

Regarding Approval of Technical Regulations of a Tobacco Product, its Packaging and Standardization Intended for Sale in Georgia

Article 1

The product safety and free flow code, in accordance to part one of article 56 and part 2 of article 58 “regarding tobacco control”, in accordance to the article 5(1), paragraph 2 and article 6, paragraph 9 and 13 of Georgian law, to approve the attached “technical regulation – regarding standardization of tobacco product and its packaging for tobacco products intended for sale in Georgia”.

Article 2

The resolution shall be in force from 31 December, 2022.

Prime Minister

Irakli Gharibashvili

Technical Regulations Regarding Standardization of Tobacco Product and its Packaging for Tobacco Products Intended for Sale in Georgia

Article 1. General Provisions

1. “Technical regulations – regarding standardization of tobacco product and its packaging intended for sale in Georgia” (later referred to as technical regulation) pertains to the tobacco product and its packaging besides the tobacco product defined by article 3, sub-paragraph “A.V.” of Georgian law “regarding tobacco product”.

2. Technical regulations pertains to the packaging of the corresponding tobacco product, besides the part of packaging that includes medical warnings.

3. Technical regulations pertains to any element of packaging besides documentary stamps permitted by the legislation.

4. Technical regulations pertains to manufacturing tobacco product, import or persons related to its sale.

Article 2. Definition of Terms

For the purposes of technical regulations, the terms have the following meaning:

1. **Brand name** – when referring to individual tobacco products, it refers to the primary name, which this product is known for.

2. **The variant name** - name of the tobacco product, which differentiates different products of the same brand.

3. **Calibration mark** – refers to the mark, which is used only for the automatic production for packaging.

4. **Box** – Any container, which houses smaller container(s) or single box or boxes where the tobacco product is housed.

5. **Specific smell** – refers to the specific smell or taste besides tobacco smell or taste, which:

a) Is created from the combination of additive or additives, including fruit, spice, grass, alcohol, candy, menthol, vanilla, etc.;

b) Is felt before or while using the tobacco product.

6. **Electronic cigarettes** - product, which might be used with equipment intended for humans for using an aerosol containing nicotine or any components of this product, including the cartridge and a tank, or equipment without a cartridge or a tank. Electronic cigarettes might be disposable or multi-use (to be filled by container or tank or a disposable charger with a cartridge).

7. **Tobacco product** – product containing tobacco or its elements (besides treatment and medication means containing nicotine), which is intended to be smoked, chewed, sucked or inhaled, including:

a) Filtered cigarettes, unfiltered cigarettes;



- b) Cigarette, cigar, cigarillo;
- c) Pipe tobacco, tobacco intended for a hookah;
- d) Tobacco leaf wrap;
- e) Chewing tobacco, smokeless tobacco, sniffing tobacco;
- f) Electronic cigarettes or other similar material/cartridge/capsule containing nicotine;
- g) New tobacco product- product containing tobacco, which is not included in any other categories that defines the tobacco product with this paragraph;
- h) Raw tobacco product, tobacco remains;
- i) Heating tobacco.

8. **Cigar** – Any type of roll or pipe shape construction containing tobacco or its elements, which is wrapped in the tobacco leaf or other material of tobacco or containing its elements and its diameter is more than 1,2 cm, and its weight exceeds 3 grams.

9. **Cigarillo** – Any type of roll or pipe shape construction containing tobacco or its elements, which is wrapped in tobacco leaf or other material of tobacco or containing its elements and its diameter is more than 1,2 cm, and its weight exceeds 3 grams.

10. **Non-smoking tobacco** – tobacco product, which is not intended for smoking; including chewing, smokeless or sniffing tobacco.

11. **Flip top** - opening the single cuboid box when the box top, located in its upper part will hang behind the box. Opening diagram – see attachment N1.

12. **Medical warning** – the medical warning about harmfulness of smoking cigarettes, warning sign, which should include the corresponding hypnogram.

13. **Single packaging** – any container or box, where the tobacco product is placed.

