SYSTEMS OF TRACEABILITY AND SECURITY FEATURES FOR TOBACCO PRODUCTS

~ COUNTRY VISIT TO DENMARK ~

Date: 18 September 2018

Meeting venue: Ministry of Health, Copenhagen

- SUMMARY RECORD -

On 18 September, SANTE/B2 carried out a country visit to Denmark. The agenda included two meetings in Copenhagen, both hosted by the Danish Ministry of Health. A meeting in the morning took place with representatives from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Taxation, and the Danish Safety Technology Authority. A second meeting took place in the afternoon and was open to Danish industry stakeholders (manufacturers/importers, wholesalers/distributors and solution providers). The Ministry of Health chaired both meetings. The meetings aimed at assisting Danish authorities and stakeholders in the application of the secondary legislation on systems of traceability and security features for tobacco products.

Meeting with Danish authorities

The Danish authorities provided an overview of the status of national affairs regarding the implementation of systems for traceability and security features of tobacco products. SANTE/B2 was briefed on the involvement of different Danish ministries in the implementation process, as well as the national planning, and interactions with stakeholders regarding the establishment of the systems. SANTE/B2 introduced participants to the general structure of the systems and provided a short feedback on ongoing and future activities.

Following this brief presentation, SANTE/B2 and the Danish authorities discussed the most pertinent questions related to the systems. The following topics were addressed: appointment of ID issuer, structure of unique identifiers, access to and use of the repositories system by national authorities, independence requirements, reporting obligations for economic operators, supply-chain structure in Denmark, use of tax stamps as the security feature, sanctions and enforcement activities.

Meeting with industry stakeholders

The Danish authorities provided a general introduction. In this context, the Danish authorities confirmed the use of the Danish tax stamp as the security feature. SANTE/B2 then gave a presentation on the overall structure of systems of traceability and security features, the estimated timeline for the technical rollout, as well as the main regulatory aspects for economic operators under the new secondary legislation. In the second part of the meeting, the following discussion points were addressed: structure of and access to the repositories system, permitted data carriers, reporting of missing and stolen products, obligations for cash & carry markets and first retail outlets, reporting in the case of vending machines, activities of transport companies, applicable retention periods, acknowledgment messages, implementation timeline.

Participants (public authorities):

Ministry of Health, Denmark

Ministry of Taxation, Denmark

Danish Safety Technology Authority

SANTE/B2, European Commission

Participants (stakeholders):

Coop

Salling Group

Lidl

Dagrofa

Danish Chamber of Commerce

Philip Morris

British American Tobacco

Japan Tobacco International