Bills Committee on Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill 2005

Administration's response to the issue of graphic health warnings raised at the Bills Committee meeting on 6 March 2006

PURPOSE

This paper sets out the Administration's response to Members' request to have more information on graphic health warnings raised by the Bills Committee at its meeting on 6 March.

BACKGROUND

2. At the above meeting, Members requested the Administration to provide a response in writing on the use of graphic health warnings in other overseas jurisdictions together with details of those health warnings.

ADMINISTRATION'S RESPONSE

Australia

- 3. Starting from 1 March 2006, Australian cigarettes would bear warnings that cover 30% of the front and 90% of the back of each package. The back of the package provides expanded information on the warning, as well as information on the Australian Quitline.
- 4. Fourteen warnings have been developed. Implementation details and required warnings are at **Annex A**.

Brazil

- 5. Starting from February 2002, Brazilian cigarettes must have warnings that cover 100% of one side of the package (the one most easily visible to the consumer). There are a total of ten warnings, which are at **Annex B**.
- 6. According to Article 2 of Resolution RDC no 335 of Brazil, the graphic health warnings shall be displayed simultaneously or sequentially, and in the last case they shall be changed every five months at most.

Canada

- 7. Starting from December 2000, warnings on cigarette packets in Canada must cover 50% of each of the front and back of the package. One side is in English and one side is in French (i.e. the two official languages of Canada).
- 8. There are 16 health warning messages which must appear in equal numbers in each brand, which are attached at **Annex C**.

Singapore

- 9. Commencing on 1 August 2004, Singapore requires that each package of cigarettes to include a health warning that is at least 50% of both sides. There are six health warning messages, which are at **Annex D**.
- 10. Each of the warnings set out shall be printed in rotation on the containers of each kind of tobacco products so that during every 24-month period, each warning appears as far as possible on an equal number of containers of each kind of tobacco product.

Thailand

11. Thailand requires that each package of cigarettes to include a health warning that covers at least 50% of both sides of the package starting from 25 March 2005. There are six health warning messages, which are at **Annex E**.

Venezuela

12. Venezuela provides 10 warnings which must be shown in rotation on 100% of one side of the cigarette package. This came into force on 15 April 2005. The packages must also carry a warning that "there is no safe level of consumption." These warnings are at **Annex F**.

European Union

- 13. The European Union provides its member states with the option of using some of the 42 picture-based warnings starting from 1 October 2004. However, member states are not mandatorily required to use pictures on cigarette warnings.
- 14. The minimum size for cigarette warnings in the EU is 30% of the front (32% for bilingual and 35% for trilingual countries) and 40% of the back

(45% for bilingual and 50% for trilingual countries). A border is also required. The full set of warnings approved by the Union is at $\underline{\mathbf{Annex } \mathbf{G}}$.

15. Belgium, as a country with three languages for example, would have health warnings that cover 35% of the cigarette package on the front and 50% on the back. Belgium has created three series of warnings, each set containing 14 warnings. The first set will appear during the first year, the second on the second year, and so forth. They could be found at **Annex H**.

ADVICE SOUGHT

16. The Bills Committee is invited to note the above for information.

Health, Welfare and Food Bureau March 2006



Trade Practices (Consumer Product Information Standards) (Tobacco) Regulations 2004

Statutory Rules 2004 No. 2641

I, PHILIP MICHAEL JEFFERY, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, acting with the advice of the Federal Executive Council, make the following Regulations under the *Trade Practices Act 1974*.

Dated 19 August 2004

P. M. JEFFERY Governor-General

By His Excellency's Command

ROSS CAMERON
Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer

36 Phase-in, alternation and rotation of messages — relevant retail packages

(1) In the period beginning on the commencement of this regulation and ending on 28 February 2006, and in a period of 8 months beginning on 1 March in a year ending with an even number:

Cigarettes and loose or pipe tobacco

- (a) a relevant retail package must bear a warning message, corresponding explanatory message and, if required, the corresponding graphic, mentioned in items 201 to 207 of Schedule 2; and
- (b) each warning message, corresponding explanatory message and, if required, the corresponding graphic, mentioned in items 201 to 207 of Schedule 2 must be printed in rotation on relevant retail packages, so that, during the period, each message appears as nearly as practicable on an equal number of relevant retail packages of each kind of cigarette and of loose or pipe tobacco.
- (2) In a period of 8 months beginning on 1 March in a year ending with an odd number:
 - (a) a relevant retail package must bear a warning message, corresponding explanatory message and, if required, the corresponding graphic, mentioned in items 208 to 214 of Schedule 2; and
 - (b) each warning message, corresponding explanatory message and, if required, the corresponding graphic, mentioned in items 208 to 214 of Schedule 2 must be printed in rotation on relevant retail packages, so that, during the period, each message appears as nearly as practicable on an equal number of relevant retail packages of each kind of cigarette and of loose or pipe tobacco.

37 Changeover arrangements — relevant retail packages

In a period of 4 months beginning on 1 November in a year, a relevant retail package must bear a warning message, corresponding explanatory message and, if required, the corresponding graphic, mentioned in Division 2.2.1 of Schedule 2.

