

**Georgian Government**

**Decree/resolution N 14**

**January 15, 2018**

**Tbilisi**

**Regarding enacting the law on the maximum norms admissible for substances (nicotine, tar, choking gas) emitted from filtered and unfiltered cigarettes to be sold in Georgia, laws on their measurement and regulation in the areas where tobacco products are sold, as well as the medical warnings on the box/carton and packaging.**

**Article 1**

Regarding the Georgian law “regarding tobacco control” and making changes in the Georgian law “regarding tobacco control” in accordance to paragraph one, article 2 of Georgian law ([www.matsne.gov.ge](http://www.matsne.gov.ge), May 30, 2017, 340150000.05.001.018458):

1. To approve the maximum norms admissible for substances (nicotine, tar, choking gas) emitted from filtered and unfiltered cigarettes to be sold in Georgia, laws on their measurement and regulation in the areas where tobacco products are sold, as well as the medical warnings on the box/carton and packaging.
2. Tobacco products to be sold in Georgia should conform to this decree in accordance to the timeframe determined by the Georgian law “regarding tobacco control”.

**Article 2**

This law should become effective upon publishing.

**Prime Minister**

**Giorgi Kvirikashvili**

**To approve the maximum norms admissible for substances (nicotine, tar, choking gas) emitted from filtered and unfiltered cigarettes to be sold in Georgia, laws on their measurement and regulation in the areas where tobacco products are sold, as well as the medical warnings on the box/carton and packaging.**

**Article 1. General provisions**

This order applies to those individuals whose work is connected to manufacturing, sale and/or import of tobacco products.

**Article 2. Term interpretations**

The terms used in the above order have the following meanings:

- a) Tobacco product – any product containing tobacco or its elements (except for medical means containing nicotine), intended for smoking, chewing or sniffing, among them:
  - a.a) Filtered cigarettes, unfiltered cigarettes;
  - a.b) Papirosa, cigars, cigarillos;
  - a.c) Pipe tobacco, tobacco intended for hookah;
  - a.d) Rolling tobacco;
  - a.e) Chewing tobacco, snoozing tobacco, inhaling tobacco;
  - a.f) Ingredients/cartridge/capsules for electronic cigarettes or other similar equipment containing nicotine.
- b) Non-smoking tobacco – tobacco product not intended for smoking, in particular, chewing, snoozing or inhaling tobacco;
- c) Smoking tobacco – inhaling first-hand smoke or steam emitted as a result of tobacco product burning or heating;
- d) Medical warning – medical warning – warning sign about harmful effect from smoking, which should include the corresponding pictogram;
- e) Substance poured from tobacco product – substance, which is emitted by using the tobacco product as intended, in particular the substance in the smoking tobacco smoke, cigarettes or other smoking tobacco, which is secreted as a result of tobacco use, as well as the substance derived from using chewing tobacco, snoozing tobacco, inhaling tobacco;
- f) Nicotine – Nicotine alkaloids;
- g) Tar – tobacco smoke condensate which is moist, dehydrated and without nicotine;
- h) Choking gas – carbon monoxide (CO);
- i) Rotation – medical warning alternation.
- j) Ingredient – all substances, which are added to the tobacco, including the substances which are added to the tobacco leaves and other natural or processed tobacco products, including non-tobacco product, which is added during manufacturing tobacco product and is presented in the final form of this product, even in a changed form;
- k) Single packaging – any container or box where the tobacco product is placed;
- l) Packaging means - :
  - m.a) Any container, carton, box, package, plastic bag, jar, bag, sack, tube or other container, where the tobacco product is placed;

m.b) Any packing paper or casing, which is used for outer wrapping of the tobacco product;

m.c) Any material is attached or is affixed on a tobacco product or the items listed in the “a” and “b” subparagraphs.

n) Plastic bag – initial packaging of rolling tobacco, which is made from a flexible material, has a rectangle shape and has a hole for opening which opens and closes with sticky closing brim;

o) Casing – outer transparent packaging of a tobacco box or other package;

p) Outer surface – any surface, which is visible prior to opening of a tobacco package. In case of a bag form packaging, it also includes the surface of the bag, which is covered with a brim;

q) Inner surface – the surface, besides outer surface;

r) Cigarette – any type of bundle or tube type construction containing tobacco or its elements, which is wrapped in a paper or other material permitted by the law, which does not contain tobacco.

