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Page: 1/1

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: English

## NOTIFICATION

### *Addendum*

The following communication, dated 31 May 2016, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of New Zealand.

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TITLE: Smoke-free Environments (Tobacco Plain Packaging) Amendment Bill: Release of Draft Regulations for Consultation.

AGENCY: Ministry of Health

ACTION: Release of draft regulations for consultation

SUMMARY: The New Zealand Ministry of Health has previously notified the TBT Committee (in G/TBT/N/NZL/62) of a proposal to introduce mandatory plain packaging of tobacco products in New Zealand. An addenda to that notification was circulated in 2014 (G/TBT/N/NZL/62/Add.1) to inform WTO Members that legislation had been drafted and the Smoke-free Environments (Tobacco Plain Packaging) Amendment Bill was introduced to Parliament on 17 December 2013. New Zealand would now like to inform Members that a set of draft regulations – an "exposure draft" – was released for public consultation on 31 May 2016. Consultation will be open for 60 days from the date of this notification.

Content of the Regulations: The draft regulations relate to cigarettes, loose tobacco and cigars. Once finalised, they will form the substance of how New Zealand intends to implement a standardised (plain) packaging system for tobacco.

These regulations will be needed to bring the new regulatory scheme into force, and set out the detailed specifications for standardised tobacco products and packages. The legislation that creates the regulatory powers to bring in standardised tobacco products and packaging, the *Smoke-free Environments (Tobacco Plain Packaging) Amendment Bill*, is currently progressing through Parliament. The date when the regulations would come into force depends on when the Bill is passed, and has yet to be determined.

The scope of this consultation is confined to the proposed requirements for standardised tobacco products and packages as set out in the exposure draft of the regulations. The Government has not yet made any final decisions on these detailed regulatory requirements. Both the contents of the Bill and the earlier policy decision to standardise tobacco products have been the subject of previous public consultation, and are outside the scope of this consultation.

COMMENTS: Comments can be sent to New Zealand's TBT enquiry point: [wto@standards.govt.nz](mailto:wto@standards.govt.nz) and will be accepted within 60 days from the date of this notification.

URLs: The draft regulations, and a consultation document that provides an overview of the regulations, can be found at <http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/standardised-tobacco-products-and-packaging-draft-regulations>

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