Warning messages, explanatory messages and graphics

Part 2.2 Warning messages, explanatory messages and graphics

Division 2.2.1 Cigarettes and loose or pipe tobacco — relevant retail packages

Item	Warning message	Explanatory message	Graphic
201	SMOKING CAUSES PERIPHERAL VASCULAR DISEASE	Smoking damages your blood vessels, which can prevent blood circulation, particularly to your legs or feet. This can result in blood clots, infection,	GANGRENE
	Health Authority	gangrene, even amputation.	
	Warning	You CAN quit smoking. Call Quitline 131 848, talk to your doctor or pharmacist, or visit www.quitnow.info.au	
202	SMOKING CAUSES EMPHYSEMA	Emphysema is a disease where the airsacs in the lungs are gradually destroyed, making it hard to breathe.	EMPHYSEMA
	Health Authority Warning	Sufferers describe it as a living, breathing hell. Nearly all emphysema is caused by tobacco smoking.	
	STATIONS (**	You CAN quit smoking. Call Quitline 131 848, talk to your doctor or pharmacist, or visit www.quitnow.info.au	HEALTHY LUNG

Item	Warning message	Explanatory message	Graphic
203	SMOKING CAUSES MOUTH AND THROAT CANCER	Smoking is the major cause of cancers affecting the mouth and throat. These cancers can result in extensive surgery, problems in eating and swallowing,	THE WAY
	Health Authority Warning	speech problems and permanent disfigurement. You CAN quit smoking. Call Quitline 131 848, talk to	
	wanning	your doctor or pharmacist, or visit www.quitnow.info.au	MOUTH CANCER
204	SMOKING CLOGS YOUR ARTERIES	Smoking narrows your arteries causing them to become clogged and can lead to heart attack, stroke,	
	Health Authority Warning Peripheral vascular disease, gangrene of the feet and impotence. You CAN quit smoking. Call Quitline 131 848, talk your doctor or pharmacist, or visit www.quitnow.info.au		

Schedule 2

Requirements for tobacco labelling for Part 4

Part 2.2

Warning messages, explanatory messages and graphics

Item	Warning message	Explanatory message	Graphic
205	DON'T LET CHILDREN BREATHE YOUR SMOKE Health Authority Warning	Children exposed to passive smoking experience more serious illnesses such as pneumonia, middle ear infections and asthma attacks. Babies exposed to passive smoking are at greater risk of SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome). You CAN quit smoking. Call Quitline 131 848, talk to your doctor or pharmacist, or visit www.quitnow.info.au	
206	SMOKING – A LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH	Smoking causes more deaths than murder, illegal drugs, motor vehicle accidents and alcohol combined. Smokers not only live shorter lives, they also live	TOBACCO - 19,019 Alcohol - 2,831 Motor Vehicle Accidents - 1,731
	Health Authority Warning	more years with disabling health problems. You CAN quit smoking. Call Quitline 131 848, talk to your doctor or pharmacist, or visit www.quitnow.info.au	Illegal Drugs - 863 Murders - 203 CAUSES OF DEATH IN AUSTRALIA*
		* Source: AIHW Quantification of drug caused mortality and morbidity in Australia, 1998 and ABS Causes of Death, 1998.	

Item	Warning message	Explanatory message	Graphic
207	QUITTING WILL IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH	Quitting smoking at any age benefits your health and fitness. Quitting reduces your risk of developing diseases such as cancer, heart attack and stroke. In the	
	Health Authority Warning	case of heart attack, the risk is halved one year after quitting.	3
	Walling .	You CAN quit smoking. Call Quitline 131 848, talk to your doctor or pharmacist, or visit www.quitnow.info.au	CALL QUITLINE TODAY
208	SMOKING HARMS UNBORN BABIES	Smoking during pregnancy reduces the flow of blood in the placenta and limits the oxygen and nutrients that	
	Health Authority Warning	reach the growing baby. This increases the risk of miscarriage, stillbirth, premature birth, complications during birth or the baby having a smaller brain and body.	
		You CAN quit smoking. Call Quitline 131 848, talk to your doctor or pharmacist, or visit www.quitnow.info.au	

Requirements for tobacco labelling for Part 4

Part 2.2

Warning messages, explanatory messages and graphics

Item	Warning message	Explanatory message	Graphic
209	SMOKING CAUSES BLINDNESS Health Authority	Smoking causes irreversible damage to the back of the eye. This is known as macular degeneration. Central vision is lost, blindness may follow.	
	Warning	You CAN quit smoking. Call Quitline 131 848 , talk to your doctor or pharmacist, or visit www.quitnow.info.au	
210	SMOKING CAUSES LUNG CANCER	9 out of 10 lung cancers are caused by smoking. Every cigarette you smoke increases your risk of lung cancer.	
	Health Authority Warning	Most people who get lung cancer, die from it.	4 4 6
		You CAN quit smoking. Call Quitline 131 848, talk to your doctor or pharmacist, or visit www.quitnow.info.au	LUNG CANCER
211	SMOKING CAUSES HEART DISEASE	Smoking narrows the arteries to your heart causing them to become blocked. This can cause heart attacks	
	Health Authority Warning	and death. Smoking can double your risk of dying from a heart attack.	Mina
		You CAN quit smoking. Call Quitline 131 848 , talk to your doctor or pharmacist, or visit www.quitnow.info.au	HEART BYPASS OPERATION

Item	Warning message	Explanatory message	Graphic
212	SMOKING DOUBLES YOUR RISK OF STROKE	Smoking narrows the arteries to your brain causing them to become blocked. This causes a stroke that can result in permanent paralysis, inability to speak, disability or death. You CAN quit smoking. Call Quitline 131 848, talk to your doctor or pharmacist, or visit www.quitnow.info.au	
	Health Authority Warning		MINOR STROKE
213	SMOKING IS ADDICTIVE	When you smoke you inhale the drug nicotine. In a short time you can find it difficult to control how	
	Health Authority Warning	much you smoke or to quit smoking. Many people don't realise they are dependent on tobacco until they try to quit. Even lifelong smokers CAN and do quit.	
		You CAN quit smoking. Call Quitline 131 848 , talk to your doctor or pharmacist, or visit www.quitnow.info.au	
		Image Source: Health Canada website and Media Photo Gallery.	

