

2020 - CORE QUESTIONNAIRE OF THE REPORTING INSTRUMENT OF WHO FCTC

A. ORIGIN OF THE REPORT

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Period of reporting:

| | Month | Year |
|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Start date | April (4) | 2018 (19) |
| End date | March (3) | 2020 (21) |

B1. TOBACCO CONSUMPTION

Prevalence of tobacco use

Smoking prevalence in the adult population (all)

(Please provide prevalence data for total adult population, and identify the age considered, e.g. 15 years old and over, 18-64 years; see B112)

Current smokers

| | Prevalence (%) (please include all smoking tobacco products in prevalence data) | Average number of the most-consumed smoking tobacco product used per day |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MALE | 55.5 | 19.7 |
| FEMALE | 7.8 | 13.18 |
| TOTAL (males and females) | 30.7 | 18.9 |

Daily smokers

| | Prevalence (%) (please include all smoking tobacco products in prevalence data) | Average number of the most-consumed smoking tobacco product used per day |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MALE | 54 | 19.5 |
| FEMALE | 6.8 | 12.7 |
| TOTAL (males and females) | 29.4 | 18.7 |

Occasional smokers

| | Prevalence (%) (please include all smoking tobacco products in prevalence data) |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MALE | 1.5 |
| FEMALE | 1 |
| TOTAL (males and females) | 1.2 |

Former smokers

| | Prevalence (%) (please include all smoking tobacco products in prevalence data) |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MALE | 19.3 |
| FEMALE | 3.4 |
| TOTAL (males and females) | 11 |

Never smokers

Prevalence (%)
(please include all smoking tobacco products in prevalence data)

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| MALE | 24.5 |
| FEMALE | 88.8 |
| TOTAL (males and females) | 58 |

Please indicate the smoking tobacco products included in calculating prevalence for question B11:

any tobacco products, such as cigarettes, cigars, or pipes except electronic cigarettes

Please indicate the age range to which the data used to answer question B11 refer:

| | From | To |
|-----------|------|----|
| Age range | 18 | 69 |

Please indicate the year of the data used to answer question B11:

2019

Please indicate the source of the data used to answer question B11:

National tobacco survey

Please provide the definitions of “current smoker”, “daily smoker”, “occasional smoker”, “former smoker” and “never smoker” used in this report.

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Current smoker | current smoker is defined as current daily or occasional smoker |
| Daily smoker | daily smoker is defined as a smoker who smokes at least one puff of any tobacco product a day |
| Occasional smoker | occasional smoker is defined as a smoker who does not smoke on daily basis |
| Former smoker | former smoker was defined as an ex-smoker who currently does not smoke but has smoked at least 100 cigarettes in the lifetime |
| Never smoker | never smoker was defined as a person who currently does not smoke and has never smoked or smoked less than 100 cigarettes in the lifetime |

Please provide a brief explanation of the trend in smoking prevalence in the adult population in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

Since submission of the last report there is insignificant overall decrease of tobacco prevalence in adult population in Georgia. There is a slight increase among female population and slight decrease among male population. This clearly signals that Women in Georgia are getting more and more dependent on tobacco products. Necessary steps are urgent to curtail tobacco industry marketing targeting women especially.

Smoking prevalence in the adult population (by age groups)

(If data are available, please provide prevalence data by age group, and identify the age group considered, preferably by 10-year categories, e.g. 25-34, 35-44 years)

| | Range - start age | Range - end age | Prevalence (%) (please include all smoking tobacco products in prevalence data) |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MALES - current smokers ¹ | 18 | 29 | 53 |
| MALES - current smokers ¹ | 30 | 44 | 69 |
| MALES - current smokers ¹ | 45 | 59 | 52 |
| MALES - current smokers ¹ | 60 | 69 | 43 |
| FEMALES - current smokers ¹ | 18 | 29 | 7 |
| FEMALES - current smokers ¹ | 30 | 44 | 10 |
| FEMALES - current smokers ¹ | 45 | 59 | 8 |
| FEMALES - current smokers ¹ | 60 | 69 | 5 |
| TOTAL (males and females) - current smokers ¹ | 18 | 29 | 31 |
| TOTAL (males and females) - current smokers ¹ | 30 | 44 | 39 |
| TOTAL (males and females) - current smokers ¹ | 45 | 59 | 28 |
| TOTAL (males and females) - current smokers ¹ | 60 | 69 | 22 |

Please indicate the smoking tobacco products included in calculating prevalence for question B12:

any tobacco products, such as cigarettes, cigars, or pipes except electronic cigarettes

Please indicate the year of the data used to answer question B12:

2019

Please indicate the source of the data used to answer question B12:

National tobacco survey

Please provide a brief explanation of the trend in current smoking prevalence by age group in the past two years or since submission of your last report, if data are available.

Since submission of the last report there is a slight increase of current smoking prevalence among age groups 30-44 and 60-69 in male population. Decreased trend can be observed among age groups 18-29 and 45-59. Increasing trend is maintained across all age groups in female population.

Prevalence of smokeless tobacco use in the adult population (all)

(Please provide prevalence data for total adult population, and identify the age considered in B132, e.g. 15 years old and over, 18–64 years; see B132)

Males

| | Prevalence (%) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| (please include all smokeless tobacco products in prevalence data) | |
| Current users | 0 |
| Daily users | 0 |
| Occasional users | 0 |
| Former users | 0.7 |
| Never users | 99.3 |

Females

Prevalence (%)
(please include all smokeless tobacco products in prevalence data)

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| Current users | 0 |
| Daily users | 0 |
| Occasional users | 0 |
| Former users | 0 |
| Never users | 100 |

TOTAL (males and females)

Prevalence (%)
(please include all smokeless tobacco products in prevalence data)

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| Current users | 0 |
| Daily users | 0 |
| Occasional users | 0 |
| Former users | 0 |
| Never users | 100 |

Please indicate the smokeless tobacco products included in calculating prevalence for question B13:

any smokeless tobacco such as snuff, chewing tobacco, betel

Please indicate the age range to which the data used to answer question B13 refer:

| | From | To |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| Age range | 18 | 69 |

Please indicate the year of the data used to answer question B13:

2019

Please indicate the source of the data used to answer question B13:

National tobacco survey

Please provide the definitions of “current user”, “daily user”, “occasional user”, “former user” and “never user” (of smokeless tobacco products) used in this report in the space below.

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Current user | current smokeless tobacco user is defined as a person who uses smokeless tobacco daily or occasionally |
| Daily user | daily user is defined as a person who uses smokeless tobacco product at least once a day |
| Occasional user | occasional user is defined as a person who uses smokeless tobacco not on the daily basis |
| Former user | |
| Never user | |

Please provide a brief explanation of the trend in smokeless tobacco use in the adult population in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

as it was at the time of submitting of the last report, smokeless tobacco consumption remains very low in Georgia and does not represent a significant public health problem.

