



The FDA held a stakeholders meeting on the implementation of the Tobacco control regulations, 2016 (L.I 2247) with emphasis on Pictorial Health Warnings on Tobacco packages in Ghana on the 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2017.

This meeting was necessitated by to the passage of the Tobacco Control Law (L. I. 2247) on December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016. The law is in fulfillment of provisions on tobacco control specified in section 76 of the Public Health Act, 2012 (Act 851) and also to fulfill Ghana's obligation as a party to the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC).

Some areas covered by the Tobacco Control Regulations, 2016, (L.I.2247) includes:

- ⦿ Requirements for areas designated for smoking
- ⦿ Display of no smoking signs
- ⦿ Duties of owners or persons in charge of a public place or work place
- ⦿ Depictions of tobacco in entertainment media
- ⦿ Health warnings and messages for tobacco and tobacco product
- ⦿ Illicit Tobacco and Tobacco Products

The LI requires importers and manufacturers of tobacco and tobacco products to display on product packages Pictorial Health Warnings (PHW) with its accompanying text to cover 50% at the front and 60% at the back, positioned at the lower portion of each of the principal display area.

Failure to adhere to this Law is an offence which shall attract severe sanctions and punishments including jail sentence.

The FDA therefore met the stakeholders to finalize and adopt Pictorial Health Warnings that would appear on Tobacco product packages sold in Ghana exactly 18 months from the date that the source document containing PWH is given to the tobacco industry..



Among the stakeholders were representatives from the World Health Organization (WHO), Ministry of Health (MOH), Ghana Health Service (Disease Control Department), Ghana Revenue Authority (Customs Division), Ghana Tourism Authority (GTA), Ghana Standards Authority (GSA), Ghana Coalition of NGO's in Health (GNCH) and Vision for Alternative Development (VALD) partners of Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids (CTFK) who co-sponsored the meeting.