

**N538 September 5, 2014 Tbilisi**

**regarding allowed threshold of standards for ingredients, measurement and regulation policies of the tobacco products intended for sale in Georgia and confirming technical regulations of the medical warning on the boxes, packages and advertisements at the tobacco product sale areas**

**Article 1.** Product safety and free movement code, 1st part of article 56, 2nd part of article 58 and 5<sup>th</sup> part of article 103, in accordance of article 25 of Georgian law “regarding tobacco control” and “regarding normative acts”:

1. To confirm the attached “regarding allowed threshold of standards for ingredients, measurement and regulation policies of the tobacco products intended for sale in Georgia and technical regulations of the medical warning on the boxes, packages and advertisements at the tobacco product sale areas”.
2. To cancel decree N 122/N dated March 27, 2009 issued by the Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia regarding confirmation of “allowed threshold of standards for ingredients, measurement and regulation policies of the tobacco products intended for sale in Georgia and medical warning on the boxes, packages and advertisements at the tobacco product sale areas”.

**Article 2.** The decree shall be valid upon publishing.

**Prime Minister**

**Irakli Gharibashvili**

**Confirmed**  
**In accordance to the decree**  
**N 538 issued by the**  
**Georgian Government**  
**dated September 5, 2014**

**Attachment N 1**

**regarding allowed threshold of standards for ingredients, measurement and regulation policies of the tobacco products intended for sale in Georgia and confirming technical regulations of the medical warning on the boxes, packages and advertisements at the tobacco product sale areas**

**Article 1. General Provisions**

The technical regulation is applicable to those individuals, whose activity is related to manufacturing, sale and/or import of tobacco products, as well as organizations that advertise the product.

**Article 2. Explanation of terms**

The terms published in the above regulations have the following meaning:

- a) **Tobacco product** – any product containing tobacco or its elements, except for medicinal products containing nicotine, which are intended for smoking, chewing or inhaling, including:
  - a.a) cigarettes with or without a filter;
  - a.b) cigarettes, cigars and cigarillos;
  - a.c) pipe tobacco;
  - a.d) tobacco blunt wraps;
  - a.e) chewing and inhaling tobacco.
- b) **Non-smoking tobacco products** – tobacco product, which is not intended for smoking, in particular chewing, sucking or inhaling tobacco;
- c) **Smoking the tobacco** – inhaling the smoke emitted as a result of burning the tobacco product;
- d) **Medical warning** – a sign, warning about the harmful effects of smoking the tobacco, which might include a pictogram;
- e) **Tobacco product ingredients** – nicotine, tar and choking gas in the tobacco product smoke;
- f) **Nicotine** – nicotine alkaloids;
- g) **Tar** – damp, desiccated and nicotine free condensate of the tobacco smoke;
- h) **Choking gas** – carbon oxide (CO);
- i) **Rotation** – medical warning alternation.

**Article 3. Allowed norms, measurements and regulations of nicotine, tar and choking gas in the smoke of tobacco products (besides non-smoking tobacco, cigars and cigarillos)**

1. The concentration of nicotine, tar and choking gas in the tobacco products (besides non-smoking tobacco, cigars and cigarillos) intended for sale in Georgia should be no more than:
  - a) For tar – 10mg per piece;
  - b) For nicotine – 1mg per piece;
  - c) For choking gas – 10mg per piece.
2. The concentration of tar nicotine and choking gas in the smoke of tobacco products (besides non-smoking tobacco) should be determined as:
  - a) Nicotine SSO (ISO) – 10315;
  - b) Tar SSO (ISO) - 4387;
  - c) Choking gas SSO (ISO) – 8454;
  - d) The weakness of tar, nicotine and choking gas concentration in the package should be verified by SSO (ISO)-8243 standard.
3. The manufacturer or/and importer during the request by the Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia no more than once a year should supply the result (results) of tobacco product ingredient concentration issued by the accredited laboratory according to the SSO (ISO ) standards established by paragraph 2 of this article.
4. In accordance to paragraphs 7 and 8 of article 6 of Georgian law “regarding tobacco control), information regarding ingredient concentrations on each box and package should be posted in accordance of paragraph 2 of this article, which defines results of SSO (ISO) standards.

**Article 4. Medical warnings on tobacco product advertisements (besides radio and television)**

1. The following type of basic medical warning: “smoking kills” should be applied to the tobacco product advertisements (besides radio and television).
2. The following additional medical warnings should be applied to the tobacco product advertisements (besides radio and television):
  - a) Smoking causes lung cancer;
  - b) Smoking can weaken blood flow and cause impotence;
  - c) Smoking causes early skin aging.
3. The general warning stipulated by first paragraph of this article and one of the additional warnings stipulated by the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph should be applied to the tobacco product advertisement (besides radio and television).