Prevalence of smokeless tobacco use in the adult population (current users) by age group (by age groups)

(If data are available, please provide prevalence data by age group, and identify the age group considered, preferably by 10-year categories, e.g. 25-34, 35-44 years)

| | Range - start age | Range - end age | Prevalence (%) (please include all smoking tobacco products in prevalence data) |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MALES - current smokers ² | 18 | 29 | 0 |
| MALES - current smokers ² | 30 | 44 | 0 |
| MALES - current smokers ² | 45 | 59 | 0 |
| MALES - current smokers ² | 60 | 69 | 0 |
| FEMALES - current smokers ² | 18 | 29 | 0 |
| FEMALES - current smokers ² | 30 | 44 | 0 |
| FEMALES - current smokers ² | 45 | 59 | 0 |
| FEMALES - current smokers ² | 60 | 69 | 0 |
| TOTAL (males and females) - current smokers ² | 18 | 29 | 0 |
| TOTAL (males and females) - current smokers ² | 30 | 44 | 0 |
| TOTAL (males and females) - current smokers ² | 45 | 59 | 0 |
| TOTAL (males and females) - current smokers ² | 60 | 69 | 0 |

Please indicate the smokeless tobacco products included in the answer to question B14:

any smokeless tobacco such as snuff, chewing tobacco, betel

Please indicate the year of the data used to answer question B14:

2019

Please indicate the source of the data used to answer question B14:

National tobacco survey

Please provide a brief explanation of the trend in current use of smokeless tobacco by adult age groups in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

no statistically significant change in trend. consumption remains very low

Tobacco use by ethnic group(s)

(please include all smoking or smokeless tobacco products in prevalence data)

| Ethnic group(s) | MALES - Prevalence (%) | FEMALES - Prevalence (%) | TOTAL (males and females) - Prevalence (%) |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|

Please indicate the tobacco products included in the answer to question B15:

Please indicate the age range to which the data used to answer question B15 refer:

From To

Please indicate the year of the data used to answer question B15:

Please indicate the source of the data used to answer question B15:

Tobacco use by young persons

(please include all smoking or smokeless tobacco products in prevalence data)

| | Age range | SMOKING TOBACCO - Prevalence (%) | SMOKELESS TOBACCO - Prevalence (%) | WATER PIPE - Prevalence (%) |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| BOYS - Current users ⁴ | 13-15 | 16.9 | 5.0 | |
| GIRLS - Current users ⁴ | 13-15 | 7.6 | 3.2 | |
| TOTAL (boys and girls) - Current users ⁴ | 13-15 | 12.6 | 4.4 | |

Please indicate the tobacco products included in calculating prevalence for question B16:

any type of smoked tobacco

Please indicate the year of the data used to answer question B16:

2017

Please indicate the source of the data used to answer question B16:

WHO Global Tobacco Youth Survey

Please provide the definition of "current smoking/tobacco use" used to answer question B16 in the space below.

current smoking.tobacco use is defined as smoking/using tobacco at the time of the survey, including daily and non-daily smoking

Please provide a brief explanation of the trend in tobacco use by young persons in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

the data compared to previous survey from 2014 show that there is slight increase in tobacco consumption among youth. It is notable that smokeless tobacco products figures are also increasing compared to the adult population consumption levels, it is important to study this further in order to understand particularly which tobacco products are trending in youth and what are the causing factors.

Please attach the relevant documentation.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| National Tobacco Survey | Still needs to be reviewed before publishing and at the moment only available in Georgian language | File type "pdf" |
| GYTS 2017 | No comment | File type "pdf" |

Use of novel and emerging tobacco and nicotine products

| | Age range | Heated tobacco products (HTPs) - Prevalence (%) | Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) - Prevalence (%) | Electronic Non-Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENNDS) - Prevalence (%) | Other products - Prevalence (%) |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ADULT POPULATION - Males | 18-69 | | 0.6 | | |
| ADULT POPULATION - Females | 18-69 | | 0 | | |
| ADULT POPULATION - Total (males and females) | 18-69 | | 0.3 | | |
| YOUNG PERSONS - Boys | 13-15 | | 17.3 | | |
| YOUNG PERSONS - Girls | 13-15 | | 7.7 | | |
| YOUNG PERSONS - Total (boys and girls) | 13-15 | | 13.2 | | |

B2-B9. HEALTH, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Exposure to tobacco smoke

Do you have any data on exposure to tobacco smoke in your population?

Yes ✓

Please provide details in the space below (e.g. exposure by gender, at home, in the workplace, on public transport).

Exposed to tobacco second-hand smoke in home during the past 30 days (age 18-69): men 44.4%, women 33.3%, both sexes 38.6%

Exposed to tobacco second-hand smoke in the workplace during the past 30 days (age 18-69): men 17.4%, women 5.3%, both sexes 11.1%

Please indicate the year of the data used to answer question B21:

2019

Please indicate the source of the data used to answer question B21:

National tobacco survey

Please attach the relevant documentation.

Tobacco-related mortality

Do you have information on tobacco-related mortality in your population?

Yes ✓

What is the estimated total number of deaths attributable to tobacco use in your population?

11400

If available, please provide any additional information on mortality attributable to tobacco use (e.g. lung cancer, cardiovascular diseases) in your jurisdiction.

11,400 Georgian citizens die annually because of tobacco-related diseases, out of which:

9,300 annual deaths due to smoking

2,100 annual deaths due to second hand smoke exposure

Please indicate the year of the data used to answer question B32 and 33:

2017

Please indicate the source of the data used to answer questions B32 and B33:

WHO FCTC Investment Case

Please submit a copy of the study you refer to:

Tobacco-related costs

Do you have information on the economic burden of tobacco use in your population, e.g. the overall cost of tobacco use imposed on your society?

Yes ✓

Please provide details (e.g. direct (health care-related) and indirect costs and, if possible, the method used to estimate these costs).

Total annual direct and indirect costs associated with tobacco-use: GEL 824.9 million

This is equivalent to an annual loss of 2.43% of GDP

Of the GEL 824.9 million total economic cost of tobacco use:

Annual direct healthcare expenditures: GEL 327.3 million

Annual indirect costs: GEL 497.6 million

Annual economic losses/indirect costs associated with tobacco-related premature mortality: GEL 104.1 million

Workplace costs of smoking: GEL 393.5 million*

Excess absenteeism – GEL 76.3 million

Excess presenteeism – GEL 73.9 million

Smoking breaks – GEL 243.3 million

Please indicate the year of the data used to answer question B42:

2017

Please indicate the source of the data used to answer question B42:

WHO FCTC Investment Case

Please submit a copy of the study you refer to:

Supply of tobacco and tobacco products

(with reference to Articles 6.2(b), 20.4(c), and 15.5)

Licit supply of tobacco products

| Product | Unit (e.g. pieces, tonnes) | Domestic production | Retail sales | Exports | Imports |
|---------|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------|---------|---------|
|---------|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------|---------|---------|

Please provide information on the volumes of duty-free sales (e.g. product, unit, quantity), if available.

Please indicate the year of the data used to answer question B51 and 52:

2020

Please indicate the source of the data used to answer questions B51 and B52:

The data on licit supply of tobacco products is not available. The only document Ministry of Finances was able to send represents financial data which is attached to B54

Please attach the relevant documentation.

**Information in
import/export of
tobacco products**

No comment

File type "pdf"

Seizures of illicit tobacco products

(with reference to Article 15.5)

Seizures of illicit tobacco

| | Year | Product | Unit (e.g. pieces, tonnes) | Quantity seized |
|--------------------------|------|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Smoking tobacco products | 2019 | cigarette | pieces | 3 798 033 |
| Smoking tobacco products | 2019 | heated tobacco-IQOS | pieces | 445 260 |

Do you have any information on the percentage of illicit tobacco products on the national tobacco market?

Yes ✓

What percentage of the national tobacco market do illicit tobacco products constitute? (%)

6.96

What is the trend over the past two years or since submission of your last report in the percentage of illicit tobacco products in relation to the national tobacco market?

Rate if illicit trade grew mostly only in one region of Georgia (Samegrelo), particularly the city of Zugdidi. This city borders occupied territory of Georgia, Abkhazia. As the Georgian Government does not recognize independence of Abkhazia the border is not controlled. Therefore, it is easy point for illicit trade. Official report of the research is not yet available therefore, not attaching.

Please provide any further information on illicit tobacco products.

