Israel – tobacco products

The Dominican Republic expressed its concern with a recently adopted law in Israel restricting the advertising and marketing of tobacco products. The law specifically requires that tobacco products be packaged in an unattractive brown packaging and that no signs of trademarks be visible on the packaging. The Dominican Republic said that it supports effective tobacco control measures, including those aimed at reducing smoking, but expressed concerns that such measures would adversely affect competitive opportunities for its exports of tobacco products.

Israel said it submitted a notification of the proposed regulation to the TBT committee in January 2014 and that the recently-adopted regulation has a one-year implementation period in order to to allow trading partners time to make necessary adjustments.