



Japan Society for Tobacco Control

日本禁煙学会

<http://www.jstc.or.jp/> E-mail desk@nosmoke55.jp
〒162-0063 東京都新宿区市谷薬王寺町 30-5-201
Tel 03-5360-8233 FAX 03-5360-6736

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe

Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare Katsunobu Kato

Finance Minister Taro Aso

2020.05.16

Manabu Sakuta, Chairperson, Japan Society for Tobacco Control, General incorporated

<Inquiry> Regarding the regulations for the disclosure of ingredients of tobacco products by the Japanese government under FCTC Articles 9-10.

First, I would like to express my gratitude to those who are working to enact health policies for COVID-19.

People who are actively involved in tobacco control with the Secretariat of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) received the following questions regarding tobacco regulations.

「The 2018 Japan FCTC report says that manufacturers and importers of tobacco products are required to disclose to government authorities information about the emissions of tobacco products. The report also says that these disclosures of emissions are to be made available to the public. We were unable to find this provision in the current laws.」

https://untobaccocontrol.org/impldb/wp-content/uploads/Japan_2018_report.pdf

By themselves, the FCTC Articles 9 and 10 require the Japanese government to stipulate laws and regulations to disclose the ingredients in tobacco products. The guidelines were presented at the fourth Conference of the Parties (COP4) in Punta del Este, Uruguay in 2010. We have requested several times that the Ministry of Finance publicize this information, but a response has not yet been received. Likewise, national law also requires the government to report information about tobacco emissions to citizens, but we were surprised to learn that that this has not yet

occurred.

Question 1.

Regarding "tobacco product emissions", tobacco product manufacturers and importers (referred to as the tobacco industry) have already reportedly requested the disclosure of this information to government agencies. But please inform when, by whom and how the request was made.

Question 2.

If the tobacco industry made such a request, please tell us on what sort of legal basis the request was based.

Question 3.

When and where was the information disclosed to citizens?

Question 4.

How much nicotine do heated tobacco products generate?

At the Special Committee on Regional Revitalization and Consumer Affairs (3rd session) in the House of Councilors on May 8, in reference to a question by Representative Shigefumi Matsuzawa, it was shown that heated tobacco does not list the nicotine content even though it is similar to that of combustible tobacco. It is also propagated everywhere that harmful substances are reduced by 90% to 99% relative to combustible tobacco. This labelling misleads citizens to suggest that heated tobacco is good for health and might correspond to false labelling or unproven advertising regulations referred to in Article 5, Paragraph 1 or Article 7, Paragraph 2 in the national Act against Unjustifiable Premiums and Misleading Representation.

In regard to these important issues, please respond by 31 May 2020 (World No Tobacco Day).