Information provided by the ministry of Internal Affairs:

number of revealed cases in 2019 related to violations about failure to meet the requirements for the sale of tobacco products, tobacco accessories and / or equipment: 733

Information provided by ministry of Finance of Georgia (revenue service):

number of undeclared cigarettes found at the customs border of Georgia in 2019: facts - 1203, number of cigarettes - 1155546

Please indicate the source of the data used to answer questions in section B6:

Ministry of Finance of Georgia (revenue service) and Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia

Please attach the relevant documentation.

**Table Ministry
of Internal
Affairs**

No comment

File type "pdf"

Tobacco-growing

Is there any tobacco-growing in your jurisdiction?

Yes ✓

Please provide information on the number of workers involved in tobacco-growing. If available, please provide this figure broken down by gender.

There is no information on the number of workers involved in tobacco-growing but according to the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia, tobacco is cultivated on 206 ha.

Please provide, if available, the share of the value of tobacco leaf production in the national gross domestic product.

Please indicate the year of the data used to answer questions in section B7:

2020

Please indicate the source of the data used to answer questions in section B7:

Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia

Please attach the relevant documentation.

Taxation of tobacco products

(with reference to Articles 6.2(a) and 6.3)

What proportion of the retail price of the most popular price category of tobacco product consists of taxes (e.g. sum of excise, sales and import duties (if applicable) and value added tax/goods and services tax (VAT/GST))?

60

How are the excise taxes levied (what types of taxes are levied)?

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----|
| Specific tax only | No |
| Ad valorem tax only | No |
| Combination of specific and ad valorem taxes | No |
| More complex structure (please explain below) | Yes |

If a more complex structure of taxes *(please explain)*:

Excise duty is calculated by the quantity or weight of tobacco products and / or retail sale price.

If available, please provide details on the rates of taxation for tobacco products at all levels of Government and be as specific as possible (specify the type of tax, e.g. VAT, sales, import duties)

| | Product | Type of tax | Rate or amount | Base of tax⁵ |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Smoking tobacco products | cigars, cigars with cut ends | excise, VAT, Import duty | 1.9 GEL; 18%, 12% | 1 stick; amount of imports; customs value |
| Smoking tobacco products | cigarillos (slim cigars) | excise, VAT, import duty | 2.2 GEL; 18%, 12% | 20 sticks; amount of imports; customs value |
| Smoking tobacco products | cigarettes containing tobacco | excise, VAT, Import duty | From November 21, 2019: Sum of cigarette excise rate (1.7 GEL) and 30% of retail sale price; 18%; 12% | 20 sticks; amount of imports; customs value |
| Smoking tobacco products | tobacco for pipe | excise, VAT, Import duty | Until November 21, 2019 - GEL 35, from November 21, 2019-60 GEL; 18%; 12% | 1 kg; amount of imports; customs value |
| Smoking tobacco products | Homogenized or restored tobacco | excise, VAT, Import duty | 60 GEL; 18%; 12% | 1 kg; amount of imports; customs value |
| Smokeless tobacco products | chewing or smelling tobacco | excise, VAT, Import duty | Until November 21, 2019 - 35 GEL, from November 21, 2019-60 GEL; 18%; 12% | 1 kg; amount of imports, customs value |
| Other tobacco products | raw tobacco (from November 21 019) | excise, VAT, Import duty | 60 GEL; 18%; 12% | 1 kg; amount of imports; customs value |
| Other tobacco products | Capsules and similar products containing tobacco | excise, VAT, Import duty | excise tax rate (1.7 GEL) and 30% of Retail Sale Price; 18%; 12% | 20 sticks; amount of imports; customs value |
| Other tobacco products | The heat-not-burn tobacco products | excise, VAT, Import duty | excise tax rate (1.7 GEL) and 30% of Retail Sale Price; 18%; 12% | 20 sticks; amount of imports; customs value |

Please briefly describe the trends in taxation for tobacco products in the past two years or since submission of your last report in your jurisdiction.

As a result of the 2018 tax policy, the taxes on filtered and filtered cigarettes has actually been equalized. This led to an increase in demand for raw tobacco as the excise tax was not levied on these products until October 2019 and was more accessible to smokers.

As a result of the legislative changes, the excise duty on tobacco raw materials and tobacco waste, as well as on homogenized tobacco was set at 60 GEL per 1 kg. Also, the excise value on chewing tobacco increased from 35 GEL to 60 GEL.

Do you earmark any percentage of your taxation income for funding any national plan or strategy on tobacco control in your jurisdiction?

No ✘

Please indicate the year of the data used to answer questions B81 to B86:

2020

Please indicate the source of the data used to answer questions B81 to B86:

Ministry of Finance of Georgia (Revenue Service)

Please attach the relevant documentation.

**Tax Code of
Georgia**

No comment

File type "pdf"

Price of tobacco products

(with reference to Articles 6.2(a))

Domestic

Please provide the retail prices of the three most widely sold brands of domestic tobacco products at the most widely used point of sale in your capital city.

| | Name of the most widely sold brands | Number of units or amount per package | Retail price | Currency |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Smoking tobacco products | Pirveli (unfiltered cigarettes) | 1 pack - 20 sticks | 5.00 | GEL |
| Smoking tobacco products | Astra (unfiltered cigarettes) | 1 pack - 20 sticks | 2.50 | GEL |

Imported

Please provide the retail prices of the three most widely sold brands of imported tobacco products at the most widely used point of sale in your capital city.

| | Name of the most widely sold brands | Number of units or amount per package | Retail price | Currency |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Smoking tobacco products | Marlboro | 1 pack - 20 sticks | 6.00 | GEL |
| Smoking tobacco products | Pall Mall | 1 pack - 20 sticks | 5.50 | GEL |
| Smoking tobacco products | Winston | 1 pack - 20 sticks | 5.80 | GEL |

Please indicate the year of the data used to answer question B91:

2020

Please indicate the source of the data used to answer question B91:

Local points of sale

Please briefly describe the trend in the prices of tobacco products in the past two years or since submission of your last report in your jurisdiction.

Please attach the relevant documentation.

Tax Code of
Georgia

No comment

File type "pdf"

C1. GENERAL OBLIGATIONS

With reference to Article 5

Have you developed and implemented comprehensive multisectoral national tobacco control strategies, plans and programmes in accordance with the Convention?

Yes ✓

Have you established or reinforced and financed:

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| a focal point for tobacco control? | Yes |
| a tobacco control unit? | Yes |
| a national coordinating mechanism for tobacco control? | Yes |

Please provide details (e.g. the nature of the national coordinating mechanism, the institution to which the focal point for tobacco control or the tobacco control unit belongs).

The National Tobacco Control Committee was established in 2013 and it is chaired by the Prime Minister of Georgia, it comprises of 10 different ministers and has a working group comprising of different ministries and society representatives and chaired by the minister of health, The National Center for Disease Control and Public Health serves as a secretariat of the Committee. National Center for Disease Control and Public Health (NCDC) is the host institution of the Tobacco Control National Technical Focal Point. NCDC has a Tobacco Control Group and it comprise of 5 people fully dedicated to tobacco control.

Please provide a brief description of the progress made in implementing Article 5.1 and 5.2 (*General obligations*) in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

From May 1, 2018, the "New Generation of Tobacco Control Law" came into force which provides price and tax measures, as well as non-price measures to reduce the demand for tobacco. More specifically, the law includes regulations on the protection from exposure to tobacco smoke, regulation of the contents of tobacco products, regulation of tobacco product disclosures, regulations on the packaging and labelling of tobacco products, regulations on the prohibition tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship; restrictions of sales to and by minors, ect.

If you have any other relevant information pertaining to but not covered in this section, please provide details in the space below.

