
Cabinet Regulation No. 637

Riga, 27 August 2013 (Protocol Decision No. 46 71.§)

By-law on the State Commission on Restriction of Smoking

*Issued pursuant to Section 13 of the Law On Restrictions regarding
Sale, Advertising and Use of Tobacco Products*

I. General issue

1. The State Commission of Restriction of Smoking (hereinafter – Commission) is a collegial coordinating state institution acting to ensure persons' rights to clean air free from tobacco smoke. The Commission coordinates activities relating to the prevention and restriction of the use of tobacco products and herbal products for smoking and the control of the introduction, manufacture and sale and the setting of quality control indicators of tobacco, tobacco products and herbal products for smoking, and also the treatment of nicotine addiction.

II. Tasks and rights of the Commission

2. The Commission's main tasks shall be to:
- 2.1. Coordinate measures whose goal is to ensure persons' rights to clean air free from smoke from tobacco and herbal products for smoking;
 - 2.2. Coordinate and promote the cooperation of state and local government institutions that in accordance with procedures established by law control the manufacture, introduction and sale of tobacco, tobacco products and herbal products for smoking and their smoking in public areas and premises;
 - 2.3. Draw up the requirements to be applied to tobacco products and herbal products for smoking, following the evidence-based recommendations of the World Health Organization and other institutions and also taking into account the experience of other countries;
 - 2.4. Draw up proposals on necessary measures for the restriction of smoking and also the restriction of the manufacture, sale and use of tobacco products and herbal products for smoking;
 - 2.5. Assess smoking prevention programs to be introduced into educational institutions and present proposals to improve them;
 - 2.6. Assess the policy planning documents and legislative projects on tobacco products and herbal products for smoking prepared by the Ministry of Health and other institutions and submit appropriate proposals;
 - 2.7. Assess the emergence in the market of nicotine-containing products or other products derived from nicotine that are intended for smoking, taking as snuff, chewing or inhaling and whose use can result in psychological disorders or addiction, and also present proposals for the restriction of their manufacture, sale and use.

3. The Commission shall have the right to:

Unofficial Translation

3.1. Invite to the Commission's meetings state and local government institution officials, representatives of associations and other entities and other legal persons and also physical persons that have submitted proposals to the Commission or who can provide the Commission with necessary information;

3.2. Ask and receive from state and local government institutions and other legal persons and also from physical persons information about compliance with the law and other regulations in issues that are related to the restriction of smoking and the manufacture, introduction and sale of tobacco, tobacco products and herbal products for smoking;

3.3. Inform the media about issues related to the restriction of smoking and the manufacture, introduction and sale of tobacco products or herbal products for smoking;

3.4. In accordance with the areas of competence form working groups for more extensive examination of individual issues.

III. Organization of the work of the Commission

4. The chairperson of the Commission shall organize and lead the work of the Commission.

5. Meetings of the Commission shall be held not less than twice a year. The time and place of the meeting shall be set by the chairperson of the Commission. The meetings of the Commission shall be open unless otherwise established by a special decision of the Commission.

6. The chairperson of the Commission on his own or a Commission member's initiative shall have the right to call an extraordinary meeting.

7. The Commission's proceeding shall be valid if not less than half of the Commission members participate in the meeting. If the Commission's proceeding are not valid, a Commission meeting shall be held again within five working days.

8. Commission decisions shall be taken during meetings, with open voting and a simple majority of Commission members present. If votes are evenly divided, the Commission chairperson's vote shall be the deciding vote.

9. Commission meetings shall be recorded in a protocol. The protocol shall be signed by the Commission chairperson.

10. Commission members shall have the right to ask that their views are recorded in the protocol.

11. Commission members shall not receive compensation for work in the Commission.

12. The Ministry of Health shall provide the Commission with logistical support and fulfill the functions of its secretariat.

IV. Final issue

13. Declare Cabinet Regulation No. 232 of 1 July 1997 "By-law of [*sic*] the State Commission on Restriction of Smoking" (Latvijas Vēstnesis [Latvian Herald], 1997, No. 171; 2003, No. 167; 2006, No. 64; 2008, No. 22; 2009, No. 178) to be repealed.

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