **Challenges**

Vital Strategies report published in Dec 2017

Multinational food, soda and alcohol giants are employing the same tactics that made tobacco a pariah in the global public health conversation nearly two decades ago.

Corporate food, soda and alcohol giants, whose products undermine health and wellbeing, shouldn't be given the chance to derail or impede progress on fighting noncommunicable diseases (NCDs).

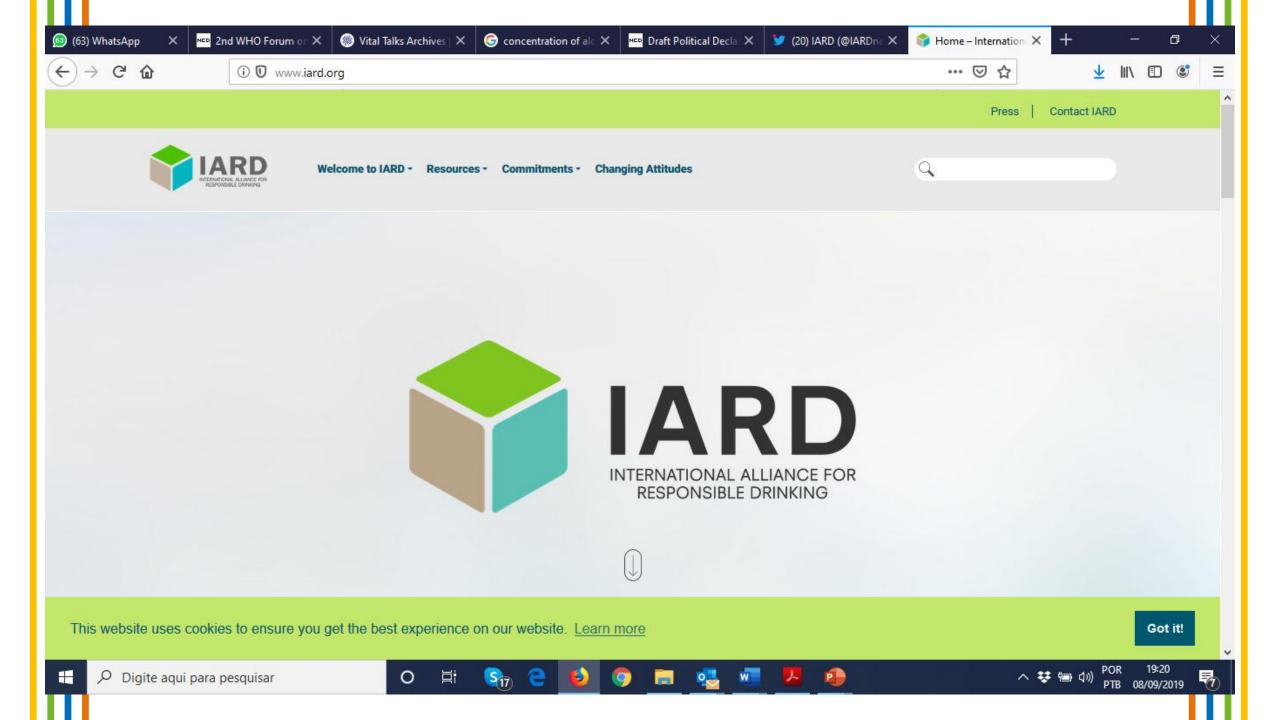
https://www.vitalstrategies.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/FoolMeTwice Report.pdf



## Front Groups/Financing Scientists









## PPPs & SDGs

























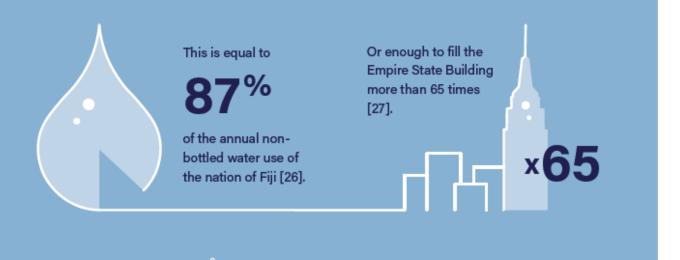
## Diversionism

## Doing more with less





\*AB InBev, Bacardi, Beam Suntory, Brown-Forman, Carlsberg, Diageo, Heineken, Molson Coors, and Pernod Ricard are among BIER's 17 member companies.



