الهيئة الاتحادية للضرائب
FEDERAL TAX AUTHORITY

United Arab Emirates

This is not an official translation:

Implementing the Marking Tobacco and Tobacco Products Scheme

Federal Tax Authority Decision No. 2 of 2019 – Issued 28 Apr 2019 (Effective from 1 Nov 2019)

Federal Tax Authority Decision No. 5 of 2020 – Issued 11 May 2020 (Effective from 11 May 2020)

Federal Tax Authority Decision No. 18 of 2026 – Issued 15 Sep 2026 (Effective from 1 Jan 2027)

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Federal Tax Authority has decided:

- having reviewed the Constitution,
- Federal Decree-Law No. 13 of 2016 on the Establishment of the Federal Tax Authority,
- Federal Decree-Law No. 7 of 2017 on Excise Tax,
- Cabinet Decision No. 42 of 2018 on Marking Tobacco and Tobacco Products,
- Federal Tax Authority Decision No. 3 of 2018 on Implementing the Marking Tobacco and Tobacco Products Scheme, and
- pursuant to the approval of Board of Directors on Implementing the Marking of Tobacco and Tobacco Products Scheme on Water Pipe Tobacco, at its meeting on 26/3/2019.

Article 1 – Dates on which Marks will be available

1. For the purposes of this decision, “Designated Excise Goods” shall mean Water Pipe Tobacco and electrically heated cigarettes.
2. The date from which Marks will be available to place an order for the same by the Importer or the Producer of Designated Excise Goods shall be 1 November 2019.
3. The date from which it will not be permissible to Import Designated Excise Goods into the State which do not have Marks shall be 1 March 2020.
4. The date from which it will not be permissible to supply, transfer, store or possess

Designated Excise Goods in the State which do not have Marks shall be 1 January 2021.[1]

Article 2 – Water Pipe Tobacco Products

For the purposes of this decision, "Water pipe tobacco" means any product which is imported produced, or cultivated in the State that would be classified as "Water pipe tobacco" within Schedule 24 of the Unified Customs Tariff for the GCC States.

Article 3 – Fee for Purchase of Marks [2]

The fee payable for the purchase of Marks shall be AED 0.036 for each Mark, and shall be paid by the Importer or Producer before the issuance of Marks to him.

Article 4 – Conditions of Storage of Marks

1. Marks must be securely stored prior to being affixed to the Designated Excise Goods in accordance with the following minimum security requirements:
   a. Marks must be stored in a manner such that they cannot be accessed by unauthorized personnel.
   b. Records must be maintained showing the quantity of marks held prior to being affixed to Designated Excise Goods.
   c. Marks must be stored in a manner preventing exposure to substances or elements which could compromise their physical integrity.
   d. The necessary measures must be taken to ensure Marks are not put to unauthorized use, or exposed to being duplicated, copied, or otherwise tampered with in any other way.
2. A Person responsible for storing Marks shall be required to provide such information, data and records as requested by the Authority in order to confirm that the provisions of this Article are implemented.

[1] Clause amended by Federal Tax Authority Decision No. 5 of 2020.
[2] Article amended by Federal Tax Authority Decision No. 18 of 2026, to reduce the fee from 0.084 to 0.036 Dirham.

Article 5 – Implementation of the Decision

This Decision shall come into effect on 1 November 2019.