14. **Pouch** – Single packaging of the wrapping tobacco, which is made with flexible material, has a rectangular shape and has a hole for opening, which opens and closes with an adhesive removable brim.

15. **Packaging** – includes:

- a) Any box, container, package, pouch, jar, bag, sack, tube or other container, where the tobacco product is placed;
- b) Any wrapping or cover, which is used for the external packaging of the tobacco product;
- c) Any material, which is stuck or accompanies tobacco product or the items listed in the “a” and “b” sub-paragraphs.

16. **Cover** – Transparent packaging of a cigarette box or other package.

17. **Exterior surface** – Any surface that is visible prior to opening the tobacco packaging. In the event of the pouch shape packaging, it also includes the pouch surface, which is covered with a brim.

18. **Interior surface** – The surface besides the exterior surface.

19. **Insert** – Cuboid shaped form unit inside the packaging, hard cardboard located in the front side of the opening. For single packaging of the rolling tobacco, tobacco raw material and tobacco waste, necessary addition for re-closing this packaging.

Article 3. Packaging the tobacco product

1. Technical regulations pertains to any packaging, which is intended or enables sale, filling or dispersal of tobacco product to the user.

2. It is forbidden to manufacture, sell or import the type of tobacco product, which:

- a) Is not packaged according to the Georgian legislation and technical regulations;
- b) The cigarettes do not conform to the established norms;



c) If the amount or weight of the tobacco product is in the packaging that does not conform to the technical regulations and norms established by the Georgian legislation.

Article 4. Packaging color

1. The exterior surface of the tobacco product should be pantone 448C color with the light end.
2. The interior surface (besides the packaging defined by paragraph 3 of this article) color should be white (or pantone 448C) with light end.
3. The interior surface of the cylinder, jar or tube-shaped packaging should be a natural color and made from the material of this packaging.
4. This article does not pertain to:
 - a) The label permissible by article 5 of the technical regulation;
 - b) The barcode or calibration signs, which are defined by article 5 of the technical regulation;
 - c) The foil or other packaging material, which is defined by article 7 of the technical regulation;
 - d) The cover defined by article 8 of the technical regulation.

Article 5. Permissible labels and signs

1. On the exterior surface of the tobacco product packaging, there should only be the following labels only in the event if the terms established by paragraphs 2 and 3 of this article are upheld regarding the nature and location:

- a) The name of the tobacco product brand or/and variant name;
- b) The name and the address of the tobacco manufacturer, telephone number, name of the manufacturing country;
- c) The numeric label for the amount of cigarettes in the packaging of cigarettes, cigars or cigarillos, which is followed by the word “cigarette”, as well as the word “filtered” or “unfiltered” or the word “cigarette or “cigar” or “cigarillo”, according to the product;
- d) In the event of other tobacco, the numeric label regarding the weight of the tobacco, which is followed by the weight unit, gram abbreviation “g” and the words in accordance to the usage type: “wrapping tobacco”, or “pipe tobacco” or “hookah tobacco” or “chewing tobacco”, or “raw tobacco material” or “tobacco waste”.

2. The label defined by article one of this paragraph should meet the following technical requirements:

- a) Should be in the Georgian state language, with Sylfaen font, or if Abkhazian is used – Arma font, normal, with regular bolding;
- b) The label should not include any marks, which are not alphabetical, numeric or ampersand;
- c) The color of the label should be pantone light grey 2C with light end;
- d) The brand name should not be bigger than size 14 font and the variant name should not be bigger than size 10 font;
- e) The label about the amount or the weight should not be larger than 10 font for single packaging and larger than 14 font on a large size box;
- f) The manufacturer’s name and address, the manufacturing country’s name should not be in a font size larger than 10.