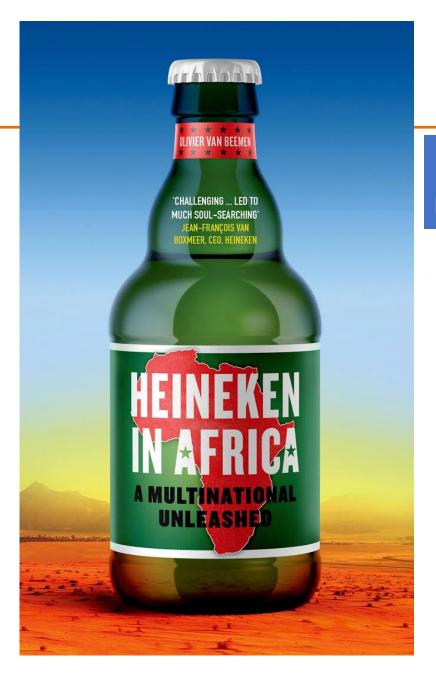






The Heineken Africa Foundation funds partnerships between NGOs and local company operations that provide communities with mother and child care and water, sanitation, and hygiene services [17].

**Industry narrative** 



# **Independent** narratives





https://s3.a...



Voos Promo...

MENU 🗏



Selecione s.

Online - Pai...

#### HEINEKEN NO ROCK IN RIO 2019

Online - Pós..

NOTÍCIA

Online - Pai...

O Rock in Rio 2017 mal acabou e a edição 2019 já está em pauta. Durante o evento desse ano, Vanessa Brandão, diretora de Marketing da Heineken, confirmou a parceria da marca e ofestival para 2019.

"Nosso relacionamento com a **família Medina** e com todo o **time do Rock in Rio** é muito próximo. Essa semana já começamos a discutir os termos da parceria para 2019. Estamos juntos desde 2011, e é uma parceria que vem se estreitando e se firmando a cada edição. E crescendo, o que é o mais importante", diz **Vanessa**.

A colaboração entre o evento e a marca contribui para a firmação de um dos pilares de **ativações da Heineken**, que aposta no **esporte (UEFA Champions League e F1)** e no entretenimento: "Cerveja é diversão, é estar com os amigos curtindo, se divertindo. E música tem tudo a ver com esse momento. Dentro da plataforma de música, o **Rock in Rio** é um dos eventos mais importantes para a **Heineken**", diz a **diretora**.





