



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF HEALTH

OFFICE OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARY

Federal Secretariat Complex, Phase III, Ahmadu Bello Way, Abuja.

P.M.B. 083 Garki, Abuja. E-mail: psh@health.gov.ng

Website: www.health.gov.ng

NCD/5697/I

21st June 2021

Inspector General of Police (IGP)
The Nigeria Police Force Headquarters,
Louis Edet House,
Shehu Shagari Way, Abuja.

Attn: DIG, Department of Operations

IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF GRAPHIC HEALTH WARNING (GHW) ON PACKAGES OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS IN NIGERIA

The Federal Ministry of Health commends the Nigeria Police Force for the good work in tobacco control and related matters in Nigeria.

2. I write to remind the Nigeria Police Force that the implementation of graphic health warning (GHW) in Nigeria shall commence on 23rd June, 2021 in line with provisions of the National Tobacco Control (NTC) Act 2015 and Regulations 2019.
3. However, in consideration of the impact COVID-19 pandemic including the effect of the lockdown on business transactions, the Ministry granted tobacco manufacturers operating in Nigeria a grace period of 150 days from 23rd June, 2021 to clear their inventory, after which enforcement of the GHW starts from 20th November, 2021.
4. Please note that during the 150 days grace period, tobacco products with the prescribed GHW and those carrying the old text health warning (THW) may coexist in the market space.
5. The Ministry remains committed to tobacco control and will continue to carry out her overarching responsibilities and duties of coordination of implementation and enforcement of the GHW and all other provisions of the NTC Act 2015 and Regulations 2019 in the country.
6. The tobacco manufacturers have already been advised to comply with the contents of this letter, to avoid sanction.
7. Please accept the assurances of the Honourable Minister's highest consideration.


A.M. Abdullahi
Permanent Secretary