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General Regulation Pertaining to Tobacco Control

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Ministry of Health
Male',
Maldives

General Regulation Pertaining to Tobacco Control

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General Regulation Pertaining to Tobacco Control

Chapter One: Preliminary

Introduction and Title	1	(a)	This Regulation is made pursuant to the powers vested by section 41 of Law No: 15/2010 (Tobacco Control Act) for the purpose of prescribing the rules to be followed in controlling tobacco consumption and the rules and standards applicable in the issuing of permits for trade in tobacco products as well as conducting trade in tobacco products and further, to prescribe the rules and standards governing the institution of necessary measures to control trade in tobacco products and the prohibition of tobacco advertising as well as the packaging and labelling of tobacco products, so as to ensure that the right of every person in Maldives to be free from tobacco smoke is protected.
		(b)	This Regulation shall be cited as the 'General Regulations Pertaining to Tobacco Control.'
Objectives of this Regulation	2	The objectives of this Regulation are specified below.	
		(a)	To protect the community from the poison, given that tobacco is among the most toxic of substances, has no safe level of consumption and it causes life-threatening diseases.
		(b)	To designate public places and work environments as places free from tobacco smoke and tobacco consumption and thereby reduce tobacco-related diseases among persons in Maldives, having regard to technical knowledge established by modern science as well as the best practices of independent and civilized societies,
		(c)	To protect non-users from tobacco smoke. And to accord special protection to minors, pregnant women, people with special needs and people suffering from chronic diseases.
		(d)	To facilitate tobacco-users to quit consumption.
		(e)	To make public places and work environments free from tobacco smoke as well as tobacco consumption so as to protect public health and promote well-being.
		(f)	To set standards to be complied with in carrying out trade in tobacco products and to reduce the availability of tobacco products.

		(g)	To reduce the use of tobacco products and protect the community from the harms caused by tobacco by establishing specific rules for carrying out trade in tobacco.
		(h)	To determine the types of permits issued for the carrying out of trade in tobacco, the manner in which such permits are issued, the manner in which they are revoked and the rules pertaining to the permits.
		(i)	To determine the measures to be taken for violation of the rules relating to the permits issued to carry out trade in tobacco.
		(j)	To determine the number of places where trade can be carried out in tobacco and the areas where such trade can be out.
		(k)	To determine what acts shall constitute advertising, promotion and sponsorship of tobacco products in Maldives and prohibit such.
		(l)	To strive to create an environment that will not attract non-users to tobacco products.
		(m)	To require relevant authorities to inform tobacco users and those likely to start tobacco consumption, especially young people, about the harmful effects of tobacco consumption as well as take appropriate measures for their safety in the purchase and sale of tobacco.
		(n)	To determine the procedures for affixing on packets or cartons of tobacco products, warning notices containing images or photos that depict the harmful effects of tobacco.
		(o)	To strive to reduce the number of new tobacco users.
		(p)	To prohibit the sale of individual cigarettes.

Chapter Two: Protecting Society from Tobacco Smoke

Conditions Applicable to Places where Tobacco Consumption is Prohibited	3	Places where tobacco consumption is prohibited shall meet the following conditions.
	(a)	It shall be a place unaffected by tobacco smoke.
	(b)	A sign or notice informing that it is a tobacco-consumption free place shall be easily visible to service users entering and leaving the premises.

		(c)	There shall not be on display in such place, tobacco products, tobacco consumption, equipment used for such consumption and any object considered to be a direct or indirect advertisement of tobacco trade.
		(d)	There shall not be any activity involving tobacco in the premises except for activities carried out by relevant institutions for the purpose of preventing tobacco consumption in accordance with the standards set by competent government agencies and international professional organizations and any other activity permitted by law.
Places Where Tobacco Consumption is Prohibited	4	The following areas shall be free from tobacco smoke. Tobacco consumption shall be prohibited in these areas.	
		(a)	Social venues, places providing services to the public and places where public activities are held:
		(1)	Mosques, schools and madrasas, the open grounds in these places, all buildings located within their compounds and public places within a radius of 25(twenty-five) feet from the access points of these places;
		(2)	Healthcare facilities and higher education facilities as well as the space in front of their entrances; childcare facilities, the open grounds in such facilities, all buildings located within their compounds and their grounds as well as their access points; entrances and exits to the aforesaid places and all access points as well as the space in front of the entrances, exits and access points;
		(3)	Pharmacies and health and wellness promotion establishments;
		(4)	All government agencies, government companies, legal entities, companies with government-shareholding, all places and premises where official responsibilities of the government are performed, their buildings and the balconies projecting from the buildings as well as the space in front of their entrances.
		(b)	Places of work:
		(1)	Offices where people work as employees for remuneration or as volunteers and the space in front of the entrances and exits used by employees and the public;
		(2)	All buildings or enclosed spaces in industrial workplaces or areas (indoor) as well as the space in front the entrances to open areas allocated for work except those where tobacco consumption is permitted under section 7 of this Regulation.
		(c)	All modes of public transportation and places:

		(1)	All aircrafts;
		(2)	All vehicles and sea-going vessels used for public transportation;
		(3)	All modes of transport on which smoking is prohibited in the regulations prescribing the safety measures applicable to vehicles, sea-going vessels and aircrafts.
		(4)	Terminals used in land, sea and air transportation, the space in front of their entrances, bus stops, places such as ports, harbors, jetties, and platforms constructed for the docking of sea-going vessels and taxi stands as well as such other places allocated as waiting areas to get in and out of taxis.
		(d)	Venues for the holding of ceremonies and places where people visit for sports, exercise, entertainment and pleasure:
		(1)	Entries and exits of cinemas, meeting halls and recreational parks; and entertainment venues and the space in front of their entrances;
		(2)	Sports facilities, courts, sports grounds, stadiums, other sports venues, rooms and accommodation constructed within the grounds of such places for the use of players, exercise facilities and the space in front of the entrances of public places where sports and exercise facilities are established. These shall not include a sports court or sports ground in a private building or premises which is constructed for private purposes).
		(e)	Places where fire is likely to occur:
		(1)	Places that sell flammable energy sources and flammable goods, places where such products are stored, vehicles designed for the transportation of such products and where a separate area is designated for the regular parking of such vehicles, the space in front of the entrance of the area;
		(2)	Places providing public services that are at high risk of catching fire such as petrol stations as well as the surrounding common areas falling within 10 (ten) feet of the premises.
		(3)	The space in front of the entrances of industrial workplaces which are at high risk of catching fire;
		(4)	The space in front of the entrances of vehicle parking areas and depots as well as areas where seagoing vessels dock and aprons.
		(f)	Places reserved for designated persons within the community:
		(1)	Children's parks and squares, and places allocated and designated for children or families as well as the space in front of the entrances of such places and the open grounds of such places;
		(2)	Youth centres, facilities designated for youths to play sports, entranceways of such places and the open spaces of such places;
		(3)	Care facilities for the elderly, care facilities for people with special needs, places designated to provide services or entertainment for such persons, places where special activities are held for such persons and open spaces within such places as well as the space in front of the entrances of such places;

		(4)	All state care facilities and the open grounds within such places;
		(5)	All places where victims of an accident or disaster are temporarily accommodated and the open grounds within such places except those places or areas designated for smoking under section 7 of this Regulation.
	(g)	Public service establishments and commercial establishments:	
		(1)	Tea centres, cafes, restaurants and places that produce or sell food as well as other places built for the purpose of providing food and beverage services; or enclosed places or open spaces established for such purposes (indoor) and the space in front of their entrances, except those places where tobacco consumption is permitted under section 7 of this Regulation;
		(2)	Shops, markets, malls and other public places selling goods or operated for trade purposes as well as temporary markets and the space in front of the entrances of the said places.
	(h)	Public access points in high-density residential places:	
		(1)	Common spaces and ventilation areas in buildings that contain multiple apartments designed to house multiple families or households;
		(2)	In the case of places where (persons) in the course of employment or work are required to stay for extended periods of time or where employee accommodation is provided, all enclosed spaces (indoor), common areas, and ventilation areas as well as the space in front of the entrances of ventilation points such as balconies that allow air flow into a room or apartment, except places or areas where tobacco consumption is permitted under section 7 of this Regulation;
		(3)	Accommodations of students (such as dormitories and hostels) provided under the supervision of educational institutions and the space in front of the entrances of such places.
	(i)	Streets constructed to provide access to more than one house and State-owned cul-de-sacs.	
	(j)	In the event a place referred to in this section is located or operated in a private building, the following shall apply to the place as regards tobacco consumption.	
		(1)	Use of tobacco is prohibited in the premises or area or section where such place is operated;
		(2)	Use of tobacco is prohibited in the space in front of the entrance of such place.
	(k)	(1)	Except for the places referred to in paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of this section, the public areas falling within 10 (ten) feet extending from the entrances, doorways and gates of those places, buildings and areas that are referred to in this section in respect of which tobacco consumption is not permitted in any part of such.