Schedule 2	Requirements for tobacco labelling for Part 4
Part 2.2	Warning messages, explanatory messages and graphics

Item	Warning message	Explanatory message	Graphic
214	TOBACCO SMOKE IS TOXIC	Tobacco smoke is a complex mixture of toxic chemicals such as nitrosamines and benzopyrenes	
	Health Authority Warning	which contribute directly to the formation of cancer in smokers, and carbon monoxide which reduces the ability of blood to carry oxygen. These harmful substances can reach your brain, heart and other organs within 10 seconds of the first puff.	TOXIC
		You CAN quit smoking. Call Quitline 131 848, talk to your doctor or pharmacist, or visit www.quitnow.info.au	

Division 2.2.2 Loose or pipe tobacco in retail packages mentioned in items 111, 112 or 113

Item	Warning message	Explanatory message
215	SMOKING DOUBLES YOUR RISK OF	Smoking narrows the arteries to your brain causing them to become blocked. This causes a stroke that can result in permanent paralysis, inability to speak, disability or death.
	STROKE	You CAN quit smoking. Call Quitline 131 848, talk to your doctor or pharmacist, or visit www.quitnow.info.au

Set #2



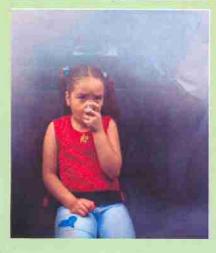
1. Esta necrose foi causada pelo consume do tabaco

[This necrosis was caused by tobacco consumption];



2. Fumar causa impotência sexual

[Smoking causes sexual impotence];



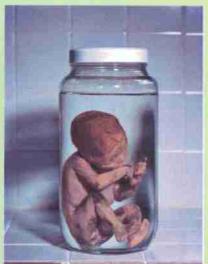
3. Crianças que convivem com fumantes têm mais asma, pneumonia, sinusite e alergia

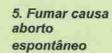
[Children in live in close contact with smokers have more asthma, pneumonia, sinusitis and allergy];

4. Ele é uma vítima do tabaco. Fumar causa doença vascular e pode levar a amputação

[He is a victim of tobacco.
Smoking causes vascular disease that may lead to amputation]







[Smoking causes spontaneous abortion]



6. Ao fumar você inala arsênico e naftalina, também usados contra ratos e baratas

[When smoking, you inhale arsenic and naphthalene, also used against rats and cockroaches]

7. Fumar causa câncer de laringe

[Smoking causes cancer in the larynge]





8. Fumar causa câncer de boca e perda dos dentes

[Smoking causes mouth cancer and loss of teeth]



9. Fumar causa câncer de pulmão

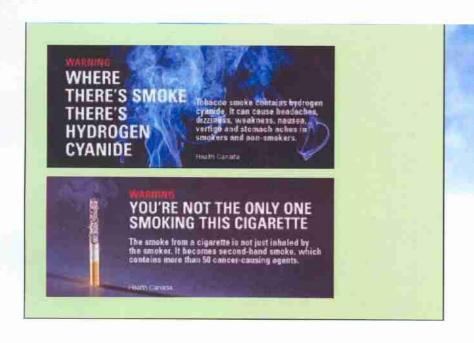
[Smoking causes lung cancer];

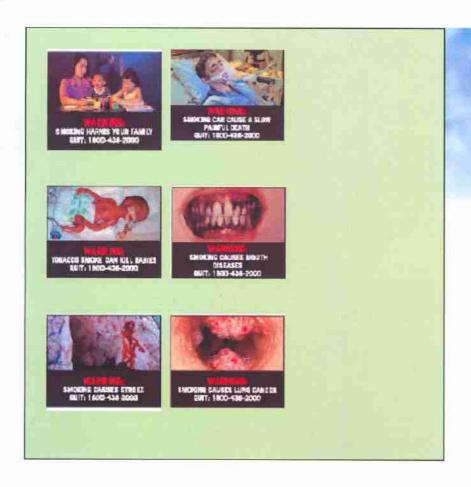


10. Em gestantes, fumar provoca partos prematuros e o nascimento de crianças com peso abaixo do normal [Smoking during pregnancy causes premature births and the birth of babies with low birth weight];