Protection of public health policies with respect to tobacco control from commercial and other vested interests of the tobacco industry

Have you adopted and implemented, where appropriate, legislative, executive, administrative or other measures or have you implemented, where appropriate, programmes on any of the following:

protecting public health policies with respect to tobacco control from commercial and other vested interests of the tobacco industry?

Yes ✓

ensuring that the public has access, in accordance with Article 12(c), to a wide range of information on tobacco industry activities relevant to the objectives of the Convention, such as in a public repository?

No ✗

If you answered "Yes" to any of the questions under C121 or C122, please provide details in the space below (specifically, please refer, if relevant, to whether your government or any of its departments 1) have raised awareness on tobacco industry tactics and the need to prevent interference by the tobacco industry with decision making; 2) have avoided entering into any partnerships or voluntary agreements with the tobacco industry; 3) have established any measures to limit interaction of public officials with the tobacco industry, including in the form of a code of conduct; 4) have not granted any incentives, privileges, benefits or preferential tax exemptions to the tobacco industry to establish or run their business; etc.).

Law of Georgia on Tobacco Control contains a mandatory provision on protecting public health policies with respect to tobacco control from commercial and other vested interests of the tobacco industry. In order to regulate the relationship with the tobacco industry in detail and ensuring that the public has access to a wide range of information on tobacco industry activities relevant to the objectives of the Convention, policy option to implement article 5.3 of FCTC have been prepared, presented and advocated to the relevant stakeholders. Currently the document is awaiting approval by the Parliament of Georgia.

Please provide a brief description of the progress made in implementing Article 5.3 in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

Tobacco control law of Georgia has a provision on protecting health policies with respect of tobacco control from commercial and other vested interests of the tobacco industry. It entails provision of Governmental Normative Act on regulating civil servants and other state employees relation with the tobacco industry. The respective Normative Act is being developed and is under the process of approval by the Government of Georgia.

Have you utilized the “Guidelines for implementation of Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC” when developing or implementing policies in this area?

Yes ✓

Please provide details in the space below or refer to section I of the additional questionnaire. Response to this question or to the additional questionnaire is **voluntary**. <https://extranet.who.int/dataform/655321?token=vdermmtu7yb332n&lang=en> (<https://extranet.who.int/dataform/655321?token=vdermmtu7yb332n&lang=en>)

If you have any other relevant information pertaining to but not covered in this section, please provide details in the space below.

Please attach the relevant documentation.

**Law of Georgia
on Tobacco
Control**

No comment

File type "pdf"

C2. MEASURES RELATING TO THE REDUCTION OF DEMAND FOR TOBACCO

With reference to Articles 6–14

Price and tax measures to reduce the demand for tobacco

Have you adopted and implemented, where appropriate, legislative, executive, administrative or other measures or have you implemented, where appropriate, programmes on any of the following:

tax policies and, where appropriate, price policies on tobacco products so as to contribute to the health objectives aimed at reducing tobacco consumption?

Yes ✓

prohibiting or restricting, as appropriate, sales to international travellers of tax- and duty-free tobacco products?

Yes ✓

prohibiting or restricting, as appropriate, imports by international travellers of tax- and duty-free tobacco products?

Yes ✓

Please provide a brief description of the progress made in implementing Article 6 (*Price and tax measures to reduce the demand for tobacco*) in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

As a result of the 2018 tax policy, the taxes on filtered and roll your own cigarettes has been balanced. In the beginning tax increase on filtered cigarettes led to an increase in demand for raw tobacco as the excise tax was not charged on these products until October 2019 and was more accessible to smokers. As of today, as a result of the legislative changes, the excise duty on tobacco raw materials and tobacco waste, as well as on homogenized tobacco was set at 60 GEL per 1 kg. Additionally, the excise value on chewing tobacco increased from 35 GEL to 60 GEL.

Have you utilized the "Guidelines for implementation of Article 6 of the WHO FCTC" when developing or implementing policies in this area?

Yes ✓

If you answered "Yes" to question C215 please provide details in the space below or refer to section H of the additional questionnaire available at this link. Response to this question or to the additional questionnaire is **voluntary**. <https://extranet.who.int/dataform/655321?token=vdermmtu7yb332n&lang=en> (<https://extranet.who.int/dataform/655321?token=vdermmtu7yb332n&lang=en>)

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If you have any other relevant information pertaining to but not covered in this section, please provide details in the space below.

Please attach the relevant documentation.

**Tax Law of
Georgia**

No comment

File type "pdf"

Protection from exposure to tobacco smoke

Have you adopted and implemented, where appropriate, legislative, executive, administrative or other measures or have you implemented, where appropriate, programmes on any of the following:

banning tobacco smoking in indoor workplaces, public transport, indoor public places and, as appropriate, other public places ?

Yes ✓

What is the type/nature of the measure providing for the ban?

national law Yes

subnational law(s)

administrative and executive orders

voluntary agreements

other measures (please specify in C223 below)

Please provide a brief explanation of the type/nature and content of the measures providing for the ban.

According to the tobacco control legislation smoking in enclosed public spaces is totally banned (including workplaces), smoking is also banned in public transportation and recreational zones where childrens playgrounds are located. The smoking ban entered into force from May 1, 2018 and since January 2020, smoking has been also banned at stadiums owned by the administration

Do any of these measures provide for a mechanism/ infrastructure for enforcement?

Yes ✓

Please provide details of this system.

Responsible agency on monitoring and response of smoking ban in public places (hospitality sector) is Police Department under the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The main responsibility for the compliance to the law falls on the owners/managers of the business, in case the individuals do not obey to the smoking ban law, the owner/manager is entitled to call the Patrol police. Financial sanctions for the violations of law have increased and the process has simplified. The routine monitoring is planned to reveal the violations, for which relevant structures of the ministry of Internal Affairs are being trained. Other ministries are responsible on monitoring and response on violations of the facilities under their field: e.g. Ministry of Finance, Revenue Service for retailers, Ministry of Health for Health facilities, Ministry of Education for educational facilities etc.

Please specify the settings and extent/comprehensiveness of measures applied in indoor workplaces, public transport, indoor public places and, as appropriate, other public places.

Indoor workplaces:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| government buildings | Complete |
| health-care facilities | Complete |
| educational facilities ⁶ | Complete |
| universities | Complete |
| private workplaces | Complete |
| other (please specify below) | None |

Please specify the settings and extent/comprehensiveness of measures applied in indoor workplaces, public transport, indoor public places and, as appropriate, other public places.

Public transport:

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| airplanes | Complete |
| trains | Complete |
| ferries | Partial |
| ground public transport (buses, trolleybuses, trams) | Complete |
| motor vehicles used as places of work (taxis, ambulances, delivery vehicles) | None |
| private vehicles | None |
| other (please specify below) | |

Please specify the settings and extent/comprehensiveness of measures applied in indoor workplaces, public transport, indoor public places and, as appropriate, other public places.

Indoor public places:

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| cultural facilities | Complete |
| shopping malls | Complete |
| pubs and bars | Complete |
| nightclubs | Complete |
| restaurants | Complete |
| other (please specify below) | |

Please provide a brief summary of complete and partial measures, with specific details of the partial measures that have been implemented:

Banning tobacco smoking in indoor workplaces

according to the tobacco control legislation smoking is completely banned in all workplaces. the law entered into force on May 1, 2018. The exception are Casinos where smoking is still allowed.

Banning tobacco smoking in public transport

according to the tobacco control legislation smoking is completely banned in all transport except open doc ferries and private taxis. The law entered into force on May 1, 2018.

