

11 September 2001

# INTERNATIONAL TOBACCO PRODUCTS MARKETING STANDARDS

- □ The parties subscribing to these Standards (the "Participants") wish to record their belief that tobacco products should be marketed in a responsible manner and that reasonable measures should be taken to ensure that the promotion and distribution of tobacco products is:
  - directed at adult smokers and not at youth, and consistent with the principle of informed adult choice.
- □ These Standards should be observed in both their letter and intent.
- ☐ In subscribing to these Standards, the Participants wish to encourage:

  all others who manufacture or market tobacco products to join them as Participants; and

  all others who are associated with the manufacture, sale, distribution or marketing of
  tobacco products to embrace the principles of these Standards.
- □ The practices of the Participants should not be less restrictive than these Standards unless required by law, but any more restrictive legal requirement or voluntary undertaking shall take precedence over these Standards.
- □ The Participants should incorporate these Standards into their own internal codes.
- □ The Participants intend to support the comprehensive incorporation of these Standards into national laws.
- □ These Standards do not apply to the relationship between Participants and their suppliers, distributors or other trade partners, although those parties are encouraged to comply with the Standards in any dealings they have with consumers.
- □ The Participants shall take reasonable measures to prevent third parties from using their tobacco product brand names or logos in a manner which violates these Standards.
- □ These Standards are not intended to prohibit the use of any trademarks as brand names or on packaging.
- □ A Participant shall comply with these Standards as quickly as possible, and in any event no later than 12 months from the date that it subscribes to the Standards or, where existing contractual provisions prevent earlier compliance, in any event by December 31, 2002, provided in all cases compliance is not in breach of relevant laws. The timetable for compliance with the Sponsorship Standards is set out in paragraphs 17 and 19.

#### **Definitions**

The following definitions are provided to assist in the interpretation of these Standards.

Term used in these Standards	Explanation
adult	A person who is at least 18 years old, except where legal requirements or voluntary undertakings entered into by the Participants specify a higher minimum age for the lawful sale, purchase, possession or consumption of tobacco products, in which case the term "adult" means a person of at least that minimum age.
advertisement	Any communication by or on behalf of a Participant to consumers which has the aim of encouraging them to select one brand of tobacco products over another.
promotional event	An event or activity organised by or on behalf of a Participant with the aim of promoting a brand of tobacco product, which event or activity would not occur but for the support given to it by or on behalf of the Participant.
sponsorship	Any public or private contribution to a third party in relation to an event, team or activity made with the aim of promoting a brand of tobacco product, which event, team or activity would still exist or occur without such contribution.
tobacco products	Manufactured cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, pipe tobacco, fine cut tobacco, and pre-formed tobacco rolls.
youth	Any person who is not an adult. The term also includes the plural.

### **Content Standards**

- 1. The following Content Standards are intended to cover all communications by or on behalf of a Participant to consumers which have the aim of encouraging them to select one brand of tobacco products over another. Certain communications associated with sponsorship activities are subject to separate requirements set out in paragraph 19.
- **2.** No advertisement shall:
  - be aimed at or particularly appeal to youth
  - feature a celebrity or contain an endorsement, implied or express, by a celebrity
  - depict any person under or appearing to be under 25 years of age
  - suggest that any of the following is enhanced by smoking:
    - sporting or athletic success,

- popularity,
- professional success, or
- sexual success, or
- suggest that most people are smokers.
- 3. All new advertisements published or disseminated after subscription to these Standards, including renewals and replacements of existing advertisements, shall contain a clearly visible health warning except those which:
  - appear on point of sale material the advertising display area of which is smaller than 250 square centimetres,
  - are, either individually or in deliberate combination with other advertisements, smaller than 25 square centimetres and are placed on promotional merchandise, or
  - until December 1, 2006 are used at and connected with sponsored activities

## **Media Usage Standards**

#### 4. Print:

- 4.1 No advertisement shall be placed in any printed publication unless there is a reasonable basis upon which to believe that
  - (a) at least 75% of the readers of such publication are adults, and
  - (b) the number of youth who read it constitute less than 10% of all youth in the country of circulation.
- 4.2 No advertisement shall be placed on the packaging or outside cover of a magazine, newspaper or similar printed publication intended to be read by consumers.
- 4.3 Reasonable measures shall be taken to ensure that no advertisement is placed in printed publications adjacent to material that particularly appeals to youth.

#### 5. Outdoor and Billboard:

- 5.1 No advertisements shall be placed on any billboard, wall mural or transport stop or station which:
  - is located closer than 100 metres from any point of the perimeter of a school attended predominantly by youth, or
  - either individually, or in deliberate combination with other such advertisements, exceeds 35 square metres in total size.
- **6. Cinema:** No advertisement shall be displayed in a cinema unless there is a reasonable basis upon which to believe that at least 75% of the audience are adults.
- **7. Television or Radio**: No advertisement shall be placed on television or radio unless and until:
  - (a) each person seeking access to the channel or programme on which such advertisement is placed provides verification that he or she is an adult, and

- (b) the broadcast is restricted to countries where such advertisements are not prohibited by law.
- **8.** *Internet*: No advertisement shall be placed on the Internet unless and until:
  - (a) each person seeking access to the Internet site on which such advertisement is placed provides verification that he or she is an adult, and
  - (b) access is restricted to those countries where such advertisements are not prohibited by law.
- **9. Video, Audio and Computer:** No electronic advertisement shall be incorporated within any video or audio cassette, compact disk, digital video disk or similar medium unless reasonable measures have been taken to ensure that the intended recipients of the item are adults.