		(2)	Of the places or areas referred to in this section, the place or area where smoking is not be permitted in any part of it shall be, where the place or area is an open space, the surrounding public areas falling within 10 (ten) feet, extending from the boundary of the place or area.
Places where Tobacco Consumption is Prohibited in Certain Circumstances	5	(a)	Where a place that has not been designated as a tobacco-consumption and tobacco-smoke free place becomes a place of gathering due to a ceremony or activity being held there, that place shall temporarily be deemed to be a place where tobacco consumption is prohibited.
		(b)	In the case of places falling within subsection (a) of this section, a notice to the effect shall be placed prior to the commencement of the ceremony or activity and (shall remain in place) until the conclusion of the event. Further, the (public) shall be informed by means of a public address system that tobacco consumption is prohibited in the venue while the event is underway.
Notice of Prohibition on Smoking	6	(a)	In places or parts of places or areas designated as tobacco-consumption free areas by law and this Regulation, a sign indicating that tobacco-consumption is prohibited shall be placed in such manner that it is easily visible to the public.
		(b)	Signs indicating that tobacco-consumption is prohibited shall be placed in designated tobacco-consumption free areas and the requisite warnings shall be placed in areas designated for tobacco consumption in accordance with the form specified in Annex 1 of this Regulation.
		(c)	It shall be the responsibility of the owner or operator of the place or the organizer to place the signs required under subsection (a) of this section in such manner that it is easily visible.
		(d)	Failure to place or affix a no tobacco-consumption sign in a designated tobacco-consumption free as required by subsection (a) of this section shall not constitute a bar to taking action against a person who engages in tobacco-consumption in a prohibited place.
Smoking Rooms and Smoking Areas	7		Consumption of tobacco in places deemed safe from tobacco smoke in such manner that it does not constitute a danger the public as well as others nor a promotion of smoking shall be permitted for persons who wishes to engage in tobacco-consumption in accordance with the provision of this section.
		(a)	A closed space ('smoking room') or area ('smoking area') shall be designated in a place referred to in subsections (b) and (c) of this section after obtaining written permission from the Ministry or a person vested with the responsibility by the Ministry.

		(b)	Of the places where tobacco-consumption is prohibited under section 4 of this Regulation, a smoking room may be established in the following places.
		(1)	Airports and seaports with transit arrangements;
		(2)	Malls;
		(3)	Tea centres, cafes and restaurants;
		(4)	State detention facilities;
		(5)	Industrial workplaces and places where employees are required to reside (Example, resorts).
		(c)	Of the places where smoking is prohibited under section 4 of this Regulation, a smoking area may be established in the following places.
		(1)	In open spaces at airports and seaports;
		(2)	In open spaces in industrial workplaces and industrial work areas;
		(3)	Tea centres, cafes and restaurants;
		(4)	Places where employees are required to reside in the place of their employment;
		(5)	Open spaces in State detention facilities;
		(6)	Open spaces in such places as camps where victims of a disaster are temporarily accommodated;
		(7)	Open spaces in all State agencies, government companies, companies with government shareholding and all places where the government carries out official responsibilities.
Application for Permits to Establish Smoking Rooms or Smoking Areas	8	(a)	Permits to establish smoking rooms or smoking areas for the consumption of tobacco shall only be granted upon an application made in writing.
		(b)	A smoking room or smoking area shall be designated and permit issued upon the agency designated by the Ministry inspecting and approving the documents and the measures submitted by the applicant and the payment of the fee specified in Annex 3 of this Regulation.

Requirements and Criteria Applicable to Smoking Rooms and Areas	9	The requirements and criteria to be met in the granting of permits under section 8 of this Regulation in respect of smoking rooms and smoking areas shall be drawn up by the Ministry and published in the Government of Maldives Gazette within 1 (one) month of the commencement of this Regulation.	
Actions Deemed as Violations in Places where Tobacco Consumption is Prohibited	10	(a)	The following shall be considered offences under this Chapter.
		(b)	It shall be an offense for an individual to do the following
		(1)	Engaging in tobacco consumption in a place where tobacco consumption is not prohibited in such manner that persons referred to in subsection (c) of section of this Regulation are deprived of the rights conferred by section 2 of the Act.
		(2)	Engaging in tobacco consumption in a place where tobacco consumption is prohibited.
		(c)	Actions that will constitute offenses committed by the owners of institutions and businesses, their operators and persons bearing responsibility for them.
		(1)	Contravention of section 6 of this Regulation;
		(2)	Contravention of the rules and standards specified in section 9 of this Regulation;
		(3)	Misrepresenting a place designated as a tobacco-consumption free place under this Regulation as a place where tobacco-consumption is permitted; For the purposes of this section, the following conduct shall be deemed as presenting a place as a place where smoking is permitted.
			(3.1) Placing an ash tray in a tobacco-consumption free area;
			(3.2) Placing a tobacco product in a tobacco-consumption free area in such manner that it is visible to the public.
		(4)	Not attempting to stop where tobacco is being consumed in a place designated as a tobacco-consumption free area. For the purposes of this section, the following conduct shall be deemed as an incidence of not attempting to stop tobacco consumption.

				(4.1) Where tobacco-consumption is taking place in a designated tobacco-consumption free area, failure to do anything to notify that it is a tobacco-consumption free area; (4.2) Failing to report those who engage in tobacco consumption in contravention of the law to the competent authority immediately or within a reasonable time.
According Precedence to Non- tobacco Users	11	In interpreting the provisions of this Regulation, special consideration should be given to protecting the rights of non-tobacco users and such staff. Further, if a question arises as to whether tobacco consumption can take place at a particular place at a particular time, the matter should be resolved in such manner that precedence is given to the rights of non-tobacco users. In such event, the right of non-tobacco users shall be considered to mean the right to refrain from tobacco consumption and to attain good health.		
Chapter 3: Conducting Trade in Tobacco Products				
Conducting Trade in Tobacco Products	12	Persons wishing to conduct trade in tobacco products shall obtain a special permit in accordance with this Regulation.		
Refraining from Engaging a Minor or Anyone Under 21 in any Transaction Involving Tobacco	13	(a)	The sale of tobacco products to a minor or a person under the age of 21 (twenty-one) and the engagement of such persons in the sale of tobacco products or their import into or export out of Maldives or in packaging shall be prohibited.	
		(b)	Where it is thought that a person purchasing a tobacco product is a minor or under the age of 21 (twenty-one), (the product) shall not be sold without the production of the Maldives national identity card or a driving license or an official document bearing the date of birth and identity (of the person) so as to ascertain that the person is above the age of 21 (twenty-one). It shall be the duty of the seller or service provider to ascertain the age.	

Standards to be Complied with in the Conducting of Trade in Tobacco Products	14	(a)	Places that conduct trade in tobacco products shall display a notice on the premises that is visible to the public and which notifies that it is unlawful to sell any type of tobacco product to minors or persons under the age of 21 (twenty-one). A sample form of this notice is provided in Annex 2 of this Regulation.
		(b)	In transporting tobacco products from one place to another, they shall not be kept visible to road users in such manner so as to be considered as an act of advertising a tobacco product.
		(c)	Outlets trading in tobacco may sell tobacco products only in compliance with the packaging and labelling requirements specified in this Regulation.
		(d)	In every place which carries out trade in tobacco pursuant to a permit issued under this Regulation, whether in bulk or separately, a message in such manner prescribed and published by the Ministry and informing of the harmful effects of tobacco on health shall be displayed in a place that is easily visible to service users. A sample form of this notice is provided in Annex 2 of this Regulation.
		(e)	No person shall buy or sell tobacco or a tobacco product of any kind in an anonymous manner, whether through a vending machine or by post or by letter or via the internet or such other mode of self-service.
Illegal Trade or Smuggling (Conducting Unlawful Trade)	15	(a)	Where any person sells, imports or re-exports tobacco products without the required permits or takes them out of sealed packets or cartons or kits and sells them in other packets or cartons or kits, it shall constitute unlawful trade in tobacco products.
		(b)	Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, where a person travelling in from abroad brings or carries in a tobacco product for the small needs of that person, it shall not be considered importation of a tobacco product into Maldives within the ambit of subsection (a) of this section provided the product is exempt from duty under Law No: 31/79 (Export Import Act) and the amount is within the extent of the exemption.
Tobacco Products Tracing and Tracking System	16		All measures and systems established to identify and control unlawful tobacco products and unlawful tobacco trade in the Maldivian market shall be based on the international convention on tobacco control that Maldives is party to (Framework Convention on Tobacco Control) and other agreements and shall be adopted and implemented in accordance with the spirit of such agreements.
Permit to Conduct Trade in Tobacco Products	17		The following permits may be issued to persons trading in tobacco products so to be able to undertake trade.
		(a)	Permit to sell tobacco products in bulk or separately.

		(b)	Permit to import tobacco products.
		(c)	Permit to re-export tobacco products.
Rules Applicable to the Issuing of Permits to Sell Tobacco Products in Bulk or Separately	18	(a)	Tobacco products, whether in bulk or separately, shall be sold in Maldives only after obtaining a permit issued under this Regulation.
		(b)	Although a separate permit is required for the sale of a specific tobacco product, a permit may not be issued for the sale of tobacco products alone or for the conduct of a tobacco-related business.
		(c)	A permit to sell a tobacco product may only be issued to a person who holds a license from a competent government agency to conduct trade, where such licensing is required in order to conduct trade.
		(d)	Upon the commencement of this Regulation, any trade in tobacco in Maldives may only be carried out after obtaining a license in accordance with this Regulation.
		(e)	Notwithstanding the provision of subsection (d) of this section, persons conducting trade in tobacco at the time this Regulation comes into effect shall obtain a permit in accordance with this Regulation within 3 (three months) of the commencement of this Regulation.
Validity of the Permit	19	A permit shall be issued under this Regulation for a period of 5 (five) years. Where the permit issued under this Regulation expires, conducting trade in tobacco products shall be prohibited without the renewal of the license.	
Renewal of a Permit	20	(a)	Application for the renewal of a permit shall be made to the Ministry 60 (sixty) days prior to the expiry of the permit.
		(b)	An application seeking renewal of a permit under this Regulation shall be made as provided for in section 22 of this Regulation.
		(c)	A permit may be renewed only where the renewal fee specified in Annex 3 of this Regulation as well as any other fees payable under this Regulation have been paid.

