

29. Can Tobacco Executives Be Held Criminally Responsible for the Tobacco-Related Deaths of their Customers?

Thursday, 19 March 2015, 16:00 - 17:30



Type	Symposium
Track	Globalisation of tobacco industry interference: FCTC Art. 5.3
Topic	Litigation as a tool
Description	The lethal consequences of smoking have been known to tobacco corporations for decades, yet they continue the manufacturing, sale and promotion of cigarettes, with full knowledge that the ordinary use of cigarettes causes death. In light of the above, we believe that it is now time to consider criminal laws to ensure that tobacco companies and their executives face the rule of law and justice. This presentation will identify and discuss possible venues and criminal charges.
Target audience	Government attorneys, legislatures, administrators, policy makers, NGOs, tobacco control researchers, tobacco control lawyers and social scientists, public health professionals and media.
Objectives	1. Discuss the feasibility of levying criminal charges against tobacco executives 2. Identify the possible defenses to these criminal charges 3. Identify possible domestic and international mechanisms and venues for charges to be brought
Keywords	industry liability; litigation; law; FCTC; Article 19; criminal law
Coordinator(s)	Chris Bostic (USA)
Chair(s)	Doug Blanke (USA), Patricia Lambert (South Africa)
Presentations	16:00 - 16:15» Introduction and bases for criminal liability of the tobacco industry Kelsey Romeo-Stuppy (USA) 16:15 - 16:30» Implications of the RICO trial in the United States on criminal liability for the tobacco industry Sharon Eubanks (USA) 16:30 - 16:45» Domestic criminal liability outside the United States Patricia Lambert (South Africa) 16:45 - 17:00» Criminal liability under the Inter-American human rights system Oscar Cabrera (USA) 17:00 - 17:30» Discussion