



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Health systems and products

Health in all Policies, Global Health, Tobacco Control

Minutes of the meeting

Meeting date: 14 June 2017, 15.45 – 16:45

Place: Rue Froissart 101, 00/33

Participants:

Anna Eva Ampelas, Filip Borkowki, Matus Ferech, Jan Hoffmann, Nadine Herda (DG SANTE B2); Jean-Marie Misztela (DG SANTE A4).

Vlad Olteanu (JTI); Sabine Gacond Mignon (PMI); Jon Davis (IB/ITG); Jörg Hegele (BAT).

CECCM member companies and PMI requested a meeting with DG SANTE to discuss challenges identified by the sector with and related to the EU Common Entry Gate (EU-CEG) reporting platform. The industry representatives welcomed EU-CEG as a unique platform for TPD-2 related data reporting, which could be commonly used by both the Commission and the EU-28 Member States.

DG SANTE clarified that the main purpose of the meeting was to listen to participants' comments and further explanations regarding the specific items identified by the industry stakeholders. The meeting was also considered as an opportunity to share with DG SANTE general experience on EU-CEG given that the system was by now 1 year into operation. The Chair reminded, in this respect, that the meeting was not to discuss any topics outside the realm of EU-CEG reporting, including any interpretation questions related to the TPD-2.

The issues raised by the industry representatives concerned various aspects of product reporting at Member State level, e.g. duplicate reporting obligations, language requirements, request for additional data on ingredients, testing requirements and national pre-notification regimes for tobacco products. The problem of excessive use of “confidentiality” marks by some submitters, especially related to those fields which are visible to everybody (e.g. brand name) and, at the same time, essential for the general public to identify specific products was further discussed. DG SANTE highlighted that this issue would most likely be discussed in the upcoming Joint-Action and, in this respect, it could be very useful for the discussion amongst representatives to receive in advance a position paper from the sector outlining which submission data fields should generally be considered as confidential, accompanied by a sound explanation and justification for each field. Industry participants agreed to look into this possibility.

DG SANTE took note of all information and concerns presented to them during the meeting and reminded that it was not in a position to comment on the application of TPD provision in individual Member States. Any national issues should be first and foremost discussed directly with the competent national authorities. Nevertheless, DG SANTE confirmed that it would forward the remarks made by CECCM and PMI in the meeting to the Member States concerned.

The Chair closed the meeting.