**Article 5. Technical parameters of medical warning on the tobacco product advertisements in Georgia**

The medical warning sign on the tobacco product advertisement should meet the following technical criteria:

- a) General warning should be placed on the first line of the warning space and the additional warning should be placed on the next line(s), in addition, the additional warning should be separated from the general warning;
- b) It should be placed on white background with black letters or on the black background with white letters, the font of the text should be Sylfaen and should be bolded;
- c) The font should be of maximum size so that the text can fully take up all the allotted space, the text should not touch the edges of the space;
- d) The text should be centered;
- e) The space between intervals and lines should be standard.

**Article 6. General and additional medical warnings on the boxes and packages of tobacco products intended for sale in Georgia**

1. The following types of general medical warnings should be placed on the boxes and packages of tobacco products intended for sale in Georgia (except for the autonomous Republic of Abkhazia):
  - a) Smoking kills;
  - b) Smokers die early;
  - c) Smoking causes a serious harm to you and to those around you.
2. The following types of additional medical warnings should be placed on the packages and boxes of tobacco products intended for sale in Georgia (besides the autonomous Republic of Abkhazia):
  - a) Smoking causes lung cancer;
  - b) Smoking causes compression of blood vessels, heart attack and stroke;
  - c) Smoking during pregnancy causes harm to your fetus;
  - d) Smoking causes strong dependency towards tobacco, do not start smoking;
  - e) Smoking might weaken blood flow and cause impotence;
  - f) Smoking impacts the sperm and might cause infertility;
  - g) Protect the children, do not make them inhale the tobacco smoke;
  - h) Smoking might cause slow and painful death;
  - i) Smoking causes early skin aging.
3. The following contact telephone number with the label “in order to stop smoking, call: 116001, the call is free” should be placed on the tobacco product boxes and packages intended for sale in Georgia (besides the autonomous Republic of Abkhazia) together with the additional medical warning.
4. Together with the general and additional medical warnings, contact telephone number and attached text in Georgian language on the tobacco product boxes and packages intended for sale in the autonomous Republic of Abkhazia in accordance to paragraph 2 and 3 of this article, general and additional medical warnings and attached text (attachment N3) of the contact phone number should be placed in Abkhazian language in accordance to these technical regulations.

5. In addition to the additional warnings, the applicable pictograms in accordance to the attachment N4 and for the autonomous Republic of Abkhazia in accordance to the attachment N5 of this decree can be voluntarily placed on the tobacco product boxes and packages intended for sale in Georgia (besides the autonomous Republic of Abkhazia).
6. Tobacco manufacturers or/and importers should supply the use of general and additional medical warnings and applicable pictograms as stipulated in paragraphs 2 and 5 of this article, as well as rotation “regarding tobacco control” in accordance to paragraph 5 of article 6 of the Georgian law.

**Article 7. Technical parameters for medical warnings and ingredient labels on tobacco product boxes and packages**

Medical warnings and ingredient labels on tobacco product boxes and packages should meet the requirements of paragraph 6, 7 and 8 of article 6 of Georgian law “regarding tobacco control” as well as the following technical parameters:

- a) It has to be in Georgian language, using the standard Sylfaen font and in Abkhazian language using the Amra font and be bolded;
- b) The font should be of a maximum size so that the label can fully take the space, and should not touch the edges of tables or pictograms;
- c) If Georgian and Abkhazian labels are used together, the font should be of the same size;
- d) The intervals and spacing between the lines should be standard;
- e) The label should not be in italics;
- f) If Georgian and Abkhazian labels are used together, the corresponding Abkhazian text should be placed on the next line, after the Georgian text;
- g) The pictogram sample should correspond to the additional medical warning text and should not take up less than 50 percent of the total area of the medical warning;
- h) If the pictograms are used, the contact telephone number with the corresponding label should be placed on the pictogram area with the corresponding size, design and technical parameters, as it is indicated in the electronic sample;
- i) If the pictograms are not used, the contact telephone number with the corresponding label should be placed below the additional warning label, with the 2-line space interval. The telephone number should be written with the same type and size font and the attached text should be 2 standard units smaller. The space and intervals between the lines should be standard. The labels and the number should be bolded on the right side and not touch the warning edges;
- j) The contact telephone number with the corresponding label should be placed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> line and the text “in order to stop smoking, call:” will be placed on the first line and “116001” the call is free” should be placed on the second line.