Register of Persons Conducting Trade in Tobacco Products	21		The Ministry shall update and maintain a register of persons conducting trade in tobacco products which shall include the information submitted when applying for a permit.
Details to be Submitted to Obtain a Permit	22	(1)	Where an application is made for a permit to undertake trade under this Regulation, the following details shall be submitted to the Ministry. Further, the application shall be made through the 'onegov' https://one.gov.mv portal or a portal so designated and announced by the Ministry, together with all the information specified in the portal as bring required for the permit.
		(a)	If the applicant is a business (sole proprietorship) or a company or a legal entity, the party's name, registered address, registry number, and names of directors, their addresses and contact numbers as well as a copy of the registry.
		(b)	In the case of applicants seeking a permit to sell tobacco products in bulk or separately, the premises intended for the sale of the products.
		(c)	In the case of persons importing tobacco products into Maldives, the premises intended for the sale of the products.
		(d)	Such other information and documents that the portal referred to in this section require.

Levying fees	23	Permits issued under this Regulation shall be issued subject to payment of the respective fee determined by the Ministry. In this regard, the details pertaining to fees applicable to the issuing of licenses are provided in Annex 3 of this Regulation.	
Obtaining Permits for Products Presently Being Sold in Maldives	24	Permits shall be obtained under this Regulation for tobacco products presently being sold in the Maldives. Applications for permits shall be submitted through the 'onegov' https://one.gov.mv portal or a portal so designated and announced by the Ministry, together with all the information specified in the portal.	
Products which have not been Previously Sold in Maldives	25	Any product that is not in the list published under section 27 of this Regulation shall be deemed as a product that has not been previously sold in Maldives.	
Tobacco Products Imported into Maldives	26	(a)	Any tobacco product that is not on the list published under section 27 of this Regulation may only be permitted to be sold in Maldives where an application for a permit to import the product has been made together with the following information, and the Ministry grants a permit to import the product.
		(1)	A document identifying the manufacturer;
		(2)	Laboratory investigation report issued by a laboratory recognized by the government of the country of manufacture;
		(3)	Name of the product;
		(4)	Sample of the product;
		(5)	A document issued by the manufacturer confirming the contents of the product;
		(6)	Document that demonstrates that the product is licensed to be sold in the country of manufacture;
		(7)	Delivery or shipping method of the product to Maldives;
		(8)	How the 'warning notice' will be displayed on the product;
		(9)	Tar and nicotine concentration in the product and the concentration of freebase nicotine in its smoke;
		(10)	pH level of the smoke from the tobacco in the product and details of puff by puff pH variations in the smoke;
		(11)	The efficiency of the product filter and the filtration ratio as a percentage;

		(12)	The toxicity level of the smoke produced by the tobacco used in the product, and its ratio in comparison with other products' toxicity level or when the product is compared with nicotine.
		(b)	Application to register a product not in the said list shall be submitted through 'onegov' https://one.gov.mv portal or a portal designated by the Ministry.
List of Tobacco Products Sold in Maldives	27		The Ministry shall, within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of the commencement of this Regulation, compile and publish a list of the tobacco products that has been in the Maldives market since before the commencement of this Regulation. In addition, the list shall be duly revised, updated and published in the Government of Maldives Gazette and the Ministry's website as and when new products are registered.
Products Not Previously Sold in the Maldives Market	28	(a)	The products specified on the list referred to in section 27 shall not be required to be registered anew. The products on the said list shall be deemed to be registered.
		(b)	The sale of products that are not registered under this Regulation shall be prohibited.
Issuing of Permits	29	(a)	Tobacco products may only be brought into Maldives by those who have been issued a permit by the Ministry to import or re-export or sell tobacco products in bulk or separately.
		(b)	A permit to import tobacco products shall not be issued after a product has been brought into Maldives without first obtaining an import permit.
Declaration Made by Persons who Submit Reports	30		Persons who submit the reports referred to in sections 31 and 32 of this Regulation shall, at the time of submission, make a declaration that the information provided in the reports are accurate and valid.
Reports to be Submitted by Importers and Re-exporters of Tobacco Products into and out of Maldives and the Details to be Included Therein	31		Persons who import and re-export tobacco products into and out of Maldives under this Regulation shall submit to the Ministry a report containing the details required in this section. This report shall be submitted to the Ministry through the "onegov" https://one.gov.mv portal or a portal so determined and announced by the Ministry.
		(a)	Name, address and contact number of the party that is submitting the report;
		(b)	Date on which the report was prepared;

		(c)	The period for which the information disclosed in the report was collected;
		(d)	The number of tobacco products and its respective quantities imported into Maldives during the reporting period;
		(e)	The name of the brand and the type, country of manufacture, name of the supplier and the quantity imported by the party;
		(f)	The name of the brand and the type, re-export destinations, the name of the re-exporters, and the quantity re-exported by the party;
		(g)	A list of the transit countries used in the transportation of the tobacco products to Maldives and the serial numbers issued to the products;
		(h)	The number of packets of consumable tobacco products in the shipment of tobacco products imported, or if it is a product for another use, its weight in grams.
		(i)	The date of re-exporting the tobacco product and the serial numbers issued to each separate shipment;
		(j)	The respective amount of money received by selling each of the tobacco products;
		(k)	Tar and nicotine concentration in the product and the concentration of freebase nicotine in its smoke;
		(l)	pH level of the smoke from the tobacco in the product and detail of puff by puff pH variations in smoke;
		(m)	The efficiency of the product filter and the filtration ratio as a percentage;
		(n)	The level of toxicities and such in the smoke produced by the tobacco used in the product, and its ratio in comparison with other products' toxicity level or when the product is compared with nicotine;
		(o)	Sample of the packaging of the tobacco product and the samples of the labels used on it;
		(p)	A copy of the audit reports for the reporting period of the businesses importing or re-exporting tobacco products.

Reports to be Submitted by Sellers of Tobacco Products and the Details to be Included Therein	32	Persons who sell baccho products under this Regulation shall submit to the Ministry a report containing the details required in this section.	
		(a)	Name, address and contact number of the party that is submitting the report;
		(b)	The date on which report was prepared;
		(c)	The period for which the information disclosed in the report was collected;
		(d)	A copy of the audit reports for the reporting period, of the businesses conducting trade in tobacco products;
		(e)	Tar and nicotine concentration in the product and the concentration of freebase nicotine in its smoke;
		(f)	pH level of the smoke from the tobacco in the product and detail of puff by puff pH variations in smoke;
		(g)	The efficiency of the product filter and the filtration ratio as a percentage;
		(h)	The level of toxicities in the smoke and such produced by the tobacco, and its ratio in comparison with other products' toxicity level or when the product is compared with nicotine.
Reporting Frequency Applicable to Persons Conducting Trade in Tobacco Products	33	(a)	Importers, sellers and re-exporters of tobacco products referred to in sections 31 and 32 of this Regulation shall submit reports from the date their license was issued.
		(b)	Details covering the period referred to in subsection (a) of this section shall be submitted within 1 (one) calendar month from the date the permit issued to them completes a year.
		(c)	Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the report referred to in sections 31 and 32 shall be submitted to the Ministry within 30 (thirty) days from the date the Ministry requires such report and so notifies.

Notification of information completion and alterations	34	(a)	After vetting the reports submitted by those in commercial transactions of tobacco products to the Ministry, for completion of required details, if it is found that the report is incomplete, the matter shall be informed to the reporting party within 30 (thirty) days.
		(b)	Upon informing that the report submitted is incomplete in required information to the reporting party, resubmission of the report within 15 (fifteen) days shall be requested.
Chapter 4: Prohibition on Advertising, Promoting and Sponsoring Tobacco Products			
Prohibition on Advertising Tobacco Products	35		The commission of any act that has been declared as acts that constitute advertising, promoting or sponsoring a tobacco product shall be prohibited.
Activities Deemed to Constitute Advertising of Tobacco Products	36	(a)	Except for the activities exempted under subsection (b) of section 14 of Law No: 15/2010 (Tobacco Control Act), for the purpose of this Regulation, the following activities shall be deemed to constitute advertising of tobacco products.
		(1)	Use of images, writings, drawings, visuals or audios relating to tobacco products in the print media or any other mediums of the media, except for the purpose of educating and raising awareness among people on the harm caused by tobacco products;
		(2)	In places where tobacco products are sold, keeping in public view, any box, carton or other packaging of any tobacco product or an item containing any tobacco product. And the transportation of any such product in a manner visible to the public.
		(3)	To award tobacco or any type of tobacco product as a prize in any contest or other function.
		(4)	To award as a prize or a giveaway, tobacco or any type of tobacco product or a service involving tobacco consumption in order to celebrate a day or occasion or in appreciation of or any other similar event.
		(5)	Distribution of complementary tobacco or tobacco products to the public for the purpose of promoting a business as well

				as giving away as an award or otherwise, a tobacco product or service involving tobacco consumption in connection with the sale and purchase of any goods or the procurement of a service. Giving away a tobacco product or its inclusion in the price of betel nuts and other similar conduct shall be deemed as advertising tobacco products within (this provision).
			(6)	Displaying any brand or drawing or logo or sign or photograph or image or slogan symbolizing tobacco or a tobacco product or the name of any tobacco product or any object or part of such object symbolizing such;
			(7)	For the purpose of enhancing business, publicizing and promoting through various mediums, either directly or indirectly, tobacco products, their brands, manufacturers and details of sellers.
		(b)	Exceptions to subsection (a) of this section:	
			(1)	Exemption shall apply if a warning notice on the harmful effects of tobacco products is displayed prior to the commencement of films, dramas, shows, news publications and magazines and other performing arts productions.
			(2)	Activities conducted to educate and raise public awareness on the harmful effects of manufacturing and consumption of tobacco on health, economy and environment shall be exempted from the application of this provision.
			(3)	Tobacco products bearing the warning notice, sold at the duty-free shops in the departure terminal of the airport shall be exempted from the application of this provision.
Precautions to be Taken in the Sale and Possession of Tobacco Products	37	(a)	Tobacco products shall not be kept in such manner that it is highly visible in the places where they are sold as well as to pedestrians.	
		(b)	Advertising tobacco products on websites and social media platforms shall be prohibited.	

