



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Health systems and products
Health in all Policies, Global Health, Tobacco Control

SYSTEMS OF TRACEABILITY AND SECURITY FEATURES FOR TOBACCO PRODUCTS

~ COUNTRY VISIT TO PORTUGAL ~

Date: 19 April 2018

Meeting venue: Tax and Customs Authority (Ministry of Finance), Lisbon

– SUMMARY RECORD –

On 19 April, SANTE/B2 carried out a country visit to Portugal. The agenda included two meetings in Lisbon, both hosted by the Tax and Customs Authority (Portuguese Ministry of Finance). The morning meeting took the form of a closed session with Portuguese officials from the different departments involved in the traceability project.

The afternoon meeting was open to Portuguese industry stakeholders (manufacturers/importers, wholesalers). The aim of the meetings was to assist Portuguese authorities and stakeholders in the application of the secondary legislation on systems of traceability and security features for tobacco products.

Morning meeting with Portuguese authorities

The Portuguese 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 Portuguese ministries/departments in the legislative and implementation process, as well as the national planning and interaction with stakeholders regarding the establishment of systems for traceability and security features. SANTE/B2 introduced the

general structure of the systems and provided a short feedback from regional workshops and country visits.

Following the presentations, SANTE/B2 and the Portuguese authorities discussed the most pertinent questions related to the legislation in question. Main topics were: appointment of ID issuer, access to and use of the repository system by national authorities, independence requirements, vending vans/vending machines, exports, reporting at aggregated level, composition of security features, costs and benefits of the traceability system, sanctions and enforcement activities.

Afternoon session with industry stakeholders

The Portuguese authorities provided a general introduction and an overview of the relevant national aspects related to systems for traceability and security features of tobacco products. In this context, the Portuguese authorities confirmed the use of the tax stamp as the security feature. SANTE/B2 then gave a presentation on the overall structure of systems for 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.

Discussion points in the Q&A part of the meeting included: transport companies and related trans-loading activities, reporting of logistic and transactional events, registration of economic operators/machines/facilities, status of the first retail outlet, reporting obligations in the case of vending machines, structure of the unique identifier and the added time stamp, general timeline and entry into force of the secondary legislation, composition of security features, and the approval procedure for providers or primary repositories. Stakeholders also raised questions related to the costs and benefits of the traceability system. SANTE/B2 outlined the general approach taken in the analysis of the Impact Assessment. It moreover stressed that the regulatory scope of the traceability system, including the range of products and persons that are subject to it, stem from the legal provisions of the Tobacco Products Directive 2014/40/EU. For a more detailed overview of the cost-benefit analysis, SANTE/B2 invited stakeholder participants to consult the Impact Assessment. In addition, they could also consult the Implementation Analysis carried out by an independent contractor. Both documents would soon be published by SANTE/B2 on the dedicated website.

Participants:

Morning session:

DG SANTE, European Commission
Tax and Customs Authority
National Minting and Printing Office
Directorate-General for Health

Afternoon session:

DG SANTE, European Commission
Tax and Customs Authority
National Minting and Printing Office
Directorate-General for Health
LFP - Lojas Francas de Portugal, SA
JTI Portugal, Unipessoal, Lda
EMT - Empresa Madeirense de Tabacos, SA
FTM - Fábrica de Tabaco Micaelense
DLP Portugal, SA
Imperial Tobacco Portugal
Empor-importação e Exportação SA
Globaltabacos-importação e Comercialização de Tabacos Lda
Arnold André, Unipessoal, Lda
Adualog - Serviços de Logística Aduaneira Lda.
Tabaqueira S.A./ PMI Portugal
Seven Seas - Portugal
SREI - Exportação, Importação e Representações, Lda
BAT - British American Tobacco
José Costa & Rodrigues, Lda
STG - Scandinavian Tobacco Group Portugal, SA
Cigarworld. Lda
INTG - Independent National Tobacco Group
Logista S.A. - Sucursal em Portugal
Midsid - Sociedade Portuguesa de Distribuição, SA
ADR - Augusto Duarte Reis SA
IT - International de Tabacos SA
Dois Lados - Distribuição Tabacos E Bebidas, S.A
SDT - Sociedade Distribuição de Tabacos, Lda
CAI - Casa Angola Internacional
Bel Distribuição
FPGT - Federação Portuguesa de Grossistas de Tabaco
ANFICEC-Associação Nacional dos Fabricantes e Importadores de Charutos e Cigarilhas