**Article 8. Technical parameters for pictograms placed on the tobacco product box and package**

The pictograms placed on the tobacco product box and package should meet the requirements set by article 4, 6 and 8 of paragraph 6 of Georgian law “regarding the tobacco control”, as well as the following technical parameters:

- a) The pictograms should be printed fully, without any changes in proportions, colors or/and composition in accordance to the original electronic sample. If the tobacco manufacturers and/or importers require the original electronic version, the Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia shall provide it to them;
- b) The upper edge of the pictogram should be placed parallel of the upper edge of the box or the package;
- c) The side and lower edge of the pictogram should touch the surrounding lines;
- d) The pictograms should be printed in 4 colors/-CMYK-/, minimum with 150 lines on 2,5 centimeters (one inch);
- e) The colors should be coordinated without errors.

**Article 9. Medical warning text and technical parameters of its placement in the places where tobacco products are sold in Georgia**

1. The medical warnings in the tobacco sale areas should have the following text: “smoking kills”, “it is forbidden to sell the tobacco products to underage children”, “in order to stop smoking, call: 116001, the call is free”.
2. The medical warning text should be placed at a visual area in the areas where tobacco products are sold, no less than A4 format and should meet the following technical parameters:
  - a) The text should be separated on different lines, the following is stated in the first paragraph of the same article:
  - b) The label should be on the white background with black letters or on the black background with white letters, with the standard Sylfaen font and be bolded;
  - c) The font should be of the maximum size so that the label can fully be placed on the intended area, it should not touch the edges of the area;
  - d) The area between the lines and the intervals should be standard;
  - e) The label should not be italicized.

**Attachment N2**

**General and additional medical warnings in Georgian language  
on the boxes and packages of tobacco products  
intended for sale in Georgia**

1. General medical warnings:
  - a) Smoking kills;
  - b) Smokers die early;
  - c) Smoking causes serious harm to you and to those around you.
2. Additional medical warnings:
  - a) Smoking causes lung cancer;
  - b) Smoking shrinks blood vessels, causes heart attack and stroke;
  - c) Smoking during pregnancy harms your fetus;
  - d) Smoking causes strong dependency towards tobacco, do not start smoking;
  - e) Smoking might weaken blood flow and cause impotence;
  - f) Smoking impacts the sperm and might cause infertility;
  - g) Protect the children, do not make them inhale tobacco smoke;
  - h) Smoking might cause slow and painful death;
  - i) Smoking causes early skin aging.
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 in Georgian and Abkhazian languages on the boxes and packages of tobacco products intended for sale in Georgia**

1. General medical warnings:
  - a) Smoking kills;
  - b) Smokers die early;
  - c) Smoking causes serious harm to you and to those around you.
2. Additional medical warnings:
  - a) Smoking causes lung cancer;
  - b) Smoking shrinks blood vessels, causes heart attack and stroke;
  - c) Smoking during pregnancy harms your fetus;
  - d) Smoking causes strong dependency towards tobacco, do not start smoking;
  - e) Smoking might weaken blood flow and cause impotence;
  - f) Smoking impacts the sperm and might cause infertility;
  - g) Protect the children, do not make them inhale tobacco smoke;
  - h) Smoking might cause slow and painful death;
  - i) Smoking causes early skin aging.
  - j) Contact telephone number and attached label: in order to stop smoking, call: 116001, the call is free.

**Attachment 4**

**Copies of additional medical warnings and applicable pictogram samples for labels in Georgian language**

“Smoking causes lung cancer”:  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free

“Smoking shrinks blood vessels, causes heart attack and stroke”  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free

“Smoking during pregnancy harms your fetus”  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free

“Smoking causes strong dependency towards tobacco, do not start smoking”  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free

“Smoking might weaken the blood flow and cause impotence”  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free

“Smoking affects the sperm and might cause infertility”  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free

“Protect the children, do not make them inhale the tobacco smoke:  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free

“Smoking might cause slow and painful death”  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free

“Smoking causes early aging”  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free



**Additional medical warnings and corresponding pictogram sample copies for labels in Georgian and Abkhazian languages**

Smoking causes lung cancer  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free

Smoking shrinks blood vessels, causes heart attack and stroke  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free

Smoking during pregnancy harms your fetus  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free

Smoking causes strong dependency towards tobacco, do not start smoking.  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free

Smoking might weaken the blood flow and cause impotence  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free

Smoking affects the sperm and might cause infertility  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free

Protect the children, do not make them inhale tobacco smoke  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free

Smoking might cause slow and painful death  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free

Smoking causes early skin aging  
In order to stop smoking, call:  
116001, the call is free