

## Notifications Relating to Tobacco Products

*1<sup>st</sup> -31<sup>st</sup> August 2024*

Under the WTO’s Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, member states for valid reasons are allowed to regulate markets, protect their consumers, preserve their natural resources, using tools such as rules for product weight, size, or packaging; ingredient or identity standards; shelf-life restrictions; and import testing and certification procedures.

However, often these measures result in perceived discrimination against imports in order to protect domestic industries.

The TBT Agreement seeks to ensure that standards, technical regulations, and conformity assessment procedures are not discriminatory and are applied on a non-discriminatory basis.

*This Newsletter captures NTBs notified by WTO members and its relevance to Tobacco products for the month of August 2024. It also highlights potential impact of these NTBs on India’s exports.*

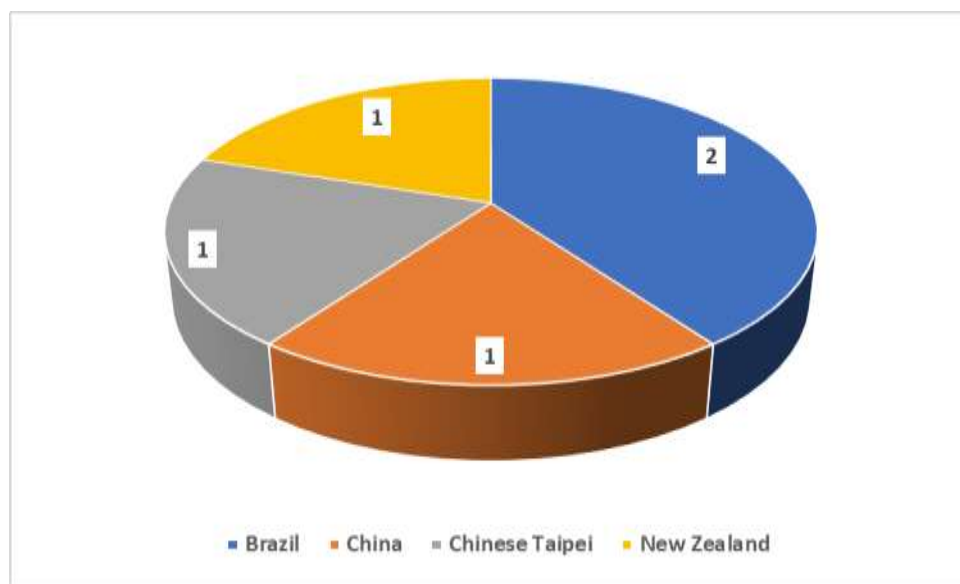
### TBT Notifications Issued by WTO Member Countries

A total of 381 TBT Notifications were issued by the various WTO Member countries during the month of August 2024. Out of these, only five notifications are relevant to tobacco.

### Country-wise Break-up of NTBs Notifications

Review of TBTs Notifications relating to tobacco products for the month of August 2024 Brazil issued 2 notification China issued one notification, Chinese Taipei issued one notification and New Zealand issued one notification. See Figure 1 for distribution of TBTs Notifications against tobacco products.

**Figure 1 Distribution of TBTs Notifications Against Tobacco Products**



### **Potential Impact of TBT Notifications on Tobacco Products**

Data analysis reveals that Notifications issued by the WTO Member countries in August 2024 could potentially affect India's exports worth US\$ 0.09 million if appropriate measures are not taken to resolve these issues in time.

At the country level, a review of data reveals that out of the total potential decline in India's exports, Chinese Taipei alone would account for a decline of over US\$0.09 million. India does not export any products to the markets of Brazil, China, and New Zealand.

A description of products and the Notifications issued is presented in Table 1.

**Table 1. Details of Notifications**

Sl. No.	Notifying Member	Distribution date	Document symbol	Description	HS code(s)	India's Exports of the product to issuing country (Year 2022) Value in US \$ Million)	Notifying Member country's World Import in 2022 (Value in US\$ Million)
1	Chinese Taipei	13-08-2024	G/TBT/N/TPKM/521 /Rev.1	Health Promotion Administration proposes that tobacco products are prohibited from containing flavourings, as announced.	24	0.09	Chinese Taipei
2	Brazil	27-08-2024	G/TBT/N/BRA/1563	This Draft Resolution establishes health warnings and messages to be used on the packaging of smoking products derived from tobacco.	2402, 2403	0	Brazil
3	China	27-08-2024	G/TBT/N/CHN/1895	This document specifies the terms and definitions, classification, technical requirements for sense evaluation, requirements for packaging marks, inspection methods, storage and transportation of cigars. This document applies to cigars.	240210	0.00	China
4	Brazil	27-08-2024	G/TBT/N/BRA/1562	This Draft Resolution establishes health warnings and messages to be used on displays and displays of smoking products derived from tobacco.	2402, 2403	0	Brazil
5	New	28-08-2024	G/TBT/N/NZL/139	The Bill prescribes certain characteristics for vaping products manufactured, sold, supplied	2404	0	New Zealand

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Sl. No.	Notifying Member	Distribution date	Document symbol	Description	HS code(s)	India's Exports of the product to issuing country (Year 2022) Value in US \$ Million)	Notifying Member country's World Import in 2022 (Value in US\$ Million)
	Zealand			<p>or distributed in New Zealand. The Bill does this by amending the Smoke-free Environment and Regulated Products Act 1990 to introduce prohibiting the manufacture, sale, supply, and distribution of disposable vaping products. 'Disposable vaping products' are defined by reference to certain product characteristics, as: disposable vaping product means a vaping product that is not designed or intended to be reused and includes—</p> <p>A) a vaping device that—            (i) is not designed to be refilled by the user with a vaping substance, or (ii) is not designed to be recharged; or (iii) both subparagraphs (i) and (ii) describe; and B) a container that—(i) is pre-filled with a vaping substance; and (ii) is designed to be fitted into a vaping device, and (iii) is not designed to be refilled by the user with a vaping substance.</p>			