For the avoidance of doubt, Participants may distribute video or audio cassettes, compact disks, digital video disks and similar media provided that the contents, cover, packaging and means of distribution comply with these Standards.

- **10. Product Placement:** There shall be no direct or indirect payment or contribution for the placement of tobacco products, advertisements or items bearing tobacco brand names, within the body of any:
  - motion picture,
  - television programme,
  - theatrical production or other live performance,
  - live or recorded performance of music,
  - commercial film or video,
  - video game, or
  - any similar medium
     where such medium is intended for the general public.

#### **Promotion and Event Standards**

- 11. All activities and communications concerned with
  - promotional offers
  - promotional events
  - promotional items, or
  - sampling

shall comply with the Content Standards.

#### 12. Promotional Offers

12.1 Promotional offers and programs for specific brands which appear on the package, at the point of retail sale, by mail or through other communications shall be directed only to adults and, unless prohibited by law, only to smokers.

- 12.2 Reasonable measures shall be taken to ensure that youth and (unless prohibited by law) non-smokers are excluded from direct mailing lists.
- 12.3 Participation in promotional offers by the general public will be conditional upon evidence of age eligibility and (unless prohibited by law) confirmation of smoker status.
- 12.4 Where promotional offers permit an adult smoker to be accompanied by other persons at a third party event or in an activity, such other persons shall be adults.
- **13.** *Promotional Events:* Each Participant shall ensure that only adults are allowed access to promotional events.

#### 14. Promotional Items:

- 14.1 No advertisements shall be placed on:
  - items where those particular items are marketed to, or intended to be used predominantly by, youth, or
  - shopping bags.
- 14.2 No advertisement larger than 25 square centimetres either on its own or in deliberate combination with other advertisements shall be placed on any items (other than on items with a smoking-related function) which are to be sold, distributed or offered to the general public.
- 14.3 Any item of clothing which is offered for sale or distribution by or on behalf of a Participant shall only be offered in adult sizes.
- **15.** *Sampling:* Reasonable measures shall be taken to ensure that:
  - (a) sample tobacco products are not offered to youth or to non-smokers
  - (b) samples are only offered in a segregated area access to which is restricted to adults
  - (c) personnel employed directly or indirectly by Participants to offer sample tobacco products or to conduct promotional activities
    - (i) are at least 21 years of age, and
    - (ii) verify the age and (unless prohibited by law) smoker status of those to whom the samples and promotions are offered, and
  - (d) unsolicited tobacco product samples are not distributed, either directly or through a third party, by mail.

### **Sponsorship Standards**

#### Sponsored Events

- **16.** No sponsorship shall be provided for:
  - an event or activity which bears a tobacco product brand name, unless there is a
    reasonable basis upon which to believe that all persons who compete, or who
    otherwise take an active part, in the sponsored events or activities are adults, or
  - a team or an individual which bears a tobacco product brand name, unless all persons sponsored by Participants are adults.

- 17. As from December 1, 2006, no sponsorship shall be provided unless:
  - (a) there is a reasonable basis upon which to believe that attendance at the sponsored event or activity will comprise no less than 75% adults, and
  - (b) there is a reasonable basis upon which to believe that the sponsored event or activity will not be of particular appeal to youth, and
  - (c) the Participant does not anticipate that the sponsored event or activity will receive exposure, other than as a news item, on television or radio or the Internet, unless such exposure complies with these Standards, and
  - (d) success in the principal activity associated with the sponsorship does not require above-average physical fitness for someone of the age group of those taking part.

#### Sponsorship Advertising

- **18.** All individuals authorised to bear tobacco product advertisements, logos or brand names at sponsored events or activities shall be adults.
- 19. All forms of advertising associated with or ancillary to sponsorship shall comply with the provisions of these Standards. The following are excluded from these Standards until December 1, 2006:
  - on-site signage at sponsored events
  - incidental television and radio broadcasts of sponsored events
  - applications of trade marks or logos to people or equipment participating in sponsored events.

## Packaging, Sales and Distribution Standards

- **20.** Cigarettes shall not be sold or distributed to consumers in packages containing fewer than ten sticks.
- **21.** Fine cut tobacco shall not be sold or distributed to consumers in pouches smaller than 10 grams.
- 22. No incentive or materials shall be provided to support the sale of cigarettes in single sticks.
- **23.** All cigarette packs and all primary packaging for other tobacco products shall carry a clearly visible health warning.
- **24.** All cartons and bundles offered for sale duty-free shall carry a clearly visible health warning.
- **25.** Reasonable measures shall be taken to prevent youth having access to cigarettes in vending machines.

## Youth access and minimum age restrictions

- **26. Youth Access:** The Participants shall make sustained efforts, in co-operation with governments and other regulatory agencies, customers and others to prevent youth having access to tobacco products. They shall also seek ways in which to reinforce and give effect to measures that will prevent youth having access to tobacco products.
- **27.** *Minimum Age Restrictions:* The Participants are committed to the enactment and enforcement of minimum age restrictions for the lawful sale or purchase of tobacco products in every country in which their tobacco products are sold. The Participants support efforts by appropriate authorities, manufacturers of tobacco products, distributors and retailers to ensure the effective enforcement of such restrictions.