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REPUBLIC OF PANAMA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH  
GENERAL OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

RESOLUTION No. 868

(Of October 19, 2009)

THE GENERAL DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH,

pursuant to his legal powers,

WHEREAS:

It is the essential function of the State to oversee the public health, this being understood as the complete physical, mental and social welfare.

Pursuant to Cabinet Decree 1 of January 15, 1969, by Constitutional mandate the State is responsible for the actions of promoting, protecting, repairing and rehabilitating health and the Ministry of Health is responsible for its execution.

Law 13 of January 24, 2008, establishes preventive health measures for the control of smoking.

Executive Decree 230 of May 6, 2008, which regulates Law 13 of 2008, sets forth in its Article 14 that the packages of tobacco packaging must contain, among other things, the pictograms approved by the Ministry of Health, which shall occupy 60% of the space designated for the additional health warning.

In accordance with all the aforementioned,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:

ARTICLE ONE: To approve and establish five (5) pictograms which must be printed on the packaging of tobacco products and cigarette packs that are marketed within the territory of the Republic of Panama and that they shall appear as follows:



The components of tobacco products cause sickness and death



Smoking causes breast cancer



Smoking causes gangrene



**Second-hand tobacco smoke harms family health**



**Smoking causes impotence**

ARTICLE TWO: To warn the industries that manufacture, import, distribute and market tobacco products that pursuant to Executive Decree 230 of May 6, 2008, they must print one of the pictograms established in the above article on the packaging and boxes of tobacco products they wish to market within the territory of the Republic of Panama, pursuant to the provisions of Article 17 of the above-cited Decree.

ARTICLE THREE: To warn the industries that manufacture, import, distribute and market tobacco products that the health warnings must be reproduced on the packaging and boxes of tobacco products in equal proportions during the entire period of circulation for all brands.

ARTICLE FOUR: To order the industries that distribute and market tobacco products to submit a report each quarter to the General Office of Public Health in which the following information appears:

1. Volume of packaging and boxes in circulation by brand and the proportion of warnings printed for that brand.

2. Composition of product distribution by health region, according to the prevailing organization of the Ministry of Health .

ARTICLE FIVE: To empower the Ministry of Health's National Commission for the Study of Smoking and all local and regional health authorities in the country to carry out supervisory actions in faithful fulfillment of the contents of this Resolution.

ARTICLE SIX: This Resolution shall take effect with its promulgation in the Official Gazette.

LET IT BE KNOWN AND FULFILLED.

**DR. EDUARDO LUCAS MORA**

General Director of Public Health