

The Republic



of The Gambia

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE

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To all addressees

HEALTH WARNINGS

Following the ratification of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco control (WHO FCTC) in June 2007, the Ministry of Health & Social Welfare is taking a mandatory approach to implement effective measures as prescribed in the Convention for the interest of Public health.

Article 11 (packaging and labeling of tobacco products) of the WHO FCTC is a great concern to parties and therefore needs to be addressed urgently.

In that light, you are hereby informed that all tobacco products entering The Gambia for domestic use should carry health warnings describing the harmful effects of tobacco use as follows with effects from October 2010.

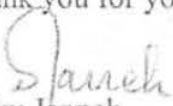
Each unit package should carry the messages "SMOKING KILLS" in the front part whiles at the back, "SMOKING SERIOUSLY HARMS YOU AND OTHERS AROUND YOU".

The above messages should be bold, clear, visible and legible and they should occupy 30% of the principal display areas on both sides.

In addition to the health warnings specified above, it should also contain information on relevant constituents on one side whiles indicating on the other side 'Sold in The Gambia'.

Meanwhile, the focal person for tobacco control in the Ministry of health Mr. Yorro Bah will continue to monitor all tobacco related activities and keep us informed for appropriate actions.

Thank you for your cooperation


Saiku Janneh
Ag. Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Health & Social Welfare

Cc: Director of Health Services
Focal Person for tobacco Control