

**Official Gazette of the Republic of Iraq**

Contents of No. 4318

- Presidential decrees
- First amendment to Directive No. 10 of 1997 appointing lawyers and determining their fees
- Directive No. 1 of 2014 regulating the activities of commercial agencies
- Directive No. 2 of 2014 on the composition and functions of the Ministry of Trade
- Directive No. 1 of 2014 facilitating implementation of the Smoking Control Act
- First Amendment to the Rules of Procedure No. 2 of 2011 of the Legal Planning Department
- Rules of Procedure No. 15 of 2014 of the General Rubber Industries Company

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Twenty-fifth year

On the basis of the provisions of article 20 of the Smoking Control Act No. 19 of 2012, we have promulgated the following Directive:

**No. 1 of 2014**  
**Directive facilitating implementation of the**  
**Smoking Control Act No. 19 of 2012**

**Article 1**

The Ministry of Education shall be responsible for the following:

- I. Including in kindergarten curricula, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, educational syllabuses, activities and pursuits covering the risks of smoking;
- II. Including in primary, intermediate and preparatory school curricula, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, subjects covering the risks of smoking and the economic, social and health benefits of smoking abstinence;
- III. Ensuring that its education authorities monitor the compliance of persons working in its schools, institutes and colleges with the requirement to refrain from smoking in front of pupils and students and taking legal measures against those who fail to comply;
- IV. Ensuring that school shops sell no cigarettes, tobacco products or any of the other items prohibited under the Smoking Control Act No. 19 of 2012.

**Article 2**

The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research shall be responsible for the following:

- I. Including in the continuous education curricula at undergraduate and postgraduate institutes and colleges, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, a minimum of one lecture per academic year on the risks associated with smoking and tobacco products and the benefits of smoking cessation;
- II. Encouraging postgraduate students to undertake research and studies on smoking control;
- III. Ensuring that persons working in colleges and institutes comply with the requirement to refrain from smoking in front of students and taking legal measures against those who fail to comply;
- IV. Ensuring that its colleges, institutes and establishments sell no cigarettes or tobacco products in their shops and that there is no smoking on their premises.

**Article 3**

The Ministry of Agriculture shall be responsible for the following:

- I. Designating Iraq's tobacco farming areas;
- II. Working in collaboration with the Ministry of Health to raise farmers' awareness of the health, economic and environmental damage associated with tobacco farming;
- III. Encouraging farmers to grow alternative crops to tobacco that are more profitable and providing the facilities and assistance for them to do so.

#### **Article 4**

- I. The Ministry of the Interior shall be responsible for the following:
  - I. Prohibiting smoking in all means of transport;
  - II. Prohibiting any adornment of public and private means of transport in a manner that directly or indirectly promotes tobacco products.

#### **Article 5**

The Central Authority for Standardization and Quality Control shall be responsible for amending the Iraqi specification for tobacco and tobacco products through addition of the following conditions:

- I. The proportions of nicotine and tar shall not exceed 0.8 mg and 12 mg, respectively, in any tobacco product;
- II. Picture health warnings must be carried on boxes and packets of tobacco, covering not less than 30 per cent of the front surface and 30 per cent of the rear surface, and must be changed every 180 days, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health;
- III. Conspicuous health warnings must be carried in Arabic, Kurdish and English on boxes and packets of tobacco products, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health;
- IV. Date of production or manufacture;
- V. Name of the manufacturing country or entity;
- VI. Name of the importing country or entity.

#### **Article 6**

The Ministry of Health shall be responsible for the following:

- I. Monitoring compliance with the ban on smoking in the public places provided for in article 4, paragraphs II and IV, of the Smoking Control Act;

- II. Monitoring implementation of the annual smoking control plans of ministries and non-ministerial bodies and reporting to the Higher Smoking Control Committee at the Ministry of Health;
- III. Setting up smoking cessation clinics offering help through medication, medical advice and psychological support for smokers who wish to stop smoking;
- IV. Ensuring that health departments in Baghdad and in governorates not incorporated into a region spend their share of fine payments received under the law and reflected in their budgets on smoking control activities focused on prevention and therapy.

### **Article 7**

The Media and Communications Authority shall be responsible for:

- I. Monitoring compliance with the ban on televising any tobacco product trademark and on direct or indirect radio advertising of tobacco products;
- II. In the event that a scene of a person smoking for reasons other than profit or publicity is televised on a local channel, either displaying for 30 seconds on each occurrence during a single segment a distinct information bar warning of the dangers of smoking or providing a distraction from the smoking in the scene;
- III. Considering complaints and reports submitted by the Ministry of Health, ministries, non-ministerial bodies, civil society organizations and individuals concerning violations provided for in paragraphs I and III of the present article and taking legal measures against and monitoring those who commit such violations.

### **Article 8**

The Ministry of Culture shall be responsible for implementing the ban on the advertising and promotion of smoking and tobacco products by cultural organizations and by magazines and newspapers, both local and foreign, and on the design and publication of advertisements promoting tobacco by government- and privately-owned printing firms, publishing and distribution companies, and publicity and advertising agencies.

### **Article 9**

The Ministry of Youth and Sports, sports federations and the Olympic Committee shall be responsible for monitoring the ban on smoking and on the direct or indirect promotion of smoking in their sports facilities and youth centres.

### **Article 10**

The Ministry of Trade shall be responsible for the following:

- I. Prohibiting the import of any tobacco product not meeting the conditions and labelling specifications provided for in article 5 of this Directive;
- II. Prohibiting the import of items bearing logos for tobacco products and tobacco derivatives, such as hats, bags, traffic signs, advertising posters and so forth.

#### **Article 11**

Ministries and non-ministerial bodies shall be responsible for the following:

- I. Making sufficient annual budget allocations for promoting implementation of the smoking-control information and awareness plan and measures guaranteeing such implementation;
- II. Prohibiting smoking in their own facilities by displaying signs and posters carrying instructions and warnings to that effect;
- III. Forming a committee tasked with supervising implementation of the law and referring offenders to the competent court.

#### **Article 12**

Owners of shops engaged in selling tobacco products shall be required to comply with the following:

- I. Prominently display on the premises a notice that warns of the dangers of smoking and does not constitute publicity for tobacco companies;
- II. Place tobacco products where they are concealed and out of sight.

#### **Article 13**

The competent authorities shall be required to monitor the ban on the sale of tobacco to young persons in accordance with the Juvenile Welfare Act No. 76 of 1983.

#### **Article 14**

Designated smoking areas must:

- I. Be located outside the premises of the ministry or non-ministerial body and the places provided for in article 4, paragraph II, of the Act;
- II. Be well ventilated and open at both sides in order to allow the cigarette smoke to escape beyond the area;
- III. Prominently display graphic posters depicting the harm caused by smoking and bearing the wording “Designated smoking area”.

**Article 15**

This Directive shall be implemented from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.