		(d)	Tobacco products such as rolling tobacco or pipe tobacco shall be packaged such that each package contains not less than 30 (thirty) grams and not more than 100 (hundred) grams.
		(e)	Tobacco leaves (with or without its stem) from the tobacco plant that have been cured (dried naturally without subjecting to any additional processing or additives), shall be packaged such that each packet contains not less than 30 (thirty) grams and not more than 1000 (thousand) grams.
		(f)	Tobacco products such as chewing tobacco shall be packaged such that each packet contains not less than 30 (thirty) grams and not more than 100 (hundred) grams.
		(g)	Tobacco products such as nicotine pouches shall be packaged such that each packet contains not less than 15 (fifteen) grams and not more than 100 (hundred) grams.
		(h)	It shall be an offence to import into or to sell in Maldives, tobacco products that are packaged in contravention of the subsections (a) to (g) of this section.
Mandatory Minimum Quantity Applicable to the Sale of Tobacco Products	40	(a)	The minimum quantity of tobacco products that may be sold shall be the quantities specified in subsections (a) to (h) of section 39 of this Regulation.
		(b)	It shall be unlawful to sell single units of cigarettes, bidi and cigars and to sell other tobacco products in quantities less than the minimum amount prescribed in section 39 of this Act.
Affixing Warning Notice	41	(a)	Importers and sellers of tobacco products in Maldives shall affix the warning notice published by the Ministry on the outside of the boxes, packets and other packaging that contain tobacco products. Displaying a warning notice other than in the prescribed manner shall not be considered as being compliant with this Regulation.
		(b)	The notice referred to in subsection (a) of this section shall be published in the Government of Maldives Gazette on the date this Regulation comes into effect.
		(c)	Where the Ministry wishes to modify the notices referred to in subsection (b) of this section, it shall have the authority to bring the modifications. Further, where the Ministry modifies a notice in accordance with this section and issues a public notice, the new notice shall come into effect on the expiry of 6 (six) months from the date of its publication.

		(d)	Where, for commercial purposes, new products containing tobacco are imported into Maldives as samples, they shall not be exempted from the application of any requirement imposed by law or this Regulation.
Matters to Consider in Labelling	42		In labelling products containing tobacco, special consideration shall be given to the matters prescribed under section 12 of Law No: 15/2010 (Tobacco Control Act) as well as the following standards and shall avoid contravening the said standards.
		(a)	A product containing tobacco shall not be labelled in such manner that it would create interest in or further promote tobacco consumption.
		(b)	No tobacco product shall be labelled in such manner that would cause misinformation about the factual truth of any tobacco product.
		(c)	No product shall contain a label or drawing or writing or other such effect that may create a misconception that consumption of the c product will mitigate the health hazards of tobacco consumption.
		(d)	In labelling a product containing tobacco, no label or drawing or writing or other effect shall contain anything which may convey any intimation that the health hazard from that product is lesser compared to another tobacco product.
Form of the Notice	43	(a)	The text of the warning shall be easily legible. In addition, the pictorial warning shall be easily visible. There shall be no other name, logo, drawing, text or any other effect over the text or image of the warning. Further, unless the Ministry has instructed otherwise, the text or image of the warning shall be placed at the top of the area designated for printing the notice on the packet or carton or any other packaging used.
		(b)	The warning notice shall be printed on both sides or on every main side (for example, on its front and back) of every packet or carton or other packaging of a product containing tobacco in accordance with the specifications and the sample published by the Ministry. If the packaging is designed in such manner that it has more than two sides, the notice shall be displayed on the two largest sides in terms of size (surface area).
		(c)	The warning notice shall be printed in such manner that the text of the warning would not easily be damaged by the opening and closing of the packet or carton containing a tobacco product.
		(d)	The packet or carton or other packaging containing the tobacco product and carrying the label, shall be the original packaging of that product.
		(e)	Notwithstanding subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d) of this section, this Regulation shall not bar the prescribing and publishing of additional specifications.

Specifications on the Size of the Notice	44	(a)	The warning notice and image on each packet or carton containing a tobacco product shall not occupy less than 90% (ninety percent) of the surface area of each part designated for the printing of the warning notice on the packaging.	
		(b)	The warning notice shall be placed within the 90% (ninety percent) designated for the printing of the warning notice on the packet or carton and shall be appropriately proportioned in relation to the size of the packet.	
		(c)	The image and text of the warning shall be similar to the sample and specifications published by the Ministry under this Regulation.	
Tracing and Tracking Tobacco Products	45	(a)	In order to identify unlawful tobacco products and unlawful tobacco trade in the Maldivian market, the following information shall be submitted when importing tobacco products.	
		(1)	The country, place and date of origin of the tobacco product;	
		(2)	The brand, model number and serial number of the equipment used in the manufacture of the tobacco product;	
		(3)	The markets where the tobacco products are to be retailed;	
		(4)	The name and address of the party re-exporting and importing the tobacco product;	
		(5)	The party re-exporting and the amount imported;	
		(6)	H.S. code.	
		(b)	The data referred to in subsection (a) of this section shall be collected and maintained by the Ministry. The said data shall be kept in such manner that it can be easily shared with relevant authorities and enforcement authorities. Further, , the information shall be kept in such manner that it can be easily shared with regional countries and other relevant international authorities where requested.	
Exemptions	46	(a)	This Regulation exempts the following tobacco products from the application of packaging and labelling requirements specified in this Regulation.	
		(1)	Tobacco products brought under Regulation Number: R-41/2011(General Regulations of Customs) that are destined to bonded warehouses designated to keep the goods brought for duty free shops or for export from Maldives;	
		(2)	Tobacco products for sale at the duty-free shops in the departure terminal of international airports;	
		(3)	Tobacco products carried for personal use by passengers arriving in Maldives from abroad, in the quantity for which tax exemption is granted under Law No: 31/79 (Export Import Act).	

		(b)	The tobacco products which are exempted pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a) of this section shall not be granted clearance for entry into Maldives (even) where they are affixed with warning notices.	
Tobacco Products Aboard the Vessels Arriving from Abroad	47		Where the tobacco products held in the storage of the vessels that arrived in Maldives from abroad are not packaged and labelled in accordance with this Regulation, they shall be dealt with in the manner specified in the Regulation Number: R-41/2011 (General Regulations of Customs).	
Chapter 6: Imposition of Penalties				
Imposition of Penalties on Persons who Contravene this Regulation	48	(a)	Persons who are found to be in violation of the provisions of this Regulation shall be subjected to the following penalties.	
			(1)	On the first count of violation under this Regulation, a fine of 1000/- (one thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed;
			(2)	On the second count of violation under this Regulation, a fine of 2000/- (two thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed;
			(3)	From the third count onwards, for each count a fine of 3000/- (three thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed;
		(b)	If owners or operators of institutions and businesses or persons bearing responsibility for them commit an offence or fail to put in efforts to perform the acts that are required (of them) to implement this Regulation, the owner or operator or the person bearing responsibility for the place shall be penalized as follows.	
			(1)	On the first count of a violation of this Regulation, a fine of 3000/- (three thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed;
			(2)	On the second count of a violation of this Regulation, a fine of 5000/- (five thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed.
			(3)	From the third count onwards, the amount of fine shall be doubled for each violation. Further, if a violation occurs more than twice, each time the permit issued under this Regulation shall be temporarily suspended. Places the permits of which are so suspended may only reopened for business upon payment of all fines imposed as well as compliance with the rectifications required and after the expiry of a minimum of 24 (twenty-four) hours of the closure.
		(c)	Where tobacco consumption has been allowed in a place that is at high risk of fire or where the owner or the person bearing responsibility for the place does not expend the efforts required of the person to implement this Regulation or has engaged in an act that constitutes as	

			advertising or trading in a tobacco product, action shall be taken against the owner or the person bearing responsibility for the place as follows.
		(1)	On the first count, a fine of 10,000/- (ten thousand) rufiyaa shall be imposed;
		(2)	From the second count onwards, the fine shall be doubled for each count.
		(d)	Where persons incurring fines under this Regulation are fined, a fine notice demanding payment shall be served as specified in section 29 of the Tobacco Control Act.
		(e)	If a person below the age of 18 (eighteen) is fined for violating this Regulation, that person's guardian shall bear the responsibility to pay the fine.
Penalties Applicable to Persons who Contravene the Standards Governing Trade in Tobacco Products	49		It shall be unlawful for parties who are licensed under this Regulation to conduct trade in tobacco products to violate the standards applicable to the conduct of commercial transactions. If a violation occurs, the person shall be subjected to penalties in the following manner.
		(a)	On the first count of a violation of this Regulation, a fine of 10,000/- (ten thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed.
		(b)	On the second count of a violation of this Regulation, a fine of 50,000/- (fifty thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed.
		(c)	On the third count, a fine of 100,000/- (hundred thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed in addition to the suspension of the permit issued to that party for the conduct trade in tobacco products for a period of 1 (one) year.
Imposition of Penalties for Unlawful Trade	50	(a)	It shall be unlawful to conduct illicit trade in tobacco products. If it is the first count of illicit trading, the amount of fine shall be determined by summing up the value of the goods involved and the applicable taxes and fees and multiplying the result of the summation by 10 (ten). If the fine amount derived in this manner is less than 1000/- (thousand) Rufiyaa, the applicable fine shall be 1000/- (thousand) Rufiyaa. Further, if the amount so derived is more than 1,000,000/- (one million) Rufiyaa, the applicable fine shall be t 1,000,000/- (one million) Rufiyaa.
		(b)	From the second count of violation onwards, for each count of violation, in addition to the fine prescribed in subsection (a) of this section, the permit shall be suspended for 6 (six) months from the date the latest fine was imposed.