Banning tobacco smoking in indoor public places

according to the tobacco control legislation smoking is completely banned in all public places except cigar bars where smoking of cigars is allowed, but special license is required to open a cigar bar and serving any food or smoking cigarette is strictly forbidden. Also, the exception are theaters, where actors can smoke during the performance. The law entered into force on May 1, 2018.

Please provide a brief description of the progress made in implementing Article 8 (*Protection from exposure to tobacco smoke*) in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

Since May 1st, 2018 smoking of any tobacco products in indoor public places is banned (exemptions include taxi, casinos, cigar bars, slot clubs, theater performances). Accordingly, exposure to tobacco smoke has decreased.

Have you utilized the "Guidelines for implementation of Article 8 of the WHO FCTC" when developing or implementing policies in this area?

Yes ✓

If you answered "Yes" to question C229 please provide details in the space below or refer to section B of the additional questionnaire available at this link. Response to this question or to the additional questionnaire is **voluntary**. <https://extranet.who.int/dataform/655321?token=vdermmtu7yb332n&lang=en> (<https://extranet.who.int/dataform/655321?token=vdermmtu7yb332n&lang=en>)

If you have any other relevant information pertaining to but not covered in this section, please provide details in the space below.

Please attach the relevant documentation.

No comment

File type "pdf"

Regulation of the contents of tobacco products

Have you adopted and implemented, where appropriate, legislative, executive, administrative or other measures or have you implemented, where appropriate, programmes on any of the following:

testing and measuring the contents of tobacco products?

Yes ✓

testing and measuring the emissions of tobacco products?

Yes ✓

regulating the contents of tobacco products?

Yes ✓

regulating the emissions of tobacco products?

Yes ✓

Please provide a brief description of the progress made in implementing Article 9 (*Regulation of the contents of tobacco products*) in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

Tobacco control legislative entail the provisions on the rules of measuring and reporting of the contents and emissions of tobacco products. The relevant Order of the Minister of Health is approved which regulate measuring the contents and emissions is in place however the regulation on restricting additives or flavorings in tobacco products is not in place.

Have you utilized the “Guidelines for implementation of Articles 9 and 10 of the WHO FCTC” when developing or implementing policies in this area?

Yes ✓

If you answered “Yes” to question C236 please provide details in the space below or refer to section C of the additional questionnaire available at this link. Response to this question or to the additional questionnaire is **voluntary**. <https://extranet.who.int/dataform/655321?token=vdermmtu7yb332n&lang=en> (<https://extranet.who.int/dataform/655321?token=vdermmtu7yb332n&lang=en>)

If you have any other relevant information pertaining to but not covered in this section, please provide details in the space below (e.g., whether your country 1) has incorporated product regulation in the national tobacco control legislation; 2) has access to either governmental or independent – not owned or controlled by the tobacco industry – laboratories for testing contents and/or emissions of tobacco products; 3) has regulated ingredients, such as flavours (e.g. menthol); 4) has regulated product characteristics, such as design features (e.g., cigarette ventilation); etc.).

Tobacco control law includes obligatory depiction of pictorial and health warnings on each cigarette package with special regulations. Indication of the amount of nicotine, tar and carbon monoxide on the package is not allowed any more.

Please attach the relevant documentation.

No comment

File type "pdf"

No comment

File type "pdf"

Regulation of tobacco product disclosures

Have you adopted and implemented, where appropriate, legislative, executive, administrative or other measures or have you implemented, where appropriate, programmes on any of the following:

requiring manufacturers or importers of tobacco products to disclose to Government authorities information about the:

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| contents of tobacco products? | Yes |
| emissions of tobacco products? | Yes |

requiring public disclosure of information about the:

| | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| contents of tobacco products? | No |
| emissions of tobacco products? | No |

Please provide a brief description of the progress made in implementing Article 10 (*Regulation of tobacco product disclosures*) in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

Each producer or importer has to present information about emissions and contents of each tobacco product variety to the National Center for Disease Control and public health.

Have you utilized the “Guidelines for implementation of Articles 9 and 10 of the WHO FCTC” when developing or implementing policies in this area?

Yes ✓

If you answered "Yes" to question C244 please provide details in the space below or refer to section C of the additional questionnaire available at this link. Response to this question or to the additional questionnaire is voluntary. <https://extranet.who.int/dataform/655321?token=vdermmtu7yb332n&lang=en> (<https://extranet.who.int/dataform/655321?token=vdermmtu7yb332n&lang=en>)

If you have any other relevant information pertaining to but not covered in this section, please provide details in the space below (e.g. whether your country has incorporated tobacco product disclosures in the national tobacco control legislation; has regulated the public disclosure of toxic constituents and emissions of tobacco products, aiming to raise public awareness and advance tobacco control policy; etc.).

N/A

Please attach the relevant documentation.

No comment

File type "pdf"

No comment

File type "pdf"

Packaging and labelling of tobacco products

Have you adopted and implemented, where appropriate, legislative, executive, administrative or other measures or have you implemented, where appropriate, programmes on any of the following:

requiring that packaging, individual cigarettes or other tobacco products do not carry advertising or promotion?

Yes ✓

requiring that packaging and labelling do not promote a product by any means that are false, misleading, deceptive or likely to create an erroneous impression about its characteristics, health effects, hazards or emissions?

Yes ✓

requiring that each unit packet and package of tobacco products and any outside packaging and labelling of such products carry health warnings describing the harmful effects of tobacco use?

Yes ✓

ensuring that the health warnings are approved by the competent national authority?

Yes ✓

ensuring that the health warnings are rotated?

Yes ✓

ensuring that the health warnings are clear, visible and legible?

Yes ✓

Does your law mandate, as a minimum, a style, size and colour of font to render the warning clear, visible and legible?

Yes ✓

ensuring that the health warnings occupy no less than 30% of the principal display areas?

Yes ✓

ensuring that the health warnings occupy 50% or more of the principal display areas?

Yes ✓

ensuring that health warnings are in the form of, or include, pictures or pictograms?

Yes ✓

Does the Government own the copyright to these pictures and pictograms?

No ✗

Would you grant a non-exclusive and royalty-free licence for the use of health warnings developed in your jurisdiction with other Parties?

requiring that each unit packet and package of tobacco products and any outside packaging and labelling of such products contain information on relevant:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| constituents of tobacco products? | No |
| emissions of tobacco products? | No |

requiring that the warnings and other textual information appear on each unit packet and package and on any outside packaging and labelling in the principal language or languages of the country?

Yes ✓

Please provide a brief description of the progress made in implementing Article 11 (*Packaging and labelling of tobacco products*) in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

According to the tobacco control legislation there is provision requiring that the medical warnings on the packaging of tobacco products should not be less than 65 percent of the total area of the page. In the case of smokeless tobacco it should not be less than 30 per cent of the total area. The right to use the pictorial Health warnings was generously provided by the Canadian and Australia governments. Depiction of the amount of the emissions on the packaging of tobacco products is still not prohibited. From January 2023 according to the new tobacco control law it is required to introduce standardized tobacco packaging.

Have you utilized the "Guidelines for implementation of Article 11 of the WHO FCTC" when developing or implementing policies in this area?

Yes ✓

If you answered "Yes" to question C2516 please provide details in the space below or refer to section D of the additional questionnaire available at this link. Response to this question or to the additional questionnaire is voluntary. <https://extranet.who.int/dataform/655321?token=vdermmtu7yb332n&lang=en> (<https://extranet.who.int/dataform/655321?token=vdermmtu7yb332n&lang=en>)

If you have any other relevant information pertaining to or not covered in this section, please provide details in the space below.

Please attach the relevant documentation.

