EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Health systems and products
Substances of human origin and Tobacco control

MEETING OF THE EXPERT GROUP ON TOBACCO POLICY

SUMMARY RECORD

Date: **18 December 2015**

Place: **CCAB**

1. Welcome and adoption of the agenda

DG SANTE welcomed participants and presented the agenda. The agenda was adopted with two additions: heat-not-burn tobacco products and advertising of e-cigarettes.

2. Implementation update from the Commission

a) Ingredients

The Expert Group was informed that two legal acts had been adopted since the last meeting on notification of electronic cigarettes (24 November 2015) and on reporting of tobacco products (25 November 2015). DG SANTE reminded national experts to communicate to the Commission which national authorities will be in charge of overseeing the reporting obligations.

DG SANTE presented the progress made in the establishment of the EU-CEG, the next steps and the functioning of TestaNG. It was also stressed that MS should check if they already have access to TestaNG. In this regard national experts were encouraged to contact the TestaNG contact point in their MS from the list provided by DG SANTE. In order to facilitate the technical implementation of the new reporting platform, there was a general agreement that it would be useful to organise a meeting among IT-experts (Commission/MS). DG SANTE promised to accommodate this and encouraged all MS to participate with the relevant expertise.

DG SANTE reconfirmed that MS who wish to store data within Commission facilities will have to connect to TestaNG, while MS that opt for storage at their own facilities will need to use the e-delivery system. Authorities were asked to confirm as soon as possible where they intend to store the data: at Commission premises or their own servers.
DG SANTE informed the Group that pilots with industry are planned for March (e-delivery) and April 2016 (stand-alone application) and that there is the possibility to organise training sessions with MS if there is an interest.

DG SANTE presented the Quickview tool that will enable national competent authorities to extract all data submitted and the draft submission tool that will be used by manufacturers/importers to insert their data. In relation to data marked as confidential by submitting manufacturers/importers, it was clarified that MS can ask for justification for such requests.
DG SANTE clarified that if a product is manufactured in one country but placed on the market in many different countries, it should be reported to all countries where it is placed on the market. Each MS shall have access to data on all products placed on their market.

DG SANTE presented a first draft of the Service Level Agreement that will be signed by MS opting for the storage at Commission facilities. It was underlined that the intention is to use the same model for all MS opting for this solution.

National experts were asked to send their comments on the draft SLA in writing after the meeting.

b) Electronic cigarettes
The report and the main conclusions from the subgroup held on 20 November were presented. MS were encouraged to circulate to the group national reports on health risks and other information.

One national expert gave a presentation on third generation e-cigarettes.

c) Other updates

DG SANTE presented the developments on track and trace and labelling. DG SANTE reminded the group that all requests to use the picture warnings outside the regulatory purpose should be forwarded to the DG SANTE (eg. NGOs, journalists etc).

3. Discussion on the transposition and implementation of the Tobacco Products Directive in Member States

National experts were asked to report on their national transposition of the TPD. Many Member States reported good progress.

The issues of bevelled or rounded edges and menthol capsules were discussed

A few participants presented their national approaches on e-cigarette advertising and it was a general understanding in the group that the provisions on e-cigarette advertising in TPD have the same scope as tobacco advertising set out in Directive 2003/33/EU.

Some participants informed about the introduction of novel tobacco products on their markets.

One participant also reported on the adoption of national legislation on plain packaging and smoke free environments.

Annex I

List of participants

Members of the Tobacco Products Committee:

Austria	(Federal Ministry of Health)
Belgium	(Federal Public Service Public Health)
Bulgaria	(Permanent Representation of the Republic of Bulgaria to the EU)
Cyprus	(Ministry of Health – Medical and Public Health)
Czech Republic	(Ministry of Health)
Croatia	(Permanent Representation of Croatia to the EU)
Denmark	(Ministry of Health)
Estonia	(Ministry of Social Affairs)
Finland	(Ministry of Social Affairs and Health)
France	(Direction Générale de la Santé)
Germany	(Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture)
Greece	(Permanent Representation of Greece to the EU)
Hungary	(National Institute for Health Development)
Italy	(Ministry of Health)
Lithuania	(Ministry of Health)
Luxembourg	(Ministry of Health)
Malta	(Environmental Health Directorate Ministry for Energy and Health)
Poland	(Ministry of Health/Bureau for Chemical Substances)
Portugal	(General Directorate of Health)
Romania	(Ministry of Health)
Slovakia	(Public Health Authority)
Slovenia	(Ministry of Health of the Republic of Slovenia)
Spain	(Ministry of Health)
Sweden	(Public Health Agency of Sweden/Department of Knowledge Support)
The Netherlands	(Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport)
United Kingdom	(Department of Health/Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory)

Observers:

Norway	(Ministry of Health/Norwegian Directorate of Health)
Iceland	(Ministry of Welfare)
EFTA Secretariat	

Other third parties:

Turkey	(Tobacco and Alcohol Market Regulatory Authority)

Commission:

DG SANTE D4	Dominik Schnichels
	Anna-Eva Ampélas (chair)
	Katja Bromen
	Patricia Murray
	Matus Ferech
	Marta Legnaioli

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