### **Article 3 The maximum amount of norms admissible for the substance (nicotine, tar, choking gas) emitted from the filtered and unfiltered cigarettes intended for sale in Georgia, their measurement and regulation laws**

1. The concentration of substances, which includes nicotine, tar and choking gas, emitted from the filtered and unfiltered cigarettes intended for sale in Georgia, should be no more than:
  - a) For tar – 10mg per cigarette;
  - b) For nicotine – 1mg per cigarette;
  - c) For choking gas – 10mg per cigarette (only for filtered cigarettes).
2. The concentration for substances emitted from filtered and unfiltered cigarettes, in particular nicotine, tar and choking gas, should be determined:
  - a) Nicotine ISO – by 10315;
  - b) Tar ISO – by 4387;
  - c) Choking gas ISO – by 8454;
  - d) During packing, the exact amount of tar, nicotine and choking gas concentrates should be verified by ISO-8243 standard.
3. The manufacturer or/and the importer should verify conducting measurement standards of substances (nicotine, tar, choking gas) emitted from filtered and unfiltered cigarettes and should supply the Georgian Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs the documents verifying the above by May 31<sup>st</sup> of every year. The list of these documents is determined by the decree of the Minister of Health, Labor and Social Affairs. The tobacco manufacturer or/and importer should guarantee the conformity of the above tobacco product with the data indicated in the documents. At the same time, the tobacco product manufacturer or/and importer should supply the Ministry in the timeframe indicated in this paragraph, the information about the tobacco product ingredients (in particular, the list of ingredients, amount and weight).
4. In accordance with the Georgian law “regarding tobacco control”, article 12(1), paragraph 3, it is possible to attach the label in accordance to this decree on the filtered

and unfiltered cigarette packaging by January 1, 2019, about the substance emitted from the filtered and unfiltered cigarettes, which should conform to the results determined by the ISO standards established by paragraph 2 of this article.

**Article 4. General and additional medical warnings to be placed on the tobacco product (besides non-smoking tobacco and electronic cigarettes) packaging intended for sale in Georgia**

1. The following general medical warnings should be placed on the packaging of the tobacco product intended for sale in Georgia (besides the Abkhaz Autonomous Republic):
  - a) Smoking kills;
  - b) Smokers die early;
  - c) Smoking poses serious harm to you and those around you.
2. The following additional medical warnings should be placed on the boxes and cartons of the tobacco product intended for sale in Georgia (besides the Abkhaz Autonomous Republic):
  - a) Tobacco use causes throat cancer;
  - b) By smoking, you double the risk for stroke;
  - c) Smoking harms the fetus;
  - d) Tobacco use causes the bladder cancer;
  - e) Tobacco use might cause erectile dysfunction;
  - f) Smoking tobacco damages your gums and teeth;
  - g) Do not force children to inhale tobacco smoke;
  - h) Smoking causes blindness;
  - i) Smoking causes peripheral blood vessel diseases.
3. Together with the additional medical warnings on the packaging of the tobacco product (besides non-smoking tobacco and electronic cigarettes) intended for sale in Georgia (besides the Abkhaz Autonomous Republic), the following contact telephone number should be placed with the label: “in order to stop smoking, call: 116001, the call is free”.
4. The packaging of the tobacco product intended for sale at the Abkhaz Autonomous Republic (besides non-smoking tobacco and electronic cigarettes) should have, in accordance to the articles 2 and 3 of this paragraph, general and additional medical warnings in Georgian language, contact telephone number and attached test, as well as the below text with corresponding general and additional medical warnings and contact telephone number in Abkhazian language as established by this decree (attachment N3).
5. Together with the additional warnings on the packaging of the tobacco product intended for sale in Georgia (besides non-smoking tobacco and electronic cigarettes) there should be corresponding pictograms established by this decree, appendix N4.
6. Tobacco manufacturers or/and importers should ensure the use and rotation of general and additional medical warnings and corresponding pictograms “regarding tobacco control” as established by this article in accordance to the Georgian law, article 6, paragraph 5.