15 A 50 =



COPO ESPECIAL

51 A 100 =



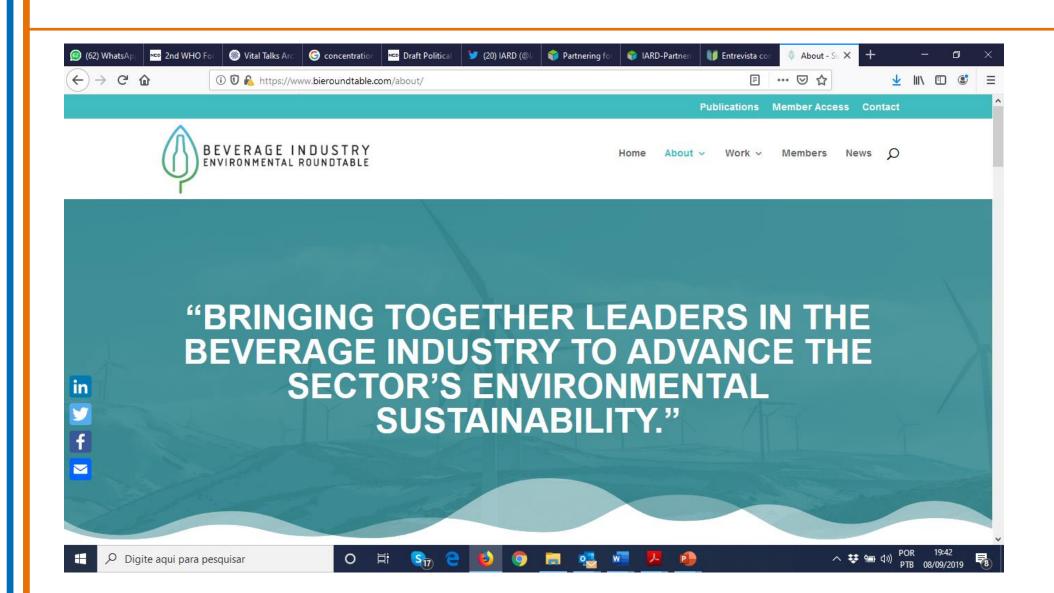
COPOS ESPECIAIS

+100





### Where they all meet





## Diversionism – Re-framing

Self-regulation – Voluntary Agreements

Education

Individual choice / responsibility

**Product reformulation** 

It is too complex – food and alcohol are not like tobacco

Drink in moderation / drink responsibly



# **Asymmetries**





### Power Imbalance – Brazil – Alcohol

#### 5 vs 50%

Brazil's five richest men have the same wealth as poorest 50% of the population; more than a 100 million people





Jorge Paulo Lemann





Marcel Herrmann Telles





Beto Sicupira



### The Solution

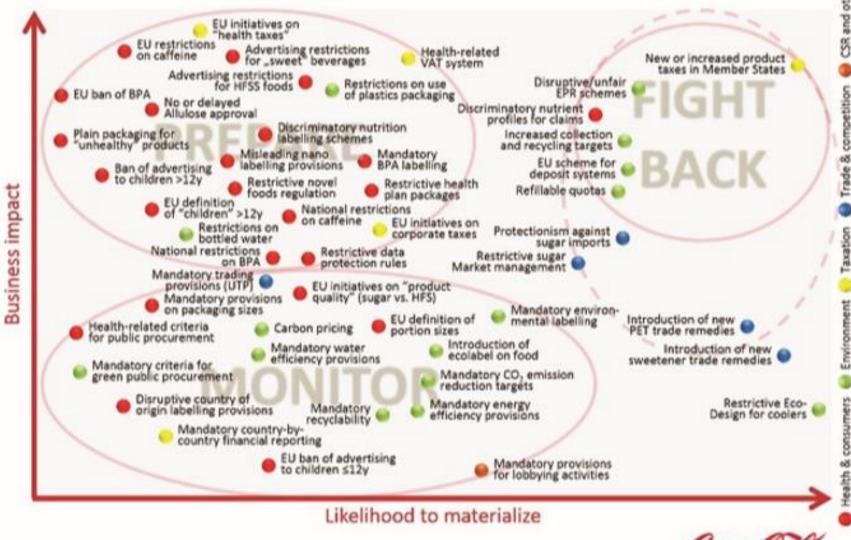
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## Learning from our adversary

COLD	LITTLE WARM	WARMING UP	НОТ
Few and rare interest among stakeholders	There is regulation in other jurisdictions, but it is not yet debated in Brazil	More stakeholders promoting regulation	Regulation consolidated in other jurisdictions
Little attention in traditional media and in social media	Potential to become an important topic	Significant coverage by mainstream and social media	Intense debate/public pressure about the issue
No <b>Big NGO</b> debating the issue	Some media attention	Society is worried about the issue – it can become a high risk in the future	Main stakeholders advocating about the issue – Big risk



#### Public policy risk matrix & lobby focus





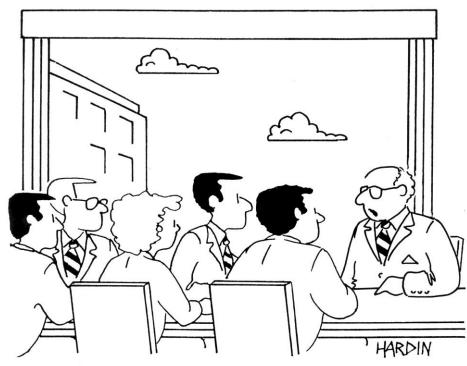








## Risk of Regulation



"We've considered every potential risk except the risks of avoiding all risks."





### Notes of Hope

"It can be difficult to speak truth to power. Circumstances, however, have made doing so increasingly necessary."

Aberjhani

"It's kind of fun to do the impossible." Walt Disney "You see things; you say, 'Why?'
But I dream things that never
were; and I say 'Why not?"
George Bernard Shaw

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

Elegnor Roosevelt