Cigarettes harm your larynx



Cigarettes cause bad breath



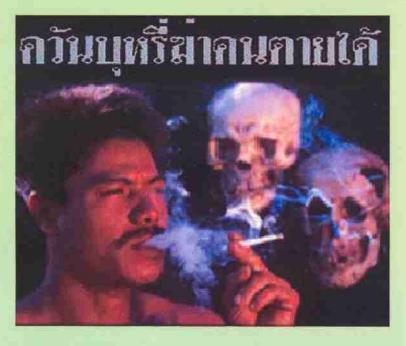
Cigarettes accelerate old age



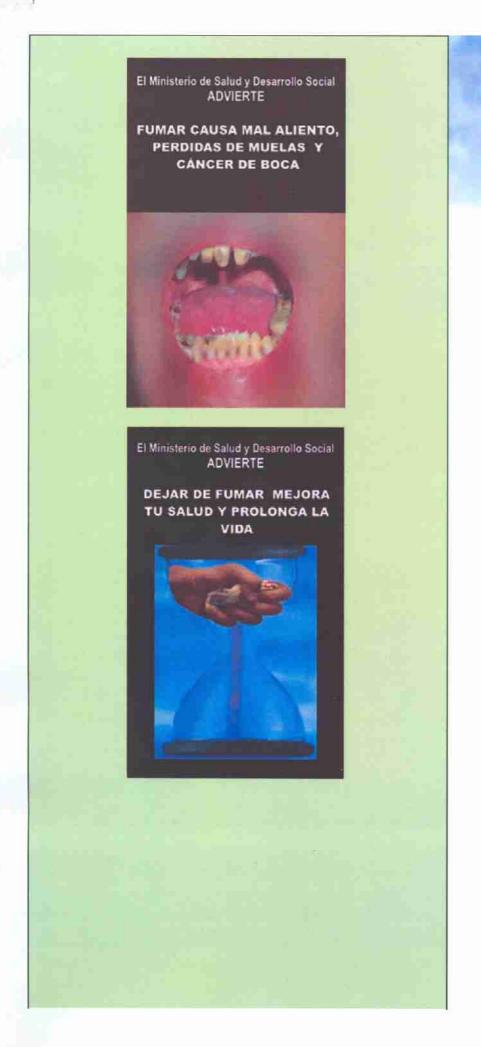
Cigarettes cause lung cancer