**Article 5. Text labeling to be placed on the non-smoking tobacco product packaging intended for sale in Georgia**

1. The following text labeling should be placed on the non-smoking tobacco product packaging (besides the Abkhaz Autonomous Republic):

“Tobacco use causes dependence and harms your health. In order to stop smoking, please call: 116001, the call is free”

2. Non-smoking tobacco product packaging on the Abkhaz Autonomous Republic territory should have the text labeling in Abkhazian as well:

[translator’s note: insert Abkhazian text from the bottom of page 5]

**Article 6. The format of the information sheet to be placed on the electronic cigarette packaging intended for sale in Georgia**

1. The format of the information sheet to be placed in the packaging of electronic cigarettes should meet the following general requirements:
  - a) The text on the information sheet should be double-sided;
  - b) The text of the information sheet to be placed in the electronic cigarette packaging to be sold in Georgia (besides the Abkhaz Autonomous Republic) should be in Georgian language (besides the e-mail address) with black letters and white background. The font for the text should be standard Georgian font Sylfaen, and for the Abkhaz Autonomous Republic, in Abkhaz language – with the font Amra;
  - c) The text should be a minimum of size 10 font, besides the information sheet “warning” part. The information to be placed in this part should be minimum of 2 font sizes bigger;
  - d) The information sheet text, images or other elements should not include any fake, incorrect or inaccurate information about the nature of tobacco products, harmful effects or harmful substances emitted. In addition, no words, abbreviations, signs, graphics, numbers or images should be used in Georgian State or/and in other foreign language, would directly or indirectly create incorrect impression about the harmful effects of this tobacco product vs other similar product. Also, they cannot be used in naming a brand or trademark, in particular, the words “light”, “soft”, “less harsh”, “ultrasoft”, “lower consistency”, “extra”, “ultra”, “menthol”, etc. Also, the information sheet should not indicate that this product facilitates healthy lifestyle or information which describes the taste of the product, likening it to food or cosmetic product and the safe and unharmed effects of the product with environmental effects or environmental protection.
2. The information sheet placed in the electronic cigarette packaging should be composed of 4 standard parts:
  - a) The ingredients of the electronic cigarette;
  - b) Warning;

- c) Instructions on using and storage of electronic cigarettes;
  - d) Contact information.
3. Each part of the information sheet should include the following type of information:
- a) The ingredients of the electronic cigarettes – in this part of the information sheet, there should be the information in the electronic cigarette cartridge, capsule or substances placed in any other type of container and those emitted from the aerosol after using, in particular:
    - a.a) The nicotine in the product and the dose after one inhalation (puffs);
    - a.b) The names and amounts of ingredients in the product.
  - b) Warning – this part should include the information established with the following paragraphs:
    - b.a) In the warning part on separate lines, the following warnings should be placed in this order:
      - b.a.a) “Using this product is harmful for your health”;
      - b.a.b) “This product contains nicotine, which is a substance causing strong dependency”;
      - b.a.c) “Using this product is not recommended for youth and non-smokers”;
      - b.a.d) “This product is not a proven means for stopping smoking”;
      - b.a.e) “It is forbidden to sell this product to underage children”.
    - b.b) Besides the warnings defined by paragraph “b.a”, this part should also include:
      - b.b.a) The warnings about possible specific risk groups, whose information is known to the product manufacturer/importer;
      - b.b.b) The warnings about the toxicity of the product or possible complications caused by its use whose information is known to the manufacturer/importer.
  - c) The instructions on using and storage of electronic cigarettes – this part should include:
    - c.a) Information about those conditions (temperature, moisture, storage place, etc.) where the product can be stored and used;

