



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 ESTONIA ~

Date: 25 & 26 April 2018

Meeting venue: Ministry of Social Affairs, Tallinn

– SUMMARY RECORD –

On 25 and 26 of April, SANTE/B2 carried out a country visit to Estonia. The agenda included two meetings in Tallinn, both hosted by the Estonian Ministry of Social Affairs. The meeting on 25 April took the form of a closed session with Estonian officials from the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Finance, and the Tax and Customs Board. The meeting of 26 April was open to Estonian industry stakeholders (manufacturers/importers, wholesalers/distributors and solution providers). The Ministry of Social Affairs chaired both meetings. The aim of the meetings was to assist Estonian authorities and stakeholders in the application of the secondary legislation on systems of traceability and security features for tobacco products.

Meeting with Estonian authorities

The Estonian 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 Estonian ministries in the 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 Estonian 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, reporting obligations for economic operators, technical requirements of security features, sanctions and enforcement activities.

Meeting with industry stakeholders

The Estonian 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 Estonian authorities confirmed the compliance of the tax stamp with the requirements for 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. In the second part of the meeting, the following discussion points were addressed: reporting of missing and stolen products, reporting for cash & carry markets, transport companies, acknowledgment messages, implementation timeline.

Participants:

Philip Morris Eesti Osühing

Sigari Maja OÜ

Dannemann Cigarfabrik GMBH

British American Tobacco Estonia