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MINISTRY OF HEALTH

SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

Independence - Freedom - Happiness

No. 2019-2000-QD-BYT

Hanoi, 30 June 2000

DECISION

Promulgating "Provisional Regulations on the Hygiene of Cigarettes"

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH

Pursuant to the *Law on the Protection of the People's Health* dated 30 June 1989 and the *Regulations on Hygiene* issued with Decree No.23-1991-ND-HDBT dated 24 January 1991 of the Council of Ministers (now the Government);

Pursuant to Decree No.68-CP dated 11 October 1993 of the Government on the *Functions, Duties, Powers and Organizational Structure of the Ministry of Health*;

Pursuant to Decree No.86-CP dated 8 December 1995 of the Government on *Assigning Responsibilities for State Control of the Quality of Goods*;

Pursuant to Decision No.175-1999-QD-TTg dated 25 August 1999 of the Prime Minister of the Government on *Affixture of Stamps to Domestically Produced Cigarettes*;

Pursuant to Decision No.178-1999-QD-TTg dated 30 August 1999 of the Prime Minister of the Government promulgating *"Regulations on Labelling of Goods Circulating Domestically and of Imported/Exported Goods"*;

On the proposal of the Director of the Department for Quality Control, Hygiene and Safety of Foodstuffs - Ministry of Health,

DECIDES

Article 1

To issue with this Decision "Provisional Regulations on the Hygiene of Cigarettes".

Article 2

The Director of the Department for Quality Control, Hygiene and Safety of Foodstuffs shall be responsible for providing directions and guidelines and inspecting the implementation of this Decision.

Article 3

This Decision shall be of full force and effect as from 1 July 2000.

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Article 4

The Head of the Office, the Head of the Inspectorate, the Director of the Medical Treatment Department, Heads of all departments under the Ministry of Health, Heads of Health branches and Directors of Departments of Health of provinces and cities under central authority shall be responsible for the implementation of this Decision.

**For The Minister of Health
Deputy Minister**

Nguyen Van Thuong

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MINISTRY OF HEALTH

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PROVISIONAL REGULATIONS ON THE HYGIENE OF CIGARETTES

(Issued with Decision No.2019-2000-QĐ-BYT dated 30 June 2000 of the Minister of Health)

1. General provisions

1.1 **Governing scope:** These Regulations provide compulsory requirements on the quality, hygiene and safety of cigarettes which are produced for sale in Vietnam.

1.2 **Applicable subjects:** These Regulations apply to all enterprises including enterprises with foreign invested capital which produce and trade in tobacco for sale on the Vietnamese market.

1.3 **In these Regulations the following expressions shall be construed as follows:**

1.3.1 **"Cigarettes"** means products made from fibre taken from the leaf of tobacco trees which is then produced, manufactured or rolled into cigarettes, with or without filters, to be smoked.

1.3.2 **"Requirements for the hygiene of cigarettes"** means ensuring that tobacco is produced at hygienic establishments and has a Tar content and a Nicotine content in the smoke of one cigarette not in excess of the limits permitted by this Decision.

2. Hygiene requirements for cigarettes

2.1 **The technical requirements for cigarettes:** Cigarettes produced for domestic consumption must meet the quality requirements for foodstuffs under Vietnamese Standard TCVN 4286-86 and equivalent Vietnamese Standards which are currently in force.

2.2 **The requirements regarding hygiene and harmful toxins for cigarettes:** Cigarettes must meet the following requirements on hygiene, measured in the smoke of one cigarette:

- **Tar content:** Not to exceed 24 mg/per cigarette.
- **Nicotine content:** Not to exceed 2.2 mg/per cigarette.

Enterprises producing tobacco are encouraged to lower the Tar content to below 24 mg/per cigarette and the Nicotine content to below 2.2 mg/per cigarette.

2.3 It is strictly forbidden to use any substances which cause addiction or any toxic additives in the production, manufacture and storage of tobacco.

2.4 Testing methods:

- Nicotine content shall be measured under International Standards Organization 4387-1991 (E), and Tar under ISO: 10315-1991 (E).
- Inspection of foodstuffs quality requirements shall be under Vietnamese Standard 4286-86 and equivalent Vietnamese Standards currently in force.

2.5 Hygiene requirements for establishments producing cigarettes:

Establishments producing cigarettes for sale on the Vietnamese market must meet the basic hygiene requirements set out in Decision No.4196-1999-QD-BYT dated 29 December 1999 of the Ministry of Health promulgating *"Regulations on foodstuffs quality, hygiene and safety"*.

3. Compulsory labelling requirements for tobacco packets

Labelling of tobacco packets shall be implemented in accordance with Decision No.178-1999-QD-TTg dated 30 August 1999 of the Prime Minister of the Government promulgating *"Regulations on Labelling of Goods Circulating Domestically and of Imported/Exported Goods"*, and with Circular No.34-1999-TT-BTM dated 15 December 1999 of the Ministry of Trade providing *Guidelines for the Implementation of Decision No.178-1999-QD-TTg*, and must be carried out pursuant to the following requirements:

It is compulsory for the following line to appear in capital letters on a tobacco packet:

"CIGARETTE SMOKING IS HAZARDOUS TO HEALTH" or the line **"SMOKING CIGARETTES MAY CAUSE LUNG CANCER"** on the front, back or sides of the packet. The recording of these warnings is encouraged to appear on the front or the back of the packet. The height of the letters stated above must be not less than 2mm, the writing must be printed so that it is easy to read, in a strongly coloured line with the colour of the lettering opposite to the colour of the background, and completely separate from the other information.

The publication of the contents on the tobacco packet is encouraged: "Tarmg/per cigarette, Nicotine mg/per cigarette".

4. Dealing with breaches

Any organization or individual producing or trading in cigarettes which is in breach of the regulations on hygiene for cigarettes shall, depending on the seriousness of the breach, be

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subject to an administrative penalty or be investigated for criminal responsibility, and if they cause loss and damage they must pay compensation for it pursuant to the provisions of the law.

**For The Minister of Health
Deputy Minister**

Nguyen Van Thuong