- c.b) Indications on the possible technical problems and information about how this product should be stored for third party, especially at a safe location, unreachable for children.
- d) Contact information – this part should include information on the manufacturer or importer of this product, who can be reached by the user/interested party in Georgia. In particular, the name of the company/importer, address, contact telephone number and e-mail address.

### **Article 7. Technical parameters of the medical warnings and ingredient labels placed on the packaging**

The medical warnings and ingredient labels placed on the tobacco product packaging should meet the requirements of paragraphs 6 and 8 of article 6 of Georgian law “regarding tobacco control” as well as the following technical parameters:

- a) It should be in Georgian language with standard Sylfaen font and in Abkhaz language – with Amra font which should be bolded;
- b) The font should be of maximum size so that the label can take the whole allotted part, at the same time, it should not touch the surrounding lines or pictogram edges;
- c) If the Georgian and Abkhaz labels are used together, the font of both texts should be of the same size;
- d) The distance between intervals and lines should be standard;
- e) The placement should be central;
- f) If the Georgian and Abkhaz labels are used together, the Abkhaz text should be placed on the following line after the Georgian text;
- g) The labels should be on the white background and black letters or on the black background with white letter; the white background should be surrounded with black frame, and the black background should be surrounded with the white frame, which does not cross and touch the letters; the thickness of the frame should be 1mm;
- h) The pictogram sample should correspond to the additional medical warning text and should take no less than 70% of the size (besides surrounding lines) for the warning if the warning is in one language. If the warning is in two languages, it should be no less than 60%;
- i) The warning text together with pictograms and the contact telephone number with the corresponding label should be placed on the pictogram part with the corresponding size, design and technical parameters, as it is indicated in the electronic sample;
- j) Additional medical warning should be placed on the front side of the box, and the general medical warning – on the back side. The contact telephone number with the corresponding label should be placed below the additional warning label, with the two-line interval. The telephone number – with the same type of font size, and the attached text – 2 standard sizes smaller. The lines and intervals should be standard. The labels and number should be bolded, on the right side and should not touch the warning edges;

- k) The contact telephone number with the corresponding label should be placed on 2 lines, from which the text “in order to stop smoking, call:” should be placed on the first and “116001”, the call is free” should be placed on the second.

#### **Article 8. Technical parameters on the tobacco product packaging for the pictograms**

The pictograms placed on the tobacco product packaging should meet the requirements of paragraph 6 and 8 of article 6 of Georgian law “regarding tobacco control”, as well as the following technical parameters:

- a) The pictograms should be printed as the original electronic sample without any changes, in the same proportions, colors or/and composition. In addition, taking the tobacco box form/size into consideration, in order to maintain the pictogram proportions, prominence and warnings, one of the variants (square, horizontal, rectangle or vertical rectangle shape) from the 3 pictogram samples as supplied by appendix 4. If the tobacco manufacturers and/ or importers request the electronic version, the Georgian Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs will provide it to them;
- b) The upper edge of the pictogram should be placed in parallel of the upper edge of the box or the carton;
- c) The side and upper edges of the pictogram should touch the surrounding lines;
- d) The pictograms should be printed in 4 colors/-CMYK-/, minimum of 150 lpi lines per 2,54 centimeters (one inch);
- e) The color combinations should be accurate.