Penalties Applicable for Conduct Trade in Tobacco Products without a Permit	51	Where trade is conducted in tobacco products without obtaining the permits necessary for the importation, sale and exportation of such products, the party in violation shall be subjected to the following penalties.	
		(a)	On the first count of the violation of this Regulation, a fine of 50,000/- (fifty thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed.
		(b)	For every count of this offence that is repeated, a fine of 100,000/- (hundred thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed.
		(c)	From the second violation onwards, in addition to the imposition of the fine referred to in subsection (b) of this section, a submission shall be made to the relevant authority to suspend the trade permit for a period of 6 (six) months from the date the latest fine was imposed.
Penalties Applicable to Non-Submission of the Reports	52	If a provision of this Regulation is violated in the submission of a report required under this Regulation, a fine of 5,000/- (five thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed.	
Imposition of Penalties on Persons Carrying out Advertising in Contravention of the Regulation	53	(a)	A person who commits a of subsection (a) of section 37 of this Regulation shall, if it is the first count, be imposed a fine of 10,000/- (ten thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed. If it is the second count, a fine of 50,000/- (fifty thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed. For every subsequent count, a fine of 100,000/- (hundred thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed. Further, the enforcement authorities and the Ministry shall be vested with the power to remove such items as posters and banners used in the advertising of tobacco products that have been installed by the party in violation.
		(b)	If the party imposed with a fine for the third time pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, is a tobacco seller, the permit to trade in tobacco products issued to that party shall be suspended for a period of 1 (one) year.
		(c)	The materials used in committing the violation of law can be brought into the possession of the enforcement authorities and disposed of in a manner harmless to the environment. No compensation shall apply in lieu of such disposals.
		(d)	Permit to trade in tobacco products issued to parties who carry out transactions while keeping the tobacco products displayed in general view, shall be suspended for a period of 6 (six) months.
		(e)	The relevant authorities responsible for the enforcement of the Regulation have the discretion to impose a penalty under this section on anyone acting in violation of subsection (a) of section 37 of this

			Regulation, the operator and owner of the place wherein the violation is committed.
Penalties applicable to violations pertaining to rules of packaging and labelling	54	Persons who commit violations of the provisions of Chapter 5 of this Regulation shall be subjected to the following penalties.	
		(a)	A fine equivalent to 10 (ten) times the sum total of the price of the goods used in the commission of the violation and all taxes and fees applicable at the stage shall be imposed.
		(b)	For each repetition of the offence, action shall be taken in the following manner.
		(1)	In addition to the fine stated in subsection (a) of this section, a fine of 5000/- (five thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed on the second count.
		(2)	In addition to the fine stated in subsection (a) of this section, a fine of 10,000/- (ten thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed on the third count.
		(3)	In addition to the fine stated in subsection (a) of this section, a fine of 20,000/- (twenty thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed on the fourth count.
		(4)	In addition to the fine stated in subsection (a) of this section, the maximum fine payable under the Act shall be imposed on the fifth count.
		(c)	If the fine amount derived under subsection (a) and (b) of this section is less than 1,000/- (one thousand) Rufiyaa, the applicable fine shall be 1,000/- (one thousand) Rufiyaa. Further, if the derived fine amount is more than 1,000,000/- (one million) Rufiyaa, the applicable fine shall be 1,000,000/- (one million) Rufiyaa.
		(d)	In addition to the fines prescribed under subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the imposition of a temporary suspension on the permit to conduct trade in tobacco, the cancellation of the permit and the suspension of specific matters falling within the permit are not barred under this Regulation.
Disposal of Objects used in the Commission of a Violation of Chapter Five	55	The objects used to commit a violation of Chapter 5 of this Regulation may be confiscated by a competent authority and disposed of in such manner that it does not cause harm to the environment. Such equipment shall include the following.	
		(a)	An object or a machine or a writing kept in one's possession, that can be used undertake the packaging or labelling of a tobacco product in a

			manner inconsistent with the specifications prescribed for packaging or labelling them whether intentionally or not, or to violate a provision of this Regulation.
		(b)	Any tobacco product the preparation of which does not comply with the standards applicable to tobacco products under this Regulation and fake tobacco products kept in any location in Maldives by any person, either intentionally or otherwise.
Confiscating and Disposing of Items Imported in Contravention of the Regulation	56		Upon the commencement of this Regulation, items imported in contravention of this Regulation shall be confiscated and disposed of in accordance with the rules of the Maldives Customs Services and in such manner that does not cause harm to the environment
Confiscating Electronic Cigarettes and Such Other Devices Used for Vaping	57	(a)	Where electronic cigarettes, vaping devices and products consumable with the use of such devices, the importation of which are prohibited in Maldives, are found being used in a place where their use is prohibited or in one's possession or are found by a law enforcement in a search and agency in a search and inspection carried out under powers vested by law or under a court order, such items can be confiscated by a competent enforcement authority.
		(b)	If an item prohibited from being imported into Maldives under Law No: 15/2010 (Tobacco Control Act) is found in one's possession, a fine of 2000/- (two thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed.
		(c)	If the recipient of an instruction given under subsection (a) of this section fails to comply with that instruction, and if that recipient is an individual, a fine of 50,000/- (fifty thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed.
		(d)	If the recipient of an instruction given under subsection (a) of this section fails to comply with that instruction, and if that recipient is a legal entity operating a business, a fine of 100,000/- (hundred thousand) Rufiyaa shall be imposed and a submission to revoke the permit to trade shall be made.
Disposal of Confiscated Items	58	(a)	Given that the items confiscated under this Regulation are items the importation and exportation of which are prohibited such items, once confiscated, shall not be returned.
		(b)	Items confiscated under this Regulation shall be disposed by the enforcement authority that confiscated the item.
		(c)	Items disposed under subsection (b) of this section shall be disposed in accordance with the prescribed procedure of the competent authority.

		(d)	In carrying out the disposal of items under subsection (c) of this section, measures required to mitigate the impact on the environment shall be applied.
		(e)	If the authority referred to in subsection (b) of this section does not possess a mechanism by which the items can be disposed of in a manner consistent with this Regulation, this Regulation does not bar the handing over of the items to an authority that is in possession of a mechanism that can dispose the items.
Submission of Report on Confiscated and Disposed Items	59	A report pertaining to confiscated items and disposed items and containing the following items shall be submitted to the Ministry once every 6 (six) months.	
		(a)	The type of confiscated items.
		(b)	The quantity of confiscated items.
		(c)	The date or dates on which the items were confiscated.
		(d)	The quantity of items disposed and the date or dates on which they were disposed.
		(e)	If the disposal has been assigned to another authority, the name of that authority and the date so assigned.
Service of the Fine Notice	60	If a person is imposed a fine under this Regulation, a notice of the fine shall be served on that person.	
Payment of Fines	61	Fines imposed under this Regulation shall be paid to the Maldives Inland Revenue Authority within 14 (fourteen) working days from the date notice of the fine is served.	
Non-payment of fine	62	(a)	The Ministry shall have the power to suspend the permits issued to conduct trade in tobacco where the fines imposed for violation of laws and regulations are not paid by the parties concerned.
		(b)	Suspension of permits subject to subsection (a) of this section shall become applicable after the expiration of the period stated in section 61 of this Regulation.
		(c)	In the case of non-payment of fines as referred to in subsection (a) of this section, the payments can be sought through the court of law in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations.

Procedure to be Followed in Case of Dissatisfaction with a Penalty under the Regulation	63	(a)	In the event of dissatisfaction with a penalty imposed under this Regulation, the aggrieved party may submit a written complaint to the Ministry within 7 (seven) days from the date of being fined.	
		(b)	If any complaint is submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the Ministry shall investigate the complaint and provide a written response within 15 (fifteen) working days.	
		(c)	In the event the complainant is dissatisfied with the response provided under subsection (b) of this section, this section does not bar filing the matter in a court of law.	
Chapter 7: Miscellaneous				
Responsibility of Implementation	64	(a)	This Regulation shall be implemented by the following authorities.	
		(1)	Ministry;	
		(2)	Maldives Customs Service;	
		(3)	Maldives Police Service;	
		(4)	The Ministry mandated to implement the economic policy at the given time;	
		(5)	City councils, atoll councils and island councils.	
		(b)	Persons who are in charge of or are in possession of and operating or are taking care of any place where tobacco consumption has been prohibited under section 4 of this Regulation, shall be responsible for implementing this Regulation.	
		(c)	At the stage of importing tobacco products into Maldives, the Maldives Customs Service shall be responsible for fining persons who violate this Regulation, enforcing the fine against persons who fail to pay the fine and carrying out disposal of illicit items, in the implementation of this Regulation. In this regard, items that require disposal shall be disposed of in such manner that it does not cause harm to the environment. In addition, the expenses incurred in the disposal of those items shall be reimbursed to the Maldives Customs Service in accordance with Regulation Number: R-41/2011 (General Regulation of Customs) by the party that imported the items into Maldives.	