No comment

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No comment

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Education, communication, training and public awareness

Have you adopted and implemented, where appropriate, legislative, executive, administrative or other measures or have you implemented, where appropriate, programmes on any of the following:

educational and public awareness programmes? (*Please refer to programmes implemented since submission of your two-year report.*)

Yes ✓

To whom are these programmes targeted?

- adults or the general public
 - children and young people
 - men
 - women
 - pregnant women
 - ethnic groups
 - other (please specify)
 - Other
-

Do you reflect the following key differences among targeted population groups in educational and public awareness programmes?

- age
 - gender
 - educational background
 - cultural background
 - socioeconomic status
 - other (please specify)
 - Other
-

Do these educational and public awareness programmes cover:

- health risks of tobacco consumption?
 - health risks of exposure to tobacco smoke?
 - benefits of the cessation of tobacco use and tobacco-free lifestyles?
 - adverse economic consequences of tobacco production?
 - adverse economic consequences of tobacco consumption?
 - adverse environmental consequences of tobacco production?
 - adverse environmental consequences of tobacco consumption?
-

awareness and participation of the following agencies and organizations in development and implementation of intersectoral programmes and strategies for tobacco control:

- public agencies?
 - nongovernmental organizations not affiliated with the tobacco industry?
 - private organizations?
 - other (please specify)?
 - Other
-

Are the elaboration, management and implementation of communication, education, training and public awareness programmes guided by research and do they undergo pre-testing, monitoring and evaluation?

Yes ✓

Are appropriate and special training or sensitization and awareness programmes on tobacco control addressed to:

- health workers?
- community workers?
- social workers?
- media professionals?
- educators?
- decision-makers?
- administrators?
- other (please specify)
- Other

Please provide a brief description of the progress made in implementing Article 12 (*Education, communication, training and public awareness*) in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

Since 2015 National Center for Disease Control and Public Health is implementing a State Health Promotion Program, which is ongoing and the biggest component of which is tobacco control with its designated budget. Within this program social and other media awareness raising campaigns are conducted for general public.

Have you utilized the "Guidelines for implementation of Article 12 of the WHO FCTC" when developing and implementing policies in this area?

Yes ✓

If you answered "Yes" to question C269 please provide details in the space below or refer to section E of the additional questionnaire available at this link. Response to this question or to the additional questionnaire is voluntary. <https://extranet.who.int/dataform/655321?token=vdermmtu7yb332n&lang=en> (<https://extranet.who.int/dataform/655321?token=vdermmtu7yb332n&lang=en>)

If you have any other relevant information pertaining to but not covered in this section, please provide details in the space below.

Please attach the relevant documentation.

Tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship

Have you adopted and implemented, where appropriate, any legislative, executive, administrative or other measures or have you implemented, where appropriate, programmes:

instituting a comprehensive ban on all tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship?

Yes ✓

Does your ban cover:

- display and visibility of tobacco products at points of sales?
- the domestic Internet?
- the global Internet?
- brand stretching and/or brand sharing?
- product placement as a means of advertising or promotion?
- the depiction of tobacco or tobacco use in entertainment media products?
- tobacco sponsorship of international events or activities and/or participants therein?
- contributions from tobacco companies to any other entity for “socially responsible causes” and/or any other activities implemented under the umbrella of “corporate social responsibility” by the tobacco industry?
- cross-border advertising, promotion and sponsorship originating from your territory?
- the same forms of cross-border advertising, promotion and sponsorship entering your territory for which domestic regulation apply?

cooperating with other Parties in the development of technologies and other means necessary to facilitate the elimination of cross-border advertising?

No ✗

imposing penalties for cross-border advertising equal to those applicable to domestic advertising, promotion and sponsorship originating from your territory in accordance with national law?

No ✗

Please provide a brief description of the progress made in implementing Article 13 (*Tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship*) in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

The comprehensive ban on tobacco advertisement, sponsorship and promotion is considered in the Advertisement Law of Georgia. It includes ban on all forms of tobacco advertisement, sponsorship and promotion except tobacco product display ban at points of sales. From 2021, it will be forbidden to sell tobacco products in a way that is visible from not only from outside, also inside of point of sale

Have you utilized the “Guidelines for implementation of Article 13 of the WHO FCTC” when developing and implementing policies in this area?

Yes ✓

If you answered “Yes” to question C2715 please provide details in the space below or refer to section F of the additional questionnaire available at this link. Response to this question or to the additional questionnaire is voluntary. <https://extranet.who.int/dataform/655321?token=vdermmtu7yb332n&lang=en> (https://extranet.who.int/dataform/655321?token=vdermmtu7yb332n&lang=en)

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If you have any other relevant information pertaining to but not covered in this section, please provide details in the space below.

Please attach the relevant documentation.

No comment

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No comment

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Demand reduction measures concerning tobacco dependence and cessation

Have you adopted and implemented, where appropriate, legislative, executive, administrative or other measures or have you implemented, where appropriate, programmes on any of the following:

developing and disseminating appropriate, comprehensive and integrated guidelines based on scientific evidence and best practices?

Yes ✓

programmes to promote cessation of tobacco use, including:

- media campaigns emphasizing the importance of quitting?
programmes specially designed for underage girls and young women?
programmes specially designed for women?
programmes specially designed for pregnant women?
- telephone quitlines?
- local events, such as activities related to World No Tobacco Day or National No Smoking Day, if appropriate?
other (please specify)?
Other

design and implementation of programmes aimed at promoting the cessation of tobacco use, in such locations as:

- educational institutions?
 - health-care facilities?
 - workplaces?
 - sporting environments?
 - other (please specify)?
 - Other
-

inclusion of diagnosis and treatment of tobacco dependence and counselling services for cessation of tobacco use in national programmes, plans and strategies for:

- tobacco control?
 - health?
 - education?
-

inclusion of programmes on the diagnosis and treatment of tobacco dependence in your health-care system?

Yes ✓

Which structures in your health-care system provide programmes for the diagnosis and treatment of tobacco dependence?

- primary health care
 - secondary and tertiary health care
 - specialist health-care systems (please specify below)
 - specialized centres for cessation counselling and treatment of tobacco dependence
 - rehabilitation centres
 - Other
-

Are the services provided in these settings covered by public funding or reimbursement schemes?

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| primary health care | Partially |
| secondary and tertiary health care | None |
| specialist health-care systems (please specify below) | None |
| specialized centres for cessation counselling and treatment of tobacco dependence | None |
| rehabilitation centres | None |
| other (please specify below) | |

Which health and other professionals are involved in programmes offering treatment for tobacco dependence and counselling services?

Health professionals including:

- physicians
- dentists
- family doctors
- practitioners of traditional medicine
- other medical professionals (please specify below)
- nurses
- midwives
- pharmacists
- Community workers
- Social workers
- other (please specify)
- Other

training on tobacco dependence treatment incorporated into the curricula of health professional training at pre- and post-qualification levels at the following schools:

- medical?
- dental?
- nursing?
- pharmacy?
- Other

facilitating accessibility and/or affordability of pharmaceutical products for the treatment of tobacco dependence?

No ✘

Please provide a brief description of the progress made in implementing Article 14 (*Demand reduction measures concerning tobacco dependence and cessation*) in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

The comprehensive tobacco dependency treatment clinical guideline and protocol are updated and presented to the Ministry of Health for review. Free quit line 116001 is operational and brief consultation by trained psychologist on quitting smoking is accessible for every citizen. Quit smoking mobile application has been developed and aired for both android and iOS users. The NRTs and other cessation medications are not provided by any reimbursement schemes, although now they can be imported in the country tax free. Still very limited physical and financial accessibility.

Have you utilized the "Guidelines for implementation of Article 14 of the WHO FCTC" when developing and implementing policies in this area?