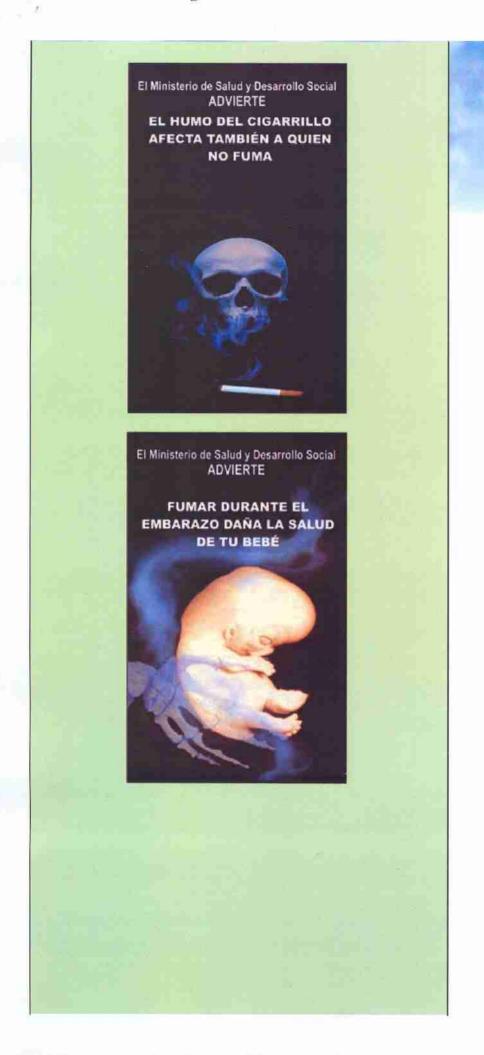


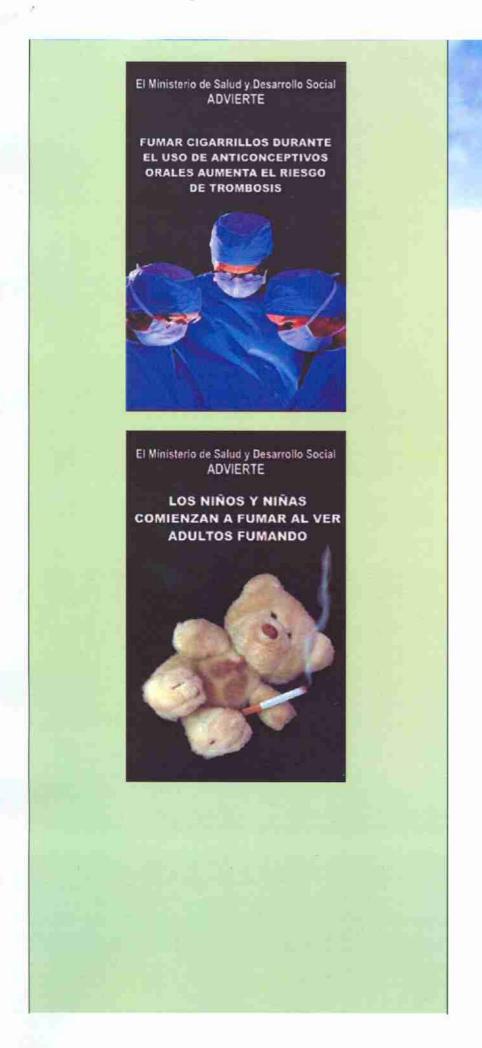
Cigarette smoke harms your children

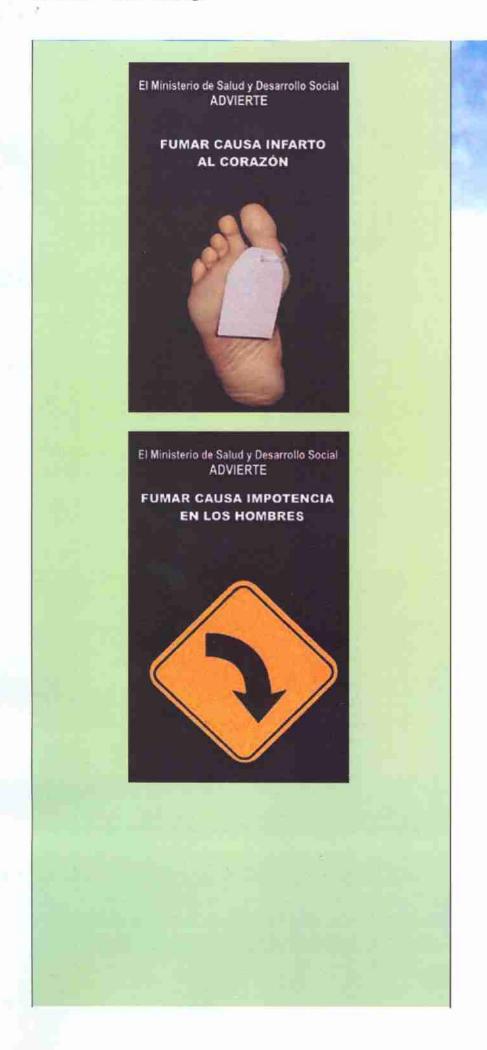


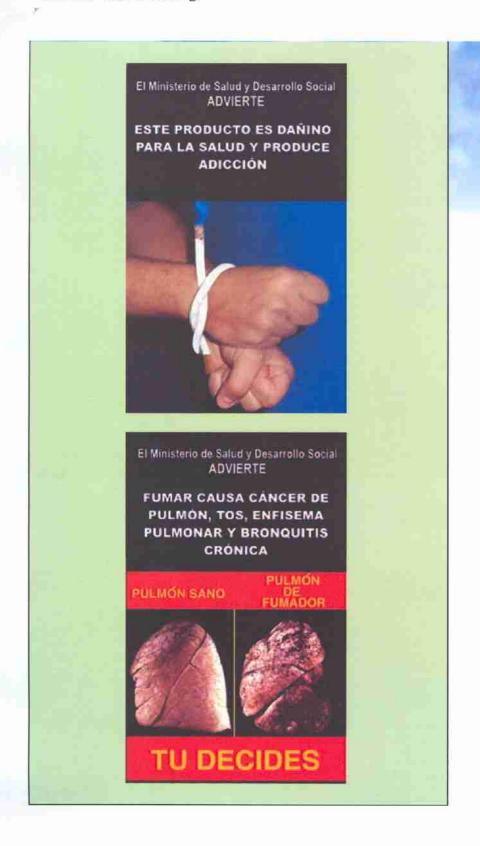
Cigarette smoke can kill you.

