

Emblem
Islamic Republic of Iran
Ministry of Health and Medical Education

Office of the Minister

Urgent

Dear Mr./Engineer Ali Akbar Mehrabian
Minister of Industries and Mines

Greetings and salutations,

Based on reports received from the World Health Organization, a product under the name of "Electronic Cigarette" is increasingly being supplied and sold in international markets, which is in fact another scheme introduced by the tobacco industry in order to avoid the legal restrictions relative to tobacco use in public places, and the imposed tobacco smell that it generates. Considering that the said product contains considerable amounts of nicotine and the chemical Propylene Glycol which is sprayed in the consumer's mouth through particles of water, and considering its addictive and pathogenic characteristic, and based on articles 3, 4 and 14 of the comprehensive act on national control and campaign against tobacco, it is necessary that you take action in view of prohibiting the issuing of importation permits and the supply of this product in the country, and if already imported, necessary action should be taken towards the removal and obliteration of the said product.

Dr. Langarani
Minister and director of Center for Tobacco Control

Copy:

- Mr./Dr. Elham, director of campaign against smuggling of goods and currency - for information purposes and for issuing an appropriate order based on the comprehensive act on national control and campaign against tobacco, and regulations relative to smuggling of goods and currency
- Mr. Mirkazemi, Minister of Commerce - for information purposes and for taking necessary actions
- Representation office of the World Health Organization, for information purposes and for informing the regional office, with reference to letter no. TF1.8/2 dated August 6, 2008, from file S3/81/1.
- The Food and Drug Administration for information purposes and for issuing a directive in view of prohibition of issuing importation permits and for the production of tobacco replacement pharmaceutical products, with the exception of products approved by the World Health Organization and the relative Ministry, and providing the list of tobacco replacement products with permits, to the Center of Tobacco Control in the country.
- Ministry of Health, the office of the Center for Tobacco Control, in view of follow up together with images of in the records
- Iran Tobacco |Company - for information purposes and for taking necessary actions

08/30/2008 - time: 1:30