		(d)	The expenses incurred while the confiscated items are kept in the possession of Maldives Customs Control shall be reimbursed to Maldives Customs Service in accordance with Regulation Number: R-41/2011 (General Regulation of Customs) by the party that imported the items into Maldives.
		(e)	Except for the stage where tobacco products imported into Maldives, it shall be the responsibility of the authorities in subsection (a) of this section, excluding the authority stated in paragraph (2) of that subsection, to carry out the implementation of this Regulation by fining persons who violate this Regulation, enforcing the fine against persons who fail to pay the fine and carrying out disposal of the illicit items.
		(f)	Notwithstanding subsection (e) of this section, where an inspection is being carried out by the Ministry overseeing trade-related matters or the Maldives Police Service or the Maldives Customs Service, the inspecting authority shall have the authority to fine the party in violation. Further, if a party in violation is fined, the authority that imposed the fine matter shall so inform the Health Protection Agency immediately or as soon as possible.
		(g)	The enforcement authorities stated in this Regulation shall have the authority to waive the fine imposed under this Regulation and dispose of the tobacco products that are imported for personal use by individuals through post, courier service or through orders as well as the tobacco products brought in by travellers to Maldives for their personal use that are in excess of the tax exemption limit and as such, in contravention of this Regulation.
Selecting a Focal Point	65	(a)	In order to monitor the actions of those who violate the law and this Regulation, to investigate and take action against such matters and to encourage performance in accordance with the Act and this Regulation in all Government authorities and Government shareholding companies, every authority mandated to enforce the Act and this Regulation shall appoint a senior subordinate only to the head of that authority and vested with full powers and discretion to head the said works.
		(b)	The works assigned to the senior appointed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section include, for the purpose of enforcing the Tobacco Control Act this Regulation, monitoring the actions of those who violate the Act and this Regulation, investigating and penalizing such acts, and to encourage performance in accordance with the Act and the Regulations enacted pursuant to that Act working to prevent tobacco consumption in that authority and raising awareness among the employees of the office in relation to tobacco consumption.

Protection of Persons who Report	66	(a)	Where a person reports a violation of this Regulation to a competent authority, no person or employee or a senior official of that authority shall disclose the identity of the person who reported. Nor shall a person who makes such a report be subjected to any penalty or retaliation.
		(b)	In order to protect the person who reported as well as the confidentiality, the authorities stated in subsection (a) of this section shall not disclose or share with any party, the details of the person who reported.
Prohibition on the Granting of Permission to Bring into Maldives Equipment Used in the Manufacture of Tobacco Products	67	(a)	Permission shall not be granted to bring into Maldives, machinery and other equipment used in the manufacture of tobacco products. This excludes small, manual and portable equipment that can only roll one single cigarette or a bidi at a time.
		(b)	Permission shall not be granted to bring into Maldives, empty rolled tubes or pipes (with or without the filter) that are used to make tobacco products, cigarettes or nidi, and empty boxes and other tools used for that purpose. Notwithstanding this, filters and unrolled paper used to make cigarettes or bidi shall be allowed in, if the quantity does not exceed 50 (fifty) irrespective of whether the paper and filters are packed separately or together.
		(c)	Where it is found that tobacco products have been made for commercial purpose, using the items allowed in under subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the license issued to that party under this Regulation shall be revoked.
		(d)	Items that are not allowed to be brought into Maldives under subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall be allowed to be taken out of Maldives.
Definitions	68		Unless otherwise is provided in this Regulation, the following words and phrases shall be given the meaning attributed to them herein below.
		(a)	“Ministry” shall refer to the ministry mandated with carrying out health-related matters.
		(b)	“Act” or “Tobacco Control Act” shall refer to Act No: 15/2010 (Tobacco Control Act).
		(c)	“Minister” shall refer to the minister in charge of the ministry mandated to carry out health-related matters.
		(d)	“Tobacco products” shall refer to tobacco leaves, stems, nicotine, and products made from tobacco leaves, stems and nicotine. In addition, any

			product that contains any of the above as ingredients in any amount that is prepared so that a substance or substances in the product can be assimilated into the body by chewing or drinking or inhaling or sticking or pressing or applying the product on the body, shall be a tobacco product. However, nicotine replacement therapy given through "Cessation" treatment to stop tobacco consumption which is permitted by relevant technical authorities or other such products used as treatment shall not be a tobacco product for the purpose of this Act.
		(e)	"Consumption of tobacco" refers to inhaling or exhaling the smoke or vapor produced from a tobacco product through the mouth or nose or placing in the mouth or chewing or eating or drinking a tobacco product, or breathing in a tobacco product or otherwise causing it to be assimilated into the body by sticking, pressing or applying a tobacco product on the body.
		(f)	"Devices used in tobacco consumption" shall refer to the devices used to effect the ingestion of the smoke or vapor or other substance emanating from a tobacco product into the body.
		(g)	"Public places" shall refer to places where people move about freely or people enter and leave freely without any restriction, places where people may spend time at or places that are meant for people to gather for various other purposes, vessels and vehicles that may be used in a similar manner and the public places declared under the regulations made pursuant to this Act.
		(h)	"Workplace" shall refer to places that are covered by a roof or other material or a place that is enclosed or screened by walls or other type of partition or partitions or by any other means where a person works for a remuneration or as a volunteer or as an employee in that place. In this regard, apart from the usual work station, the elevators, corridors, stairs, lobbies, washrooms, lounges, cafeterias, canteens, messrooms and other similar spaces that are interconnected to the work stations and are used by workers during their working hours are included in the meaning of this term. Places that are used for residential purposes shall not be included in the meaning of workplace even though those places are used to carry out a business or to provide a service. Further, an entire island cannot be considered to fall within the definition of workplace.
		(i)	"Ferries" shall refer to different types of vessels used to transport people and cargo from place to place by sea in the public transport system.
		(j)	"Building" shall refer to places that are permanently or temporarily roofed, and outdoor spaces within the building such as the stairs, stairwell, corridor, balcony, terrace, lift, lobby, portico, pool, parking area, ventilation space, walkway, garden as well as open spaces for communal use that are within the building and its premises.

		(k)	"Indoor" shall refer to any space bounded by two side walls (not less than 1 meter) or not less than 10 (ten) feet by 10(ten) feet that has a roof over it. (This includes places that are used as outdoor spaces but are capable of being converted to an 'indoor" space by pulling out a retractable sheet or roof as and when needed.)
		(l)	"Industrial workplaces and zones" shall refer to a place or zone that is allocated or authorized for carrying out industrial works. In addition, it refers to places that are under construction or woodworking or conducting industrial works using machinery temporarily.
		(m)	"Board" shall refer to the Tobacco Control Board constituted by the President of Maldives pursuant to section 36 of the Tobacco Control Act.
		(n)	"Terminal" shall refer to places where people convene for transportation including the ferry terminal and bus terminal.
		(o)	"Council" shall refer to councils that are formed pursuant to Law No: 7/2010 (Act on the Decentralized Governance of the Administrative Divisions of Maldives).
		(p)	"Detention facilities" shall refer to jails, centres where people are kept in confinement, rehabilitation centers and detention centers
		(q)	"Chit" ¹ shall refer to a notification that is served via an electronic means or as a document.
		(r)	"Carton" shall refer to, in the case of cigarettes, a single package of 10 (ten) boxes, each box containing 20 (twenty) units. For tobacco products other than cigarettes, every packet enclosing 5 (five) units of that product.
		(s)	"Warning notice" shall refer to the text, drawing, symbol image or colour of the health warning that is required by this Regulation to be displayed on the cover of tobacco products or in places where tobacco products are sold.
		(t)	"Packet" shall refer to the packaging on tobacco products when it is retailed.
		(u)	"Master case" shall refer to the box, bag, sack or other such item in which tobacco products are packaged when it is moved from place to place for the purpose of importing, re-exporting, wholesaling, distributing or otherwise moving in bulk.
"		(v)	"Advertise" shall refer to making public, directly or indirectly, information pertaining to tobacco products, their brands, manufacturers and sellers via different mediums on a commercial basis, and conducting promotional activities aimed at selling or increasing the sale of tobacco products and their brands or to promote tobacco consumption. The

¹. Translated as 'Notice' in the English version in relation to the notice of fines.

			meaning of advertising includes, sounds, songs, tunes, and music in addition to words, names, phrases, slogans, letters, numbers, pictures, drawings, designs, logos, colors and other such effects symbolizing, or used by, or identify with tobacco products, brands, manufacturers and sellers.
		(w)	“Sponsoring tobacco” shall refer to conveying at any place and in any manner, either directly or indirectly, that there is a partnership or relationship with a manufacturer, seller or marketer of a tobacco product in relation to the following matters and, using an effect symbolic of any such party related to tobacco, in any manner in any such event, thing or place.
		(1)	Entertainment activities, sports competitions, educational and literary activities, cultural and fashion related activities, and other such types of work, activities, shows, movies videos drawings and audios;
		(2)	Clothing, uniform and accessories of persons or person involved in any of the said activities and the social media accounts relating to the said activities.
		(3)	Activities conducted on any social media and digital platform and in public places or places where members of the public gather;
		(4)	Buildings, educational facilities, open areas and public places;
		(5)	Other activities and places stated in the regulation enacted under this Act.
		(y)	“Product containing other tobacco products” shall refer to any product that has been prepared using any amount of a tobacco product. However, chewing gum, patch or other such products and pharmaceutical drugs that are used in nicotine replacement therapy and given through “Cessation” treatment or other such program to cease tobacco consumption under approval by the relevant Government authority or as a part of the generally accepted medical treatment shall not be a “product containing other tobacco products” for the purpose of this Act.
		(z)	“Goods used in the commission of the offence” shall refer to:
		(1)	If the goods are at the stage of importing, the tobacco products in the consignment that are in contravention of the Regulation;
		(2)	If at the stage where the goods are being wholesaled, of the wholesaled goods, all the tobacco products that are in contravention of the Regulation.
		(3)	If at the stage where the goods are being retailed, of the retailed goods, all the tobacco products that are in contravention of the Regulation.
		(4)	However, if the quantity of cigarettes sold on retail is less than 20 (twenty) cigarettes or less than 50 (fifty) bidi, the quantity of goods used in committing the offence shall be deemed as 1 (one) box of 20 (twenty) cigarettes and one bundle of 50 (fifty) bidi.
		(5)	If tobacco products that are in contravention of the Regulation is found during an inspection by the relevant state authority, in a

