

## Youth Vision

### The 12th Asia Pacific Conference on Tobacco or Health

Bali, Indonesia, 13 of September 2018

**We** the youth of the twelfth Asia Pacific Conference on Tobacco or Health are 100 percent committed to **end tobacco** to achieve Sustainable Development Goals or the SDGs. A new era where youth take the baton of leadership in tobacco control **has begun**.

Globally/ more than seven million people's lives **end** prematurely due to smoking. One billion men and women **ages 15** and older **smoke**. Some of them are exposed to smoking in their homes and at public places. Each and every one of these deaths causes immense pain and **suffering**.

Now, imagine that we could turn back time to **before** the tobacco industry had influence and control in our communities and our countries' policies and prevent these problems. If cigarettes are **expensive**, if advertising and sponsorship were **banned**, if we had **clean air** to breathe everywhere.

We cannot turn back time, but we can prevent future **unnecessary deaths**. We can protect children from tobacco products and their advertising.

When youth become the **target** of this irresponsible action then we must come forward as the champion of **a new wave of change**. We come to APACT with our inquisitiveness, passion, and **energy**. We implore policymakers, all sectors of government, civil society members, and other stakeholders to recognize that holding the tobacco industry accountable is **non-negotiable**. The industry must be held **responsible** for every damaging action they have done, every dollar they invested, to destroy each and every life. We call for **bolder action** in pursuit of the following goals:

1. Build healthier lives and tobacco-free generation for the future.
2. Encourage stronger commitment from high-level decision makers to end tobacco's favouritism in countries' policy agendas by meaningful implementation of FCTC.
3. Enforce smart fiscal policies, like tobacco taxes that will prevent vulnerable groups and children from starting to smoke and the consequences from smoking.
4. Support, strengthen, and mobilize youth voices and civil society movement toward impactful campaign.

As Big Tobacco's target, **we**, the youth of the Asia Pacific region stand up and call for the right to breathe fresh air, not smoke, and not be exposed to tobacco advertising. The fate of the SDGs in 2030 will depend on the quality of **life** and **health** of **youth today**. We urge policy makers and community leaders to acknowledge the importance of **meaningful involvement** of youth in tobacco control policy-making to achieve the SDGs. We are **not** the leaders of tomorrow, we are the leaders of **today**. We will continue the important work to end tobacco's harm in our communities in our countries and in the Asia-Pacific region.

**Together** we can make a tobacco-free world

**CHOOSE YOUTH, NOT TOBACCO!**