3. The location of the labels should be according to the following:

- a) The name of the brand and the variant should not take up more than one line each and if it is in Abkhazian language, then it should be in each language on each line for the name of the brand and the variant;
- b) The variant name should be right below the brand name;
- c) The brand and variant names should be located in the center of the surface, where the label is printed and when it’s printed on the page where the medical warning is placed, the label orientation should be the same as the medical warning labels;
- d) The name of the variant and the brand can be printed:
 - d.a) On the packaging that is the cuboid shape, only on the big front exterior surface, as well as on both small sides;



d.b) In case of other type of packaging, which does not have a cuboid shape, it is written on the exterior surface only twice but should be on one surface only written once;

e) Name and address of the manufacturer, the name of the manufacturing country might be placed only on the lateral (side) side and only once if it is in Abkhazian language also, then once in each language;

f) The label about tobacco product amount or weight can be placed on front or lateral (side) surface and be written only once but if it is in Abkhazian language also, the once in each language;

g) No label allowed by this article can cover the medical warning, documentary stamp or other label or mark required by the technical regulation.

4. There can be a barcode on the exterior surface of the single packaging or box but only in case if:

a) Its goal of placing it is only to facilitate selling, distribution or stock control of the tobacco product;

b) Is white and black color;

c) Is only found once on the package;

d) Is not placed on the front large exterior surface;

e) The barcode does not create a picture, image, symbol, trace, pattern, which might be taken otherwise besides the barcode itself.

5. The calibration mark can be printed on the exterior or interior surfaces of the package but only in case if it is unnoticed as much as possible and is not on the front large exterior surface.

Article 6. Surfaces, sound, smell and insert

When packaging the tobacco product:

a) The surfaces should be straight and smooth and should not have any decorative convex or concave, piles on the surface or the texture;

b) It should not have any colorful and opaque stickers, besides documentary stamps as established by the Georgian legislation;

c) Should not have any items or other material stuck to it. These sub-paragraphs do not pertain to:

c.a) Wrapping tobacco paper or filter;

c.b) The barcodes, which stick like a sticker and which correspond to the technical document;

c.c) The stickers established by article 10 of the technical document;

c.d) If the insert is in the cuboid shaped package, it should be made from a solid cardboard, its exterior surface should be smooth and the pantone should be 448C color with a light ending and the interior surface should be white and no labels or/and images should be placed on it;

c.e) Documentary stamps established by the Georgian legislation;

c.f) Other requirements established by the Georgian legislation;

d) It should not have any elements which change after retail sale of the product, including:

d.a) Temperature-sensitive ink;

d.b) Ink, which appears over time;

d.c) Fluorescent ink or ink which appears after certain type of light;

d.d) Removable brims or similar items;

d.e) Storage/packaging or leaf through elements;



e) Should not have any element, which makes a specific sound or has a specific smell besides items accompanying the tobacco product packaging.

Article 7. Insert and foil

1.If the single packaging of the cigarette includes an insert, it should be a silver foil with a white paper in the internal surface, without tone variation or foil shade.

2.The single packaging insert should not be manufactured to have a separate removable container.

3.If the single packaging of the wrapping tobacco, tobacco product and tobacco remains has a foil insert, it should be silver without tones and shade variations.

4.Any insert foil, which is indicated in paragraphs one and 3 of this article, can have a material or pile and dots on its surface due to the automatic manufacturing or packaging if this material or surface has a unified size, shape and separation and does not create any images or pattern.

5.If the single packaging of wrapping tobacco, tobacco product or tobacco remains has an insert which is intended to be reclosed, this insert should be transparent and should not include any signs.

Article 8. Cover

1.The single packaging, containers containing several packages or the box should be covered with a cover if the following terms are met:

a) The cover is clean and transparent;

b) The cover is not colorful or does not have any markings;

c) The cover surface is smooth, straight and does not have piles or concaves/convexes.

2.The barcode allowed by these regulations can be placed on the cover, including sticker labels if it is not a part of the cover which covers the front large surface of the packaging and meets the requirements of article 5, paragraph 4 of this regulation.

3. On the cover which is fixed around and contains more than one packaging at the corresponding area for covering the single packaging barcode might have a black circle or square.

4. The cover might include opening line which should not have more than a 3 millimeter width, should be clean and transparent or completely black, which creates a continuous, straight line.