			business place, warehouse for goods or in a cargo vessel, all tobacco products that are in contravention of the Regulation at the given time in that place or vessel shall be deemed as goods used in the commission of the offence.
		(aa)	"Value" refers to
		(1)	If it is the stage of importing goods to the Maldives, it shall be the "Customs Value" recognized by the Maldives Customs Service;
		(2)	At the wholesale stage, the value shall be the wholesale price determined by the party that conducted the transaction;
		(3)	At the retail stage, the value shall be the retail price determined by the party that conducted the transaction.
Repealed Regulations	69	(a)	From the date of commencement of this Regulation, Regulation number 2019/R-158 (Regulation on Packaging and Labelling Tobacco Products), Regulation number 2019/R-1028 (First amendment to Regulation number 2019/R-158, Regulation on Packaging and Labelling Tobacco Products), Regulation number 2019/R-1046 (Second amendment to Regulation number 2019/R-158, Regulation on Packaging and Labelling Tobacco Products), Regulation number 2024/R-108 (Third amendment to Regulation number 2019/R-158, Regulation on Packaging and Labelling Tobacco Products), Regulation number 2024/R-111 (Fourth amendment to Regulation number 2019/R-158, Regulation on Packaging and Labelling Tobacco Products) is repealed.
Commencement Date	70	This Regulation shall come into force from the date this Regulation is published the Government of Maldives Gazette.	

Annex 1**Sample Signboard to be Displayed or Affixed to Notify the Public of Tobacco Smoke Free Zones and Guideline on the Text to be Included in the Signboards**

Details required to be included in the signboards that are displayed or affixed to notify the public of the places that have been declared to be tobacco smoke free places:

In general, signboards notifying that a given place is tobacco smoke free shall be written in such manner that it is easily comprehensible and appealing to the public as well as in a manner that will foster public cooperation and acceptance and generate a feeling of security. Further, it shall be in such manner that it is easily known that the consumption of tobacco is prohibited in the place and that it is safe from tobacco smoke. In this regard, the details and images required to be placed in the signboard are as follows.

(1) No Tobacco Consumption Sign:

- (a) This sign (universal no smoking sign / crossed cigarette symbol) shall be a sign that conveys clearly to everyone that tobacco consumption is prohibited. It is advisable to use a sign which indicates that consumption of other items defined as cigarettes and tobacco products in subsection (l) of section 42 of Law No: 23/2024 (Tobacco Control Act) are also prohibited. Creative signs depicting tobacco consumption to be an undesirable behavior can be used. However, tobacco consumption shall not be shown to be a popular act.
- (b) The size of this sign shall not be smaller than 3.5 x 5.4 inches (9 x 9 centimetres) and in places that must be visible from a distance of more than 6 (six) feet (for example, signboards displayed or fixed at entrances shall be visible from a distance of more than 25 (twenty-five)), the size of the above given measurements shall, at least, be doubled for every 6 (six) feet of distance (area shall quadruple).
- (c) This sign shall occupy a large portion of the surface area of the signboard. Even if the sign is smaller in proportion owing to the inclusion of other relevant and appealing images being included on the signboard, the sign shall be larger than the minimum measurements provided above.
- (d) If a board is prepared to be placed at the entrance of a place such that it will indicate all the rules pertaining to the place, the board shall contain the no tobacco consumption sign. And the size of this sign shall not be smaller than the other signs displayed on the board in relation to the other rules contained in the board.

(2) Text of the main notification or message:

- (a) The text of the message shall be in an easily legible size (Faruma or Times New Roman Font in font size 18 or larger). It shall be a clear and easily legible font. Even if a font other than the fonts stated here is used, the font size shall correspond with the given font sizes. Font sizes can be further enlarged to make the text more visible.

- (b) It is important to specify in the message, the benefits of abstaining from tobacco consumption and the reasons for quitting tobacco consumption. For example, specify the benefits (it has) for health protection, having fun in a healthy environment, protection from incidents of fire, the welfare of everyone and the specific benefits that corresponds to the nature of the place.
 - (c) Use phrases that foster in the reader, cooperation in terms of abstaining from tobacco consumption in the place. For example, expressing gratitude for or welcoming the abstention from tobacco consumption). In addition, in high-risk places (for example, places where an incident of fire may occur) stricter language can be used.
 - (d) In general, messages shall be in Dhivehi. At international airports, places where tourists visit or are frequented by tourists, the message shall be in both English and Dhivehi. Two boards can be prepared in both languages separately and used.
 - (e) Messages that can be used in this manner are provided below.
- (3) Contact numbers to request formal action- 3322111 (in islands and cities, state the number provided by the respective council).
- This phone number shall easily connect with a person who takes the responsibility for taking prompt action. For example, it is advisable to include the numbers of the person responsible for preventing tobacco consumption in that place or the health focal point and a national level contact number.
- (4) Messages to encourage discontinuation (optional):
- (a) Where a service assisting in the quitting of tobacco consumption is available, the inclusion of a message to that effect enhances the chances of achieving the purpose of the signboard.
 - (b) Message that can be used if a service assisting in the quitting of tobacco consumption is available in that island: "Please visit a health service provider if help is needed to quit tobacco consumption!"
 - (c) Message that can be used in case help is needed through National Quitline, along with the contact number: Please contact 1676 if help is needed to quit tobacco consumption!"
- (5) Reference to the Law:
- (a) Inclusion in a small font size at the bottom.
- (6) Inclusion of other images and messages to foster increased public cooperation (optional):

In this regard, an image or message holding special significance can be used in relation to the protection of a special category of people who visit a specific place for a service or entertainment provided in that place. For example, an image depicting a doctor giving the message in a hospital, an image of children in a children's park, an image of players in a sports arena or an image of an entertainment activity can be included. In this regard, where a signboard containing images or messages other than the message forms

and sample images provided in the provisions from (1) to (4) and this Guideline are to be placed or affixed, prior approval from the Ministry shall be obtained.

Unofficial Translation

Annex 2

ދަރިވަރުންނަށް ފޮތްކިޔުމުގެ ފުރުޞަތު ދޭން ބޭނުންވާނެއެވެ!



NO SMOKING

**SMOKING IN THIS AREA IS
PROHIBITED BY THE LAW**

މި ސަރަޙައްދުގައި ބަނޑު ފޮތްކިޔުމުގެ ފުރުޞަތު ދޭން ބޭނުންވާނެއެވެ!
މި ސަރަޙައްދުގައި ބަނޑު ފޮތްކިޔުމުގެ ފުރުޞަތު ދޭން ބޭނުންވާނެއެވެ!

[illegible]

شیرین! شیرین!



THANK YOU!

**FOR MAKING THIS A SAFE AND
HEALTHY PLACE FOR EVERYONE**

SMOKING CESSATION SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE NEAREST HEALTH CENTER

[illegible]

ދަރިވަރުންނަށް!

އިތުރު ދަރިވަރުންނަށް ބަލާ ފަރާތްތަކުގެ ސަބަބުން
ދަރިވަރުންނަށް ހިތާމަ ވާ ގޮތަށް ނުކުރުމަށް!



DANGER!

**NO SMOKING ZONE –
FOR THE SAFETY OF EVERYONE**

Unofficial Translation

ދިވެހިސަރުކާރުގެ ގެޒެޓް
ދިވެހިރާއްޖޭގެ ޖުމްހޫރިއްޔާ
ސަރުކާރުގެ ޖުމްހޫރިއްޔާ



SMOKING AREA

މިއަހަރުގެ ފުރަތަމަ ދުވަހުގައި
 ދަތުރުކުރާ ފަރާތްތަކަށް

މަރުބަލާ!



WELCOME!

You are entering a no
 smoking clean air zone

މާލެ ސަރުކާރުގެ ގެޒެޓް
ދިވެހިރާއްޖޭގެ ސަރުކާރުގެ ގެޒެޓް
ދިވެހިރާއްޖޭގެ ސަރުކާރުގެ ގެޒެޓް!