#### **Article 9. Medical warning text and its placement parameters in the tobacco product sale areas in Georgia**

- 1. Medical warnings should be placed in the tobacco sale areas with the following text: “smoking kills”, “it is forbidden to sell the tobacco product to underage children”, “in order to stop smoking, call: 116001, the call is free. Disease Control and National Public Health Center named after L. Sakvarelidze”.
- 2. The medical warning text should be placed in the places visual in the tobacco sale areas, it should not be less than A4 format and should meet the following technical parameters:
  - a) The text should be separated on the following lines with the sequence indicated in the first paragraph of this article;
  - b) The label should be on a white background with black font, or on the black background with white font, with standard Georgian font Sylfaen and it should be bolded;
  - c) The font should be of maximum size so that the label can fully take the space allotted for it, at the same time, it should not touch the edges;
  - d) The intervals and the distance between the lines should be standard;
  - e) The placement should be central.



**Attachment N2**

**General and additional medical warnings in Georgian language on the tobacco product boxes and cartons intended for sale in Georgia**

1. General medical warnings:
  - a) Smoking kills;
  - b) Smokers die early;
  - c) Smoking poses serious harm to you and to those around you.
  
2. Additional medical warnings:
  - a) Tobacco use causes throat cancer;
  
  - b) By smoking, you double your chances of stroke risk;
  
  - c) Smoking harms the fetus;
  
  - d) Tobacco use causes gallbladder cancer;
  
  - e) Tobacco use could cause erectile dysfunction;
  
  - f) Tobacco smoking harms your gums and teeth;
  
  - g) Do not force children to inhale tobacco smoke;
  
  - h) Smoking causes blindness;
  
  - i) Smoking causes peripheral blood vessel diseases.
  
3. Contact telephone number and attached label:  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free.

**Attachment N3**

**General and additional medical warnings on the tobacco product boxes and cartons for tobacco product intended for sale in Georgia in Georgian and Abkhaz languages**

1. General medical warnings:
  - a) Smoking kills – [translator’s note: paste the text in Abkhaz language]
  
  - b) Smokers die early – [paste the text in Abkhaz language]

c) Smoking poses serious harm to you and to those around you [paste the text in Abkhaz language]

2. Additional medical warnings:

a) Tobacco use causes throat cancer – [paste the text in Abkhaz language]

b) By smoking, you double the chances of stroke- [paste the text in Abkhaz language]

c) Smoking harms the fetus - [place the text in Abkhaz language]

d) Tobacco use causes gall bladder cancer – [place the text in Abkhaz language]

e) Tobacco use might cause erectile dysfunction – [place the text in Abkhaz language]

f) Smoking tobacco harms your gums and teeth – [place the text in Abkhaz language]

g) Do not force children inhale tobacco smoke – [place the text in Abkhaz language]

h) Tobacco causes blindness – [place the text in Abkhaz language]

i) Tobacco smoking causes peripheral blood vessel diseases – [place the text in Abkhaz language]

3. Contact telephone number and attached label:

In order to stop smoking, call: 116001, the call is free  
[paste the text in Abkhaz language]

**Attachment N4**

**Additional medical warnings and corresponding pictogram samples**

[page 1]

Smoking harms the fetus

Smoking causes blindness

[page 2]

Smoking causes gall bladder cancer

Smoking causes peripheral blood vessel disease

[page 3]

Tobacco use can cause erectile dysfunction

By smoking, you double the stroke risk

[page 4]

Tobacco smoking harms your gums and teeth

Tobacco use causes throat cancer

[page 5]

Do not force children inhale tobacco smoke

## Attachment N5

### Sample of placing additional medical warnings on the tobacco box

Text should be central

The total size of medical warnings is  
No less than 65% of the page

Font Sylfaen

The pictogram size is no less than  
70% of the page, if bi-lingual, then  
No less than 60%

Bolded text

Text does not touch the warning edges

The font size is the same (for  
example N)

The distance 2-line interval  
(or 1 ENTER in word, or 2 in Corel)

Font size is less than 2 standard units  
(for example N-2)

Thickness of the frame line is 1 mm

On the right

First line

Second line

**Smoking causes blindness  
In order to stop smoking, call  
116001, the call is free**