



Brussels, 19 March 2014

MEETING WITH ANA PALACIO ON 19 MARCH 2014

Participants

Palacio y Asociados	SANCO D4
Ana Palacio	Dominik Schnichels Ingrida Pucinskaite-Kubik Patricia Murray

Upon a written request by Ms. Palacio, a meeting with DG SANCO was held on March 19, 2014.

By way of background, Ana Palacio explained that SICPA, a company providing secure identifications, traceability and authentication solutions and services, was a client of Palacio y Asociados and sought its advisory services in the context of the Tobacco Products Directive (TPD). Ms. Palacio stressed that the purpose of her visit was not to lobby on anyone's account but rather to gain clarity on a number of concrete issues. The thrust of the conversation revolved around the TPD and, specifically, the track and trace provisions (Articles 15-16).

- At the outset, Ms. Palacio extended her congratulations to the Commission for the successful conclusion of the TPD negotiations.
- She inquired with regards to the compatibility of Articles 15-16 of the TPD and Article 8 of the FCTC Protocol.
- In terms of timing, Ana Palacio asked when the final TPD text, as revised by the Jurist-Linguist, would be made publicly available.

DG SANCO explained that in its assessment the TPD is compatible with the FCTC Protocol. It was also underlined that Article 15 only sets out the key elements of the track and trace system, with technical details to be worked out at a later stage via secondary legislation.

Concerning the final TPD text, it was explained that the Directive as adopted by the Council on 14 March 2014 has undergone Jurist-Linguist proof-reading. It was also mentioned that the TPD text is available online.

Finally it was explained that the contractor carrying out – for the Commission - the study on track and trace sent questionnaires to companies with expertise in the field.