Article 9. Material, shape, size and opening the packaging

1.Cigarettes:

a) The single cigarette packaging, besides an insert and cover, should be made out of only a solid cardboard;

b) The cigarette box should be made from cardboard or paper;

c) The single cigarette packaging or box shape should be cuboid, with rectangular surfaces and straight sides. The edge/rib can be rounded or square;

d) The single packaging sizes for cigarettes are:

d.a) Height – at least 64mm;

d.b) Width – at least 40mm;

d.c) Depth – at least 10mm;

e) The cigarette packaging should be opened only by flipping the top, in accordance to the corresponding (attachment N1) diagram. The open space should be in the upper part of the packaging and have straight edges.

2.The wrapping and smokeless tobacco – the single packaging of the tobacco product, tobacco residue, wrapping or smokeless tobacco product should only have a cuboid, sack or cylinder shape. If it is a cuboid shape, it should have a rectangular shape and surfaces should have straight edges, which are not rounded or angular.



3. Cigar:

- a) The cigar tube should be solid and cylindrical shape, which might have one or two rounded or cut off edges;
- b) The cigar tube opening should be at least 15mm diameter.

Article 10. Placing a sticker on a smokeless tobacco, cigar and cigarillo

It is allowed to place a sticker that corresponds to articles 4 and 6 of a technical regulation and Georgian legislation on the outer surface of the smokeless tobacco product, cigar and cigarillo packaging, which does not extend over the packaging (does not extend while the packing is on the product and it is impossible to take it off without damaging the sticker or the packaging), fully covers all the parts of the exterior surface except for the part of the package where medical warnings are placed. It is impermissible to fully or partially cover medical warnings or documentary stamps. It is impermissible to put stickers on the package of the tobacco product.

Article 11. The contents of the single packaging

1. The cigarettes, raw tobacco material, tobacco waste and wrapping tobacco should be sold separately only with the packaging that meets technical regulations "regarding tobacco control" Georgian law and other requirements set by the Georgian legislation.
2. The cigarette package should at least contain 20 cigarettes.
3. The pipe tobacco, hookah tobacco, wrapping tobacco, raw tobacco product and tobacco waste (besides liquid tobacco product) should be 50 or 100 gram net per single packaging.

Article 12. Cigarettes

1. If the cigarette paper color or shade or other material, used for wrapping, besides the tobacco itself should be white color with light ends.
2. The paper or product which covers the end of the cigarette and is not intended for burning/warming, should be a white color or a cork tree (cork) natural color imitation.
3. It is forbidden to put any marks, symbols or labels on the cigarettes.

Article 13. Cigars

1. It is possible for the single cigar to have an outer wrapping. The color for all the wrappings should be pantone 448C color, with a light end.
2. The wrap can be sticky, which fully covers other wraps and is not easily taken off.
3. The following label/mark can be put on the wrap:
 - a) Cigar brand name and variant name;
 - b) Manufacturing country.
4. In paragraph 3 of this article, the above label/mark should be:
 - a) With pantone light grey 2C light end;
 - b) In Georgian, with a Sylfaen font, normal, regular type bolding;
 - c) The font should not be larger than size 10.
5. The brand name and variant name should be horizontal, parallel to the long side of the wrap, surrounding the cigar.
6. It is admissible to place a sticker conforming to the requirements set forth by paragraph 5 of this article, which should not be separated from the wrap.

Article 14. Prohibiting Using Marks, Trademarks and different Terms

1. There should be no marks, logos or trademarks on the tobacco product wrapping, besides the documentary stamps established by the Georgian legislation "regarding tobacco control" as well as technical regulations and Georgian legislation.
2. The name of the brand or variant printed on the tobacco product packaging or any other labels should not:



a) Create misleading impression about product description, health effects, risks or emitted substances or as if this product is less harmful or other product;

b) Give economic incentive by placing a label for vouchers, offerings, discounts, free dissemination, additional free or discounted product, “buy one get one free” or similar offerings.

Article 15. Trademark Registration

This technical regulations or using this technical regulations nothing should:

a) Prohibit the trademark registration;

b) Basis for revoking the registration.

Attachment No. 1

Flip Open

The upper flip of the cuboidal packaging should open in accordance to the diagram below