Yes ✔

Please provide details in the space below or refer to section G of the additional questionnaire.

Response to this question or to the additional questionnaire is **voluntary**.

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If you have any other relevant information pertaining to but not covered in this section, please provide details in the space below.

Please attach the relevant documentation.

| | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Law on Advertisement | No comment | File type "pdf" |
| Law on TC | No comment | File type "pdf" |
| Gov. Decree on Tobacco constituents and health warnings | No comment | File type "pdf" |

C3. MEASURES RELATING TO THE REDUCTION OF THE SUPPLY OF TOBACCO

With reference to Articles 15–17

Illicit trade in tobacco products

Have you adopted and implemented, where appropriate, legislative, executive, administrative or other measures or have you implemented, where appropriate, programmes on any of the following:

requiring marking of all unit packets and packages of tobacco products and any outside packaging of such products to assist in determining the origin of the product?

Yes ✓

requiring marking of all unit packets and packages of tobacco products and any outside packaging of such products to assist in determining whether the product is legally sold on the domestic market?

Yes ✓

requiring that unit packets and packages of tobacco products for retail and wholesale use that are sold on the domestic market carry the statement: "Sales only allowed in ..." or carry any other effective marking indicating the final destination of the product?

No ✘

developing a practical tracking and tracing regime that would further secure the distribution system and assist in the investigation of illicit trade?

Yes ✔

requiring that marking is presented in legible form and/or appears in the principal language or languages of the country?

Yes ✔

requiring the monitoring and collection of data on cross-border trade in tobacco products, including illicit trade?

No ✘

facilitating the exchange of this information among customs, tax and other authorities, as appropriate, and in accordance with national law and applicable bilateral and multilateral agreements?

No ✘

enacting or strengthening legislation, with appropriate penalties and remedies, against illicit trade in tobacco products, including counterfeit and contraband cigarettes?

Yes ✔

requiring that confiscated manufacturing equipment, counterfeit and contraband cigarettes and other tobacco products derived from illicit trade are destroyed, using environment-friendly methods where possible, or disposed of in accordance with national law?

Yes ✔

adopting and implementing measures to monitor, document and control the storage and distribution of tobacco products held or moving under suspension of taxes or duties?

No ✘

enabling the confiscation of proceeds derived from illicit trade in tobacco products?

Yes ✔

promoting cooperation between national agencies and relevant regional and international intergovernmental organizations in investigations, prosecutions and proceedings, with a view to eliminating illicit trade in tobacco products, with special emphasis on cooperation at regional and subregional levels?

No ✘

licensing or other actions to control or regulate production and distribution in order to prevent illicit trade?

No ✘

Please provide a brief description of the progress made in implementing Article 15 (*Illicit trade in tobacco products*) in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

Inter-ministerial consultations are currently underway to ratify the Protocol.

If you have any other relevant information pertaining to but not covered in this section, please provide details in the space below.

Please attach the relevant documentation.

Sales to and by minors

Have you adopted and implemented, where appropriate, legislative, executive, administrative or other measures or have you implemented, where appropriate, programmes on any of the following:

prohibiting the sales of tobacco products to minors?

Yes ✓

Please specify the legal age:

18

requiring that all sellers of tobacco products place a clear and prominent indicator inside their point of sale about the prohibition of tobacco sales to minors?

Yes ✓

requiring that, in case of doubt, each seller of tobacco products requests that the purchaser provides appropriate evidence of having reached full legal age?

Yes ✓

banning the sale of tobacco products in any manner by which they are directly accessible, such as open store shelves?

No ✘

prohibiting the manufacture and sale of sweets, snacks, toys or any other objects in the form of tobacco products which appeal to minors?

Yes ✓

prohibiting the sale of tobacco products from vending machines?

Yes ✓

prohibiting and/or promoting the prohibition of the distribution of free tobacco products:

to the public?

to minors?

prohibiting the sale of cigarettes individually or in small packets?

Yes ✓

providing for penalties against sellers and distributors in order to ensure compliance?

Yes ✓

prohibiting the sales of tobacco products by minors?

Yes ✓

Please provide a brief description of the progress made in implementing Article 16 (*Sales to and by minors*) in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

Intensive enforcement of the law is assured by the Ministry of International Affairs (Police). Additionally, monitoring group works through all Georgia to identify violations. National emergency line 112 also receives calls from citizens to report violations and transfers the call to the police.

If you have any other relevant information pertaining to but not covered in this section, please provide details in the space below.

Please attach the relevant documentation.

No comment

File type "pdf"

Provision of support for economically viable alternative activities

Have you adopted and implemented, where appropriate, measures or programmes on any of the following:

promoting economically viable and sustainable alternatives for:

| | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| tobacco growers? | No |
| tobacco workers? | No |
| tobacco individual sellers? | No |

Please provide a brief description of the progress made in implementing Article 17 (*Provision of support for economically viable alternative activities*) in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

It is planned to conduct needs assessment during this summer to identify tobacco farmers and promote economically viable and sustainable alternatives.

Have you utilized the “Policy options and recommendations on economically sustainable alternatives to tobacco growing (in relation to Articles 17 and 18 of the WHO FCTC)” when developing and implementing policies in this area?

No ✘

If you have any other relevant information pertaining to but not covered in this section, please provide details in the space below.

Please attach the relevant documentation.

C4. OTHER MEASURES AND POLICIES

With reference to Articles 18–21

Protection of the environment and the health of persons

Have you adopted and implemented, where appropriate, legislative, executive, administrative or other measures or have you implemented, where appropriate, programmes on any of the following:

implementing measures in respect of tobacco cultivation within your territory, which take into consideration:

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| the protection of the environment? | Not applicable |
| the health of persons in relation to the environment? | Not applicable |

implementing measures in respect of tobacco manufacturing within your territory, which take into consideration:

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| the protection of the environment? | Not applicable |
| the health of persons in relation to the environment? | Not applicable |

Please provide a brief description of the progress made in implementing Article 18 (*Protection of the environment and the health of persons*) in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

tobacco cultivation and manufacturing is so low in the country. It covers about 206 hectares.

Have you utilized the “Policy options and recommendations on economically sustainable alternatives to tobacco growing (in relation to Articles 17 and 18 of the WHO FCTC)” when developing and implementing policies in this area?

No

If you have any other relevant information pertaining to but not covered in this section, please provide details in the space below.

Please attach the relevant documentation.

Liability

Have you adopted and implemented, where appropriate, legislative, executive, administrative or other measures or have you implemented, where appropriate, programmes on any of the following:

Does your tobacco control legislation contain measures regarding criminal liability for any violations of that tobacco control legislation?

No

Do you have separate criminal liability provisions in relation to tobacco control (outside of the tobacco control legislation)?

Yes

Do you have any civil liability measures that are specific to tobacco control?

No

Do you have any general civil liability provisions that could apply to tobacco control?

No

Do you have civil or criminal liability provisions that provide for compensation for adverse health effects and/or for reimbursement of medical, social or other relevant costs?

No

Has any person in your jurisdiction launched any criminal and/or civil liability action, including compensation where appropriate, against any tobacco company in relation to any adverse health effect caused by tobacco use?

Not applicable

Have you taken, as appropriate, any legislative, executive, administrative and/or other action against the tobacco industry for full or partial reimbursement of medical, social and other relevant costs related to tobacco use in your jurisdiction?

Not applicable

Please provide a brief description of any progress made, as appropriate, in implementing Article 19 (*Liability*) in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

Earmarking option is included in the national strategy for 2020-2025. Policy option will be prepared and presented to the relevant stakeholders during 2020. The question in C422 implies that outside of the tobacco control legislation, we have separate criminal liability provisions in relation to tobacco control. In particular, the Criminal Code of Georgia provides (And it was provided before the new law on tobacco control was adopted in Georgia) criminal liability for the release, storage, sale or transportation of excisable goods without excise stamps. No other updates available.