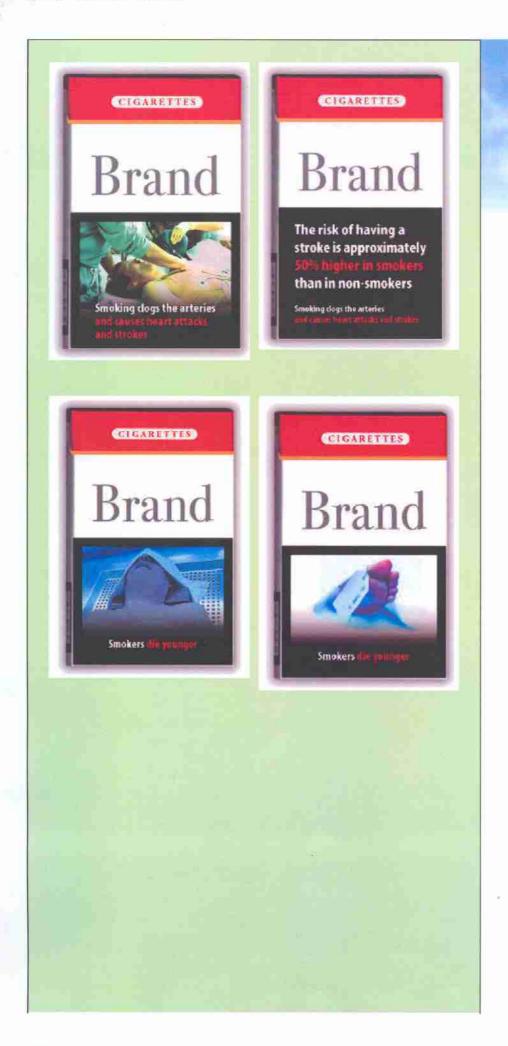


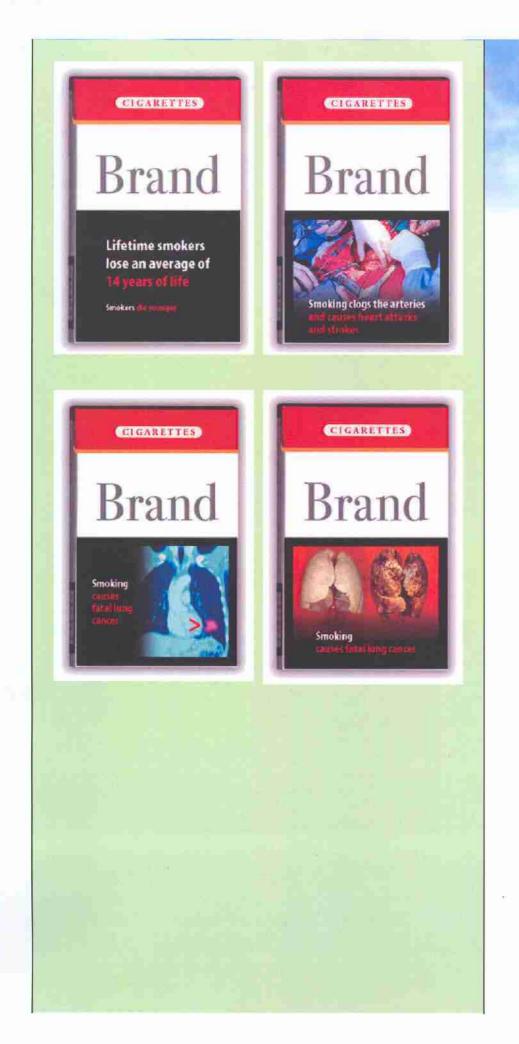


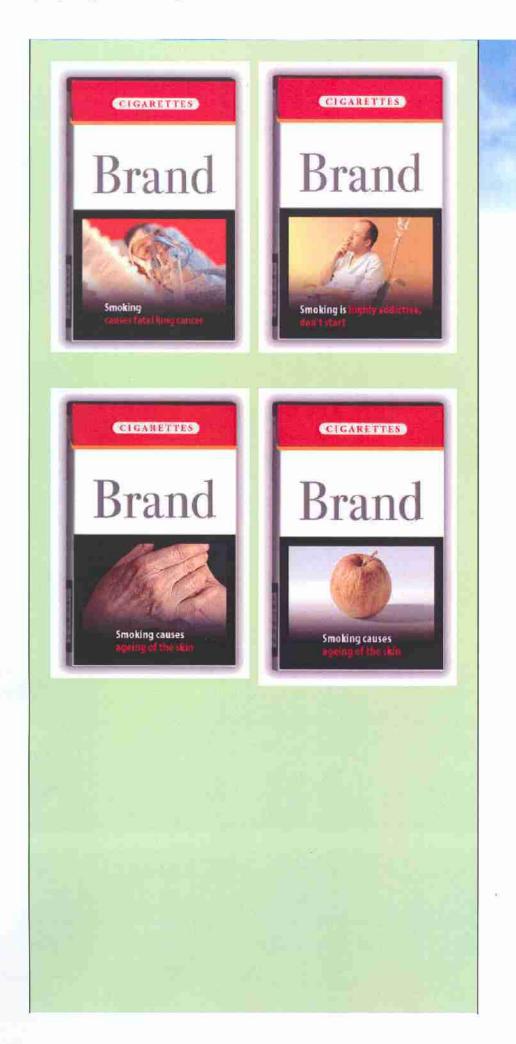


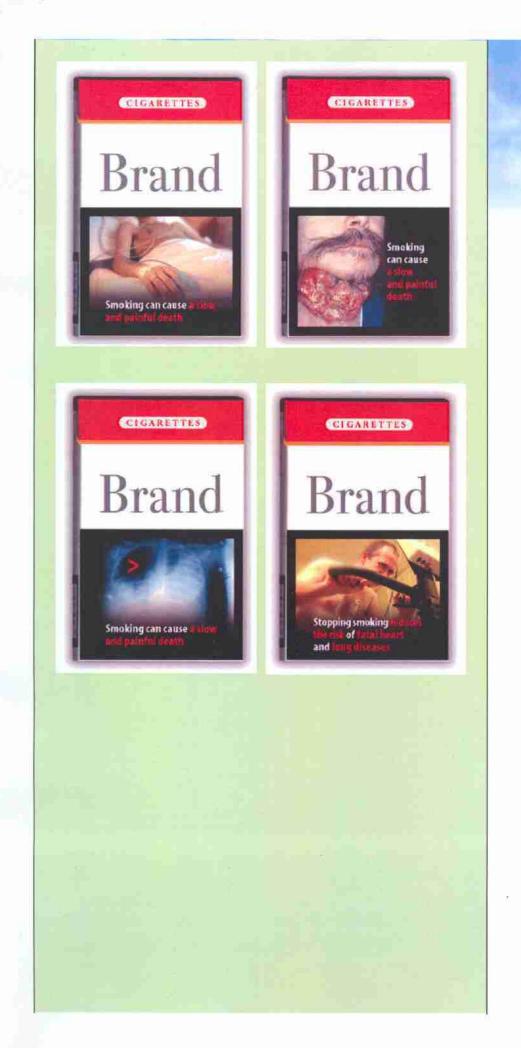




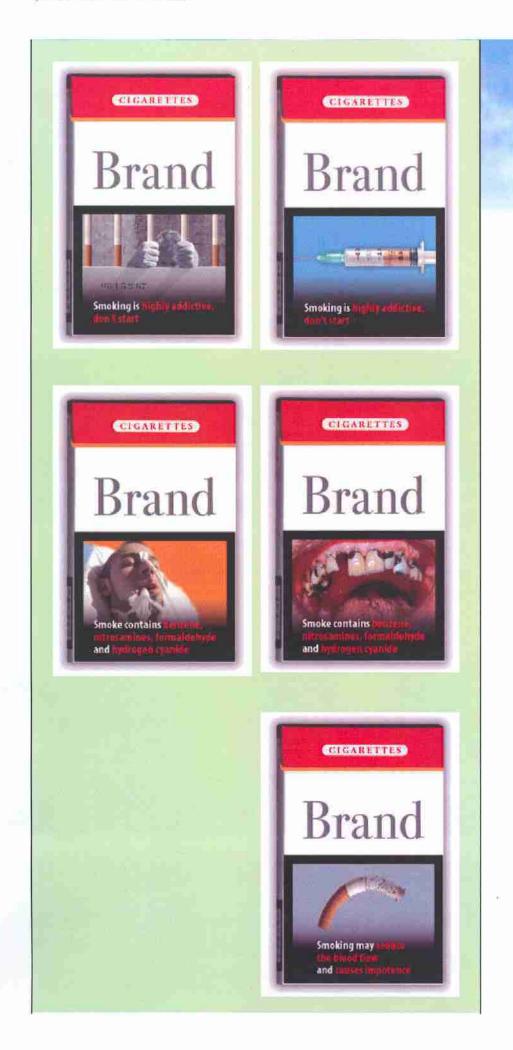


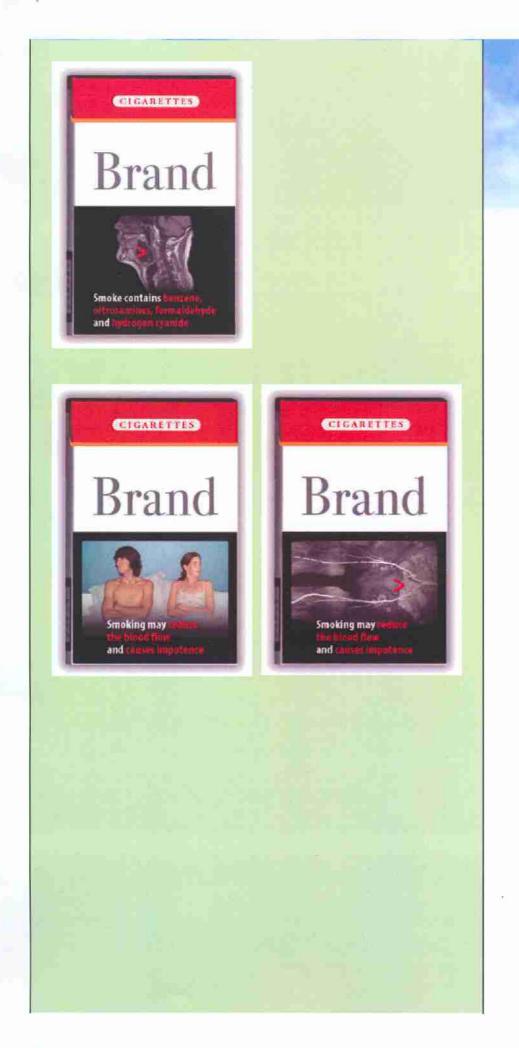


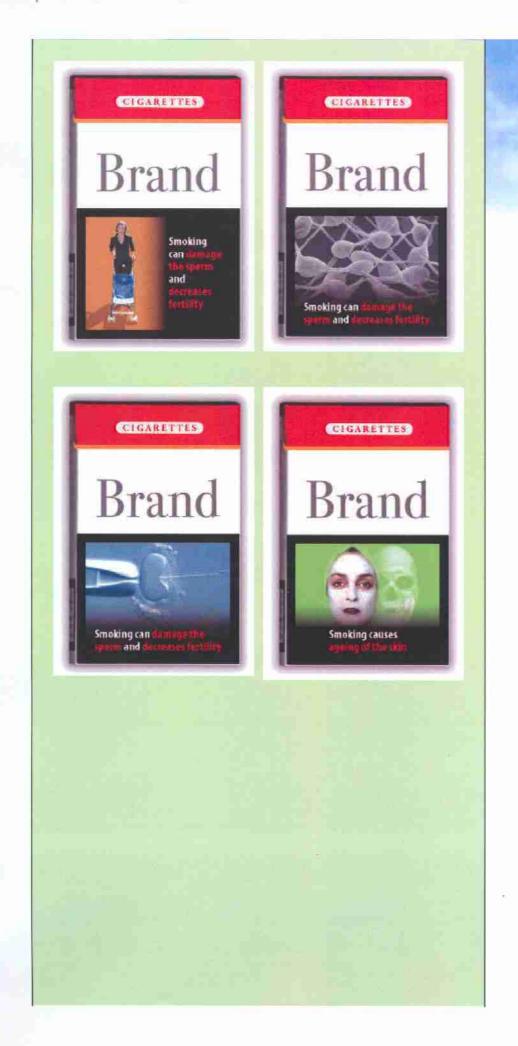


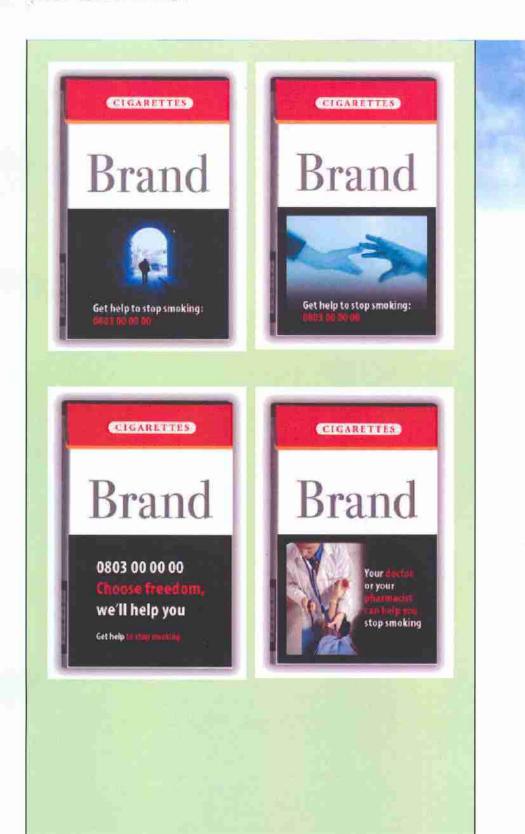


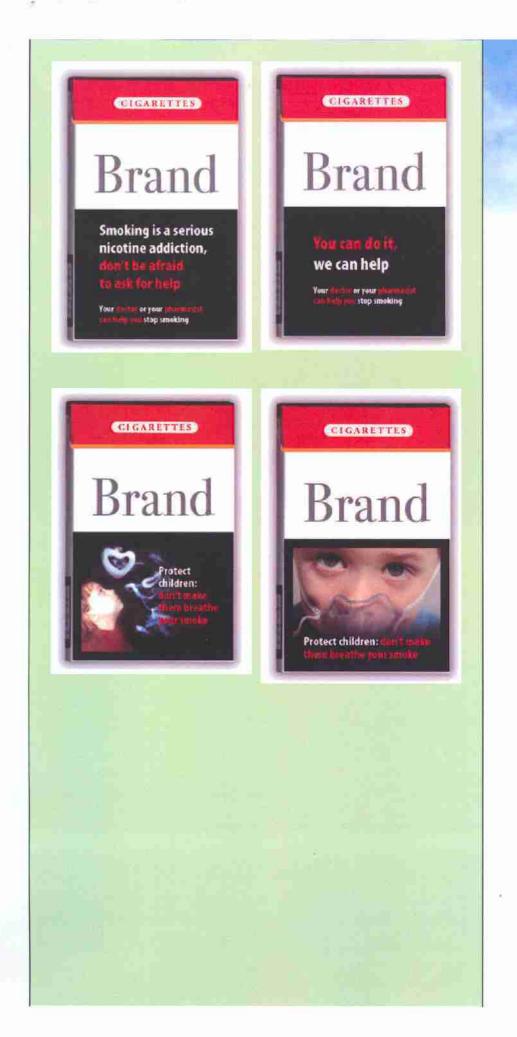


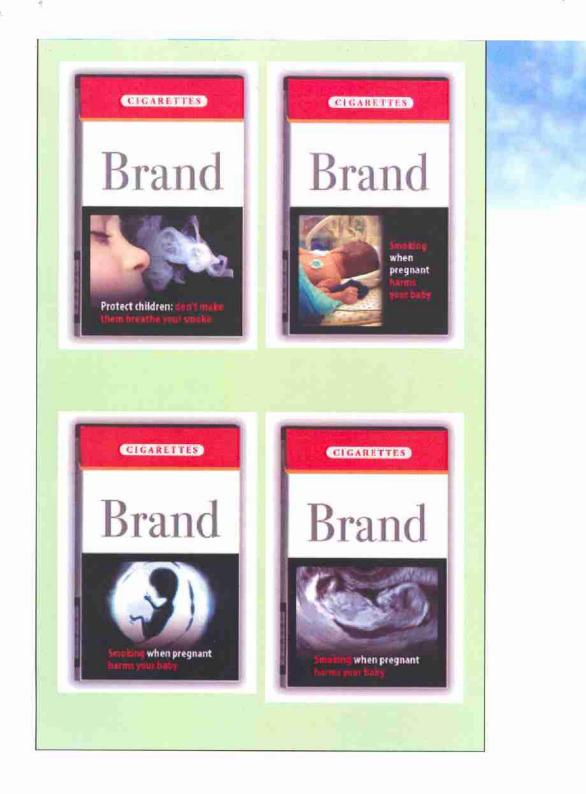