ފޮޓޯގްރާފީކަ ސިޓީ ދަށުން ބަނޑު ދަނޑު ފަދަ ތަކެތި ބޭނުންކުރުމަށް ދަންނަވާ ނޯޓިސް
 ފޮޓޯގްރާފީކަ ސިޓީ ދަށުން ބަނޑު ދަނޑު ފަދަ ތަކެތި ބޭނުންކުރުމަށް ދަންނަވާ ނޯޓިސް

NO SMOKING
WITHIN 10FT FROM THE BUILDING ENTRANCE

4

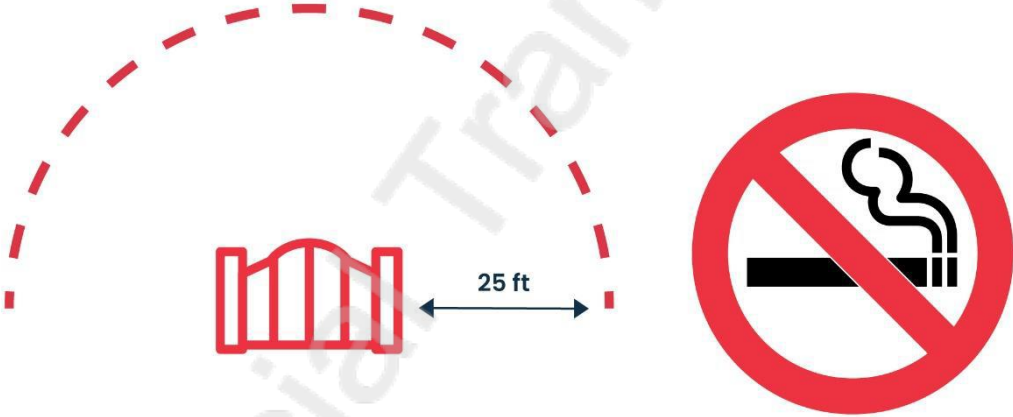
NOTICE REF: TCA/N/2025/01

3322111 ބަނޑު ދަނޑު ފަދަ ތަކެތި ބޭނުންކުރުމަށް ދަންނަވާ ނޯޓިސް

ދިވެހިރާއްޖޭގެ ސަރުކާރުގެ ގެޒެޓް ގައި ބަނޑު ދަނޑު ފަދަ ތަކެތި ބޭނުންކުރުމަށް ދަންނަވާ ނޯޓިސް

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 ދަރުސާފު ދަރުސާފު ދަރުސާފު ދަރުސާފު ދަރުސާފު

ދަރުސާފު ދަރުސާފު ދަރުސާފު ދަރުސާފު ދަރުސާފު
 ދަރުސާފު ދަރުސާފު ދަރުސާފު ދަރުސާފު ދަރުސާފު



The diagram illustrates a building entrance with a red dashed semi-circle indicating a 25 ft radius zone. To the right of the entrance is a red circular sign with a diagonal line through it, containing a black cigarette icon, representing a 'No Smoking' sign.

NO SMOKING
 WITHIN 25FT OF THE BUILDING ENTRANCE

4

NOTICE REF: TCA/N/2025/01 3322111 ދަރުސާފު ދަރުސާފު ދަރުސާފު ދަރުސާފު ދަރުސާފު

އަދި ދަތުރުތަކުގެ ތެރެއިން ދަތުރުތަކުގެ ތެރެއިން
 ދަތުރުތަކުގެ ތެރެއިން ދަތުރުތަކުގެ ތެރެއިން

ސަލާމަތް!



THANK YOU!

for making our health facility a safe,
 healthy and smoke free place for
 everyone

4

ދަތުރުތަކުގެ ތެރެއިން ދަތުރުތަކުގެ ތެރެއިން ދަތުރުތަކުގެ ތެރެއިން ދަތުރުތަކުގެ ތެރެއިން

ދަރިވަރުންނަށް!

މިއަހަރުގެ ފުރަތަމަ ދުވަހުގައި ހިސާބު ދަތުރުކުރުމަށް
 ފޮތް، ވަޑައިގަތުމަށް ފަސޭހަކުރަމެވެ.



WELCOME!

Enjoy our smoke free clean air!

5

تر سر ز می ۵۶۱۰۶
در سر ز می ۵۶۱۰۶

[illegible]

NO SMOKING

**NO SMOKING ALLOWED
IN THIS VEHICLE**

21 ހަތަރު ވަނަ ދުވަހުގެ ތެރޭގ ދިވެހިރާއްޖޭގެ ތެރޭގ ހިންގާ ނިންމުމުގެ ދަށުން 2025

19 ވަނަ ދުވަހުގެ ތެރޭގ ހިންގާ ނިންމުމުގެ ދަށުން



NO SALE

OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS TO
PERSONS UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE

7

NOTICE REF: TCA/N/2025/01

3322111 ދިވެހިރާއްޖޭގެ ތެރޭގ ހިންގާ ނިންމުމުގެ ދަށުން

ދިވެހިރާއްޖޭގެ ތެރޭގ ހިންގާ ނިންމުމުގެ ދަށުން 2025

މަދަރުގަވާއިދު ސަރުކާރުގެ ގަވާއިދު?

މަދަރުގަވާއިދު ސަރުކާރުގެ ގަވާއިދު ދަންނަވާ!



WARNING!

SMOKING CAN CAUSE CANCER!

8

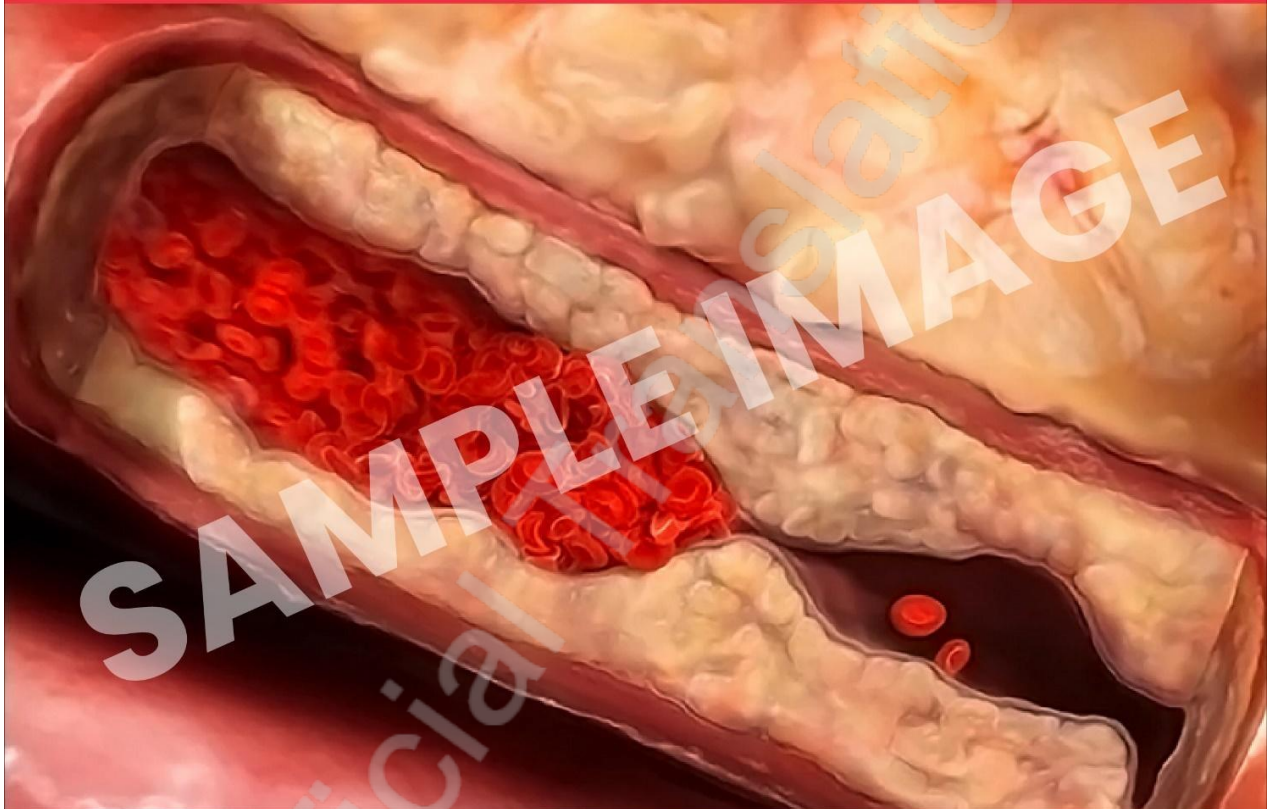
NOTICE REF: TCA/N/2025/08

3024595 ދިވެހިސަރުކާރުގެ ގެޒެޓް

ދިވެހިސަރުކާރުގެ ގެޒެޓް ނަންބަރު 3024595

ހުށަހަޅާ ދަރިވަރުންނަށް?

މިހާރު ދިވެހިންނަށް ހުށަހަޅާ ހުށަހަޅާ ހުށަހަޅާ ހުށަހަޅާ!



WARNING!

SMOKING CAN CAUSE ARTERIAL DAMAGE!

تَرَسْتِ قُرْمِدِ بِسُورِ بَرَمُو رَاخُسْتِر وَخُسْتِر یَسْتِ
وَر دَ اَتَر مَر دَدِ اَو!



WARNING!

**TOBACCO PRODUCTS CONTAIN
POISONOUS SUBSTANCES**

އަހަރުގެ ފެންނަ ދަރިވަރުންނަށް?

މަދަރުވަދު ދަރިވަރުންނަށް ދަރިވަރުންނަށް ދަރިވަރުންނަށް ދަރިވަރުންނަށް
 ދަރިވަރުންނަށް ދަރިވަރުންނަށް ދަރިވަރުންނަށް ދަރިވަރުންނަށް!



WARNING!

SMOKING DURING PREGNANCY RAISES THE RISK
 OF YOUR BABY BEING BORN WITH BIRTH DEFECTS.

[illegible]

PEOPLE WHO ARE EXPOSED TO SECONDHAND SMOKE, CAN SUFFER HARMFUL HEALTH EFFECTS.

Annex 3

Annex 3

Details pertaining to the fees Applicable to the permits issued under Tobacco Control Act

DETAILS OF THE LICENSE	AMOUNT OF FEE (IN MALDIVIAN RUFYAA)
1- License issued to conduct wholesale or retail of tobacco products	5000 (five thousand)
(1.1) Renewal of license	5000 (five thousand)
2- License issued to importers of tobacco products	10,000 (ten thousand)
(2.1) Renewal of License	10,000 (ten thousand)
3- license to re-exporters of tobacco products	10,000 (ten thousand)
(3.1) Renewal of License	10,000 (ten thousand)
4- Smoking room or area license	10,000 (ten thousand)
(renewal of license)	10,000 (ten thousand)