

E-Cigarettes – Santé et sécurité rappel à tous le personnel de Bruxelles
20/09/2016 8 3



E-SMOKING is prohibited on Commission premises

Human
Resources
and Security

fit@work
HEALTHY PEOPLE, HEALTHY ORGANISATION

Conformément à la loi belge du 22 Décembre 2009 et ses révisions de 2010, 2012, 2014 et 2016 établissant une réglementation générale sur l'interdiction de fumer dans les lieux fermés accessibles au public et à la protection des travailleurs contre la fumée de tabac et en particulier Art. 3 § 3, (ne pas fumer, y compris les cigarettes électroniques), ainsi que la décision C (2006) 1623 du 26 Avril 2006, établissant une politique harmonisée pour la santé et la sécurité au travail pour tout le personnel de la Commission.

Le maintien de la conformité avec la décision CE C(2003)1670 du 16 juillet 2003 relative à la «protection des non-fumeurs» et la législation belge sans fumée, ainsi que la promotion d'un environnement propre et l'image «saine» pour nos locaux; les cigarettes électroniques ne doivent être utilisées que dans une zone fumeur, par conséquent, ils sont interdits dans les bureaux, les cantines, les cafétérias, les salles de réunion, couloirs, etc.

La DG HR a reçu des plaintes du personnel estimant que l'utilisation de cigarettes électroniques est gênante pour les autres; plusieurs plaintes ont été reçues des cafétérias où il y a des récidivistes.

Le fait que certaines cigarettes électroniques ressemblent aux cigarettes conventionnelles risque de créer une confusion quant à leur utilisation continue dans les espaces clos. Il existe aussi un risque légitime que si des gens étaient autorisés à utiliser des cigarettes électroniques dans des endroits où la loi interdit de fumer, ou lorsque les politiques non-fumeurs sont en place, ils pourraient être confondu avec de vrais fumeur. Ceci peut encourager d'autres personnes à penser qu'il est autorisé de fumer ou qu'aucune mesure ne sera prise contre eux.

Les immeubles de la Commission accueillent des visiteurs nombreux, des conférences, des séminaires, etc., et nous avons un devoir de sollicitude à l'égard de toutes les personnes dans nos locaux, tout comme nous sommes liés par la législation nationale. Par conséquent, nous insistons pour que tous les collègues se conforment à la décision de la Commission et à la législation belge qui interdit l'usage des cigarettes électroniques dans les locaux de la Commission.

E-Smoking – Health and safety reminder to all staff in Brussels
20/09/2016 8 3



In accordance with Belgian law of 22 December 2009 and its revisions of 2010, 2012, 2014 and 2016 establishing a general regulation on the prohibition of smoking in enclosed places accessible to the public and the protection of workers against tobacco smoke and in particular Art. 3 § 3, (no smoking, including electronic cigarettes) and also Commission Decision C(2006)1623 of 26 April 2006, establishing a harmonised policy for health and safety at work for all Commission staff.

Maintaining compliance with EC Decision C(2003)1670 of 16 July 2003 on the "Protection of non-smokers" and Belgian smoke free legislation, as well as the promotion of a clean and "healthy" image for our premises; e-cigarettes should only be used in a designated smoking area, consequently they are prohibited in offices, canteens, cafeterias, meeting rooms, corridors etc.

DG HR has received complaints from staff that the use of electronic cigarettes is annoying to others; several complaints have been received from cafeterias where there are repeat offenders.

The fact that some electronic cigarettes look similar to conventional cigarettes has been said to risk confusion as to their sustained use in enclosed spaces. There are also reasonable concerns that if people are allowed to use electronic cigarettes in places where the law prohibits smoking, or where no-smoking policies are in place, then they may be mistaken for actually smoking. This may encourage others to smoke believing either that it is permitted to do so or that no action will be taken against them for doing so.

Commission buildings are host to many visitors, conferences, seminars etc. and we have a duty of care to all persons on our premises, and we are bound by national legislation. Therefore, we would insist that all staff abide by Commission Decision and Belgian legislation and not use electronic cigarettes on Commission premises.

Cheffe d'Unité du Service Interne pour la Prévention et la Protection au travail
Conseiller en prévention niveau 1



European Commission

OIB – Office « Infrastructures et logistique » - Bruxelles

OIB.03 – SIPP « Service Interne pour la Prévention et la Protection au travail »

B-1049 Brussels/Belgium



Council of the European Union

General Secretariat

Directorate-General for Administration

- Directorate for Human Resources and Personnel Administration
The Director
- Directorate A 2B - Buildings/Logistics
The Director

STAFF NOTE

CP 30/15

Brussels, 27 May 2015

Subject: Smoking ban at the GSC, including electronic cigarettes

From 1 June 2015, the smoking ban also applies to electronic cigarettes. The GSC's decision to extend the ban takes account of the observations made by the GSC's medical officer¹ and the CSST², and brings it into line with the policy adopted by several Member States, including Belgium.

In the context of well-being at work and its duty to ensure a healthy working environment, from 2005 the GSC put in place a phased policy to ultimately ban smoking within all its buildings, except in the specially designated spaces: smoking units and smoking areas in the cafeterias. It is consequently in compliance with the legislation of the host country, which has banned smoking in the workplace since 1 January 2006.

In parallel, the GSC, as part of its duty of care, adopted a support policy which includes the provision of a tobacco addiction specialist for smokers to consult if they wish (see details on [Domus](#)).

It is everybody's responsibility, and in particular the responsibility of line managers, to ensure the ban is observed within their department and by visitors. Security staff are also empowered to take all suitable steps to deal with infringements; they have special instructions to draw up, if required, a report to be transmitted to the administration.

We ask for your understanding to ensure that everybody behaves responsibly, in particular as regards the risk of fire, but above all as regards respect for the well-being of all staff.

This Staff Note repeals and replaces the previous communications³ on smoking on the GSC's premises.

¹ Superior Health Council opinions 8941 and 9106 of 4 December 2013 and WHO opinion of 26 August 2014.

² CSST opinion 2/2014.

³ Staff Notes 118/05 of 27 June 2005 and 61/08 of 3 April 2008 and Council Info of 27 June 2011.