ANNEXE

Liste de trois séries d'avertissements combinés qui doivent figurer sur chaque conditionnement de cigarettes

BIJLAGE

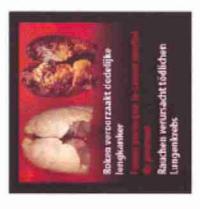
Lijst met drie series van gecombineerde waarschuwingen, die op elke verpakkingseenheid van sigaretten moeten voorkomen



















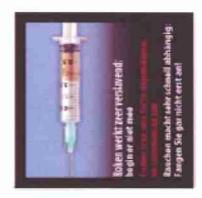








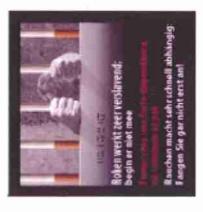


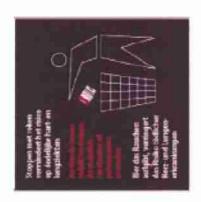






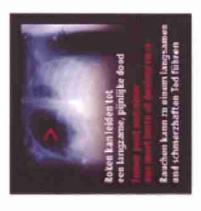


















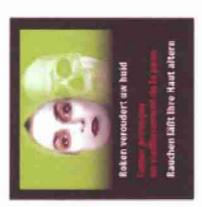








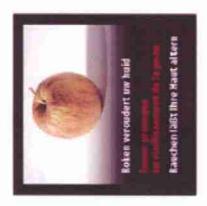




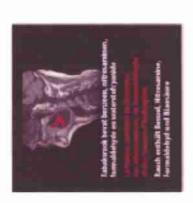
















Vu pour être annexé à l'arrêté ministériel du 27 octobre 2005.

R. DEMOTTE

Gezien om te worden bijgevoegd bij het ministerieel besluit van 27 oktober 2005.

R. DEMOTTE