Bloomberg Philanthropies is proud to announce the 2009 winners of the Bloomberg Awards for Global Tobacco Control.

The Bloomberg Awards for Global Tobacco Control have been created to recognize governments or non-governmental organizations in low- and middle-income countries demonstrating excellent progress or achievement in implementation of MPOWER policies. MPOWER, established by the World Health Organization as part of the implementation plan for FCTC, describes six of the most effective tobacco control policies: Monitoring the epidemic and prevention policies, Protecting people from secondhand smoke, Offering help to people who want to quit, Warning about the dangers of tobacco, Enforcing bans on advertising, promotion and sponsorship, and Raising taxes and prices.

Awards are being presented to governments or non-governmental organizations for achievement or progress in an MPOWER category. Nominations and selection for the Bloomberg Awards for Global Tobacco Control were completed by an international expert panel.

The 2009 Bloomberg Awards winners are:

- **Environmental Right Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria (ERA/FOEN)** for monitoring and then publicizing tobacco industry activities intended to increase tobacco use and undermine tobacco control efforts.

- **Mexico City Secretary of Health** for protecting people from the dangers of tobacco smoke by providing essential political commitment to the recent passage of comprehensive smoke-free air legislation.

- **Action on Smoking and Health Thailand (ASH Thailand)** for warning people about the dangers of tobacco by providing extensive support to the revision of Thailand’s health warnings, ensuring that they were as strong as possible.

- **Coalicion Panamena contra el Tabaquismo (COPACET)** for supporting enforcement of bans on tobacco advertising, sponsorship and promotion.

The 2009 Bloomberg Awards are being presented at a public ceremony at the 14th World Conference on Tobacco OR Health in Mumbai, India in March 2009. Each organization has sent a representative to accept the award at the ceremony in Mumbai. The awardee representatives are:

- Mr. Akinbode Oluwafemi, Programme Manager, ERA/FOEN
- Dr. Armando Ahued, Secretary of Health, Mexico City Secretary of Health
- Dr. Prakit Vathesatogkit, Executive Secretary, ASH Thailand
- Dr. Nelyda Gligo, Director, COPACET

Bloomberg Philanthropies is pleased to recognize each organization for their tireless work to combat the tobacco epidemic.