If you have any other relevant information pertaining to but not covered in this section, please provide details in the space below.

Please attach the relevant documentation.

Research, surveillance and exchange of information

Have you adopted and implemented, where appropriate, legislative, executive, administrative or other measures or have you implemented, where appropriate, programmes on any of the following:

developing and/or promoting research that addresses:

- determinants of tobacco consumption?
consequences of tobacco consumption?
 - social and economic indicators related to tobacco consumption?
tobacco use among women, with special regard to pregnant women?
the determinants and consequences of exposure to tobacco smoke?
 - identification of effective programmes for the treatment of tobacco dependence?
identification of alternative livelihoods?
Other
-

training and support for all persons engaged in tobacco control activities, including research, implementation and evaluation?

Yes ✓

a national system for epidemiological surveillance of:

- patterns of tobacco consumption?
 - determinants of tobacco consumption?
consequences of tobacco consumption?
 - social, economic and health indicators related to tobacco consumption?
 - exposure to tobacco smoke?
Other
-

Please list all surveys, including the year of the survey, that you have undertaken in the past.

WHO Global Youth Tobacco Survey, 2017 and 2014; WHO STEPS wise Survey on Risk Factors of Non-communicable Diseases, 2016 and 2010; ESPAD Survey 2015 and 2019.; Tobacco National Survey 2019.

Does your country have any plans to repeat any of the above or to undertake a new tobacco survey within three to five years of your last survey? Please provide details in the space below.

In fall 2020 it is planned to repeat the STEPS survey.

regional and global exchange of publicly available national:

scientific, technical, socioeconomic, commercial and legal information?

information on the practices of the tobacco industry?

information on the cultivation of tobacco?

an updated database of:

laws and regulations on tobacco control?

information about the enforcement of laws on tobacco control?

pertinent jurisprudence?

Please provide a brief description of the progress made in implementing Article 20 (*Research, surveillance and exchange of information*) in the past two years or since submission of your last report.

A new round of ESPAD survey was conducted in 2019. Additionally, conducted a National Tobacco Survey by the end of 2019. Data from both studies are analyzed and draft reports prepared. Waiting for final approval for publication.

If you have any other relevant information pertaining to but not covered in this section, please provide details in the space below (e.g. whether you included information on WHO FCTC implementation in your Voluntary National Review (VNR) on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), related to target 3.a).

Yes, information on WHO FCTC implementation was included in Voluntary National Review (VNR) on the Sustainable Development Goals.

Please attach the relevant documentation.

D. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE

Pursuant to Article 21.1(c) and in accordance with Article 26, have you either provided or received financial or technical assistance (be it through unilateral, bilateral, regional, subregional or other multilateral channels, including relevant regional and international intergovernmental or nongovernmental organizations and financial and development institutions) for the development and strengthening of multisectoral, comprehensive tobacco control programmes of developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition in any of the following areas:

development, transfer and acquisition of technology, knowledge, skills, capacity and expertise related to tobacco control?

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Assistance provided | No |
| Assistance received | Yes |

provision of technical, scientific, legal and other expertise to establish and strengthen national tobacco control strategies, plans and programmes?

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Assistance provided | No |
| Assistance received | Yes |

appropriate training or sensitization programmes for appropriate personnel in accordance with Article 12?

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Assistance provided | No |
| Assistance received | Yes |

provision of the necessary material, equipment and supplies, as well as logistic support, for tobacco control strategies, plans and programmes?

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Assistance provided | No |
| Assistance received | No |

identification of methods for tobacco control, including comprehensive treatment of nicotine addiction?

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Assistance provided | No |
| Assistance received | No |

promotion of research to increase the affordability of comprehensive treatment of nicotine addiction?

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Assistance provided | No |
| Assistance received | No |

Please identify the Party or Parties from which assistance was received or to which assistance was provided.

Assistance was provided by WHO FCTC Secretariat, Bloomberg Philanthropies Grant Program, National Institute of Health and Emory university.

Please provide information about any assistance provided or received in the space below, including any support received from nongovernmental organizations (please, specify).

Georgia was selected as a Partner for WHO FCTC initiated FCTC2030 project generously supported by the UK and Australian Governments in frames of ODA.

Georgia is a recipient of Bloomberg Philanthropies Grant Programme and is implementing a project with administration of the the Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases.

Assistance is received from the USA NIH to conduct a joint project with the Emory University and Armenian Institute of Public Health on strengthening local level capacity on implementation of the effective tobacco control measures.

If you have not received or provided assistance in any of the aforementioned areas, please identify any financial or technical assistance that may be under consideration, if appropriate.

Have you encouraged relevant regional and international intergovernmental organizations and financial and development institutions in which you are represented to provide financial assistance for developing country Parties and for Parties with economies in transition to assist them in meeting their obligations under the Convention?

E. PRIORITIES AND COMMENTS

What are the priorities for implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in your jurisdiction?

effective implementation of newly adopted tobacco control law (in particular articles: 8, 11, 13);
Increase of tobacco taxes;
improve tobacco cessation services;
Ensure the preparation, adoption and implementation of healthcare decisions free from the interests of the tobacco industry as well as transparency of the relations between public organizations/entities and the tobacco industry;
Ban smoking in Taxis and service vehicles, as well as in vehicles when minors are present;
ban the use of some additives and flavorings;
Strengthening intersectoral collaboration - tobacco in the development agenda;
Enhancing knowledge sharing platforms - in particular in the spirit of the South-South and triangular cooperation and sub-regional cooperation
Strengthening international support and mobilizing collaboration with civil society
Institutional capacity building;

Have you identified any specific gaps between the resources available and the needs assessed for implementing the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control?

Yes ✓

Please provide details in the space below.

Improving of smoking cessation services - sufficient infrastructure including human resources do not exist to provide comprehensive smoking cessation services. We do have a free quit line but referring the the specific doctor or specialist for quitting is difficult as those services are lacking.
Lack of human resources dedicated to tobacco control - study tours, trainings and workshops are needed for broad range of experts from different sectors who are involved or will be potentially involved in tobacco control activities.
Systematic surveillance on tobacco consumption trends and its determinants as well as health and economic impact - more research needs to be promoted.
Identification of hindering factors for smokers to quit smoking - research needed.
Training and experience exchange of the relevant professionals is necessary on interpretation and analyses of the data collected on emissions and ingredients.

What, if any, are the constraints or barriers, other than lack of resources, you have encountered in implementing the Convention?

Main barrier remains tobacco industry influence and lack of sensitization and support of government officials outside of health sector on the benefits of comprehensive tobacco control measures for both, health and development.

Do you have any of the following products available on your national tobacco market?

- smokeless tobacco products
- water pipe tobacco
- Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS)
- Electronic Non-Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENNDS)
- heated tobacco products (HTPs)
- Other

Have you adopted and implemented any policy or regulation that is specific to the following tobacco products?

- smokeless tobacco products
- water pipe tobacco
- Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS)
- Electronic Non-Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENNDS)
- heated tobacco products (HTPs)
- Other

If you have any relevant information related to questions E5 and E6, please provide details in the space below.

According to Law of Georgia on Tobacco Control, the use of waterpipes and ENDS/ENNDS is banned in enclosed public spaces like cigarettes.

Special packaging rules are established for smokeless tobacco and heated tobacco products on the basis of Government Resolution N150 of March 6, 2020.

Please provide any other relevant information not covered elsewhere that you consider important.

Your suggestions for further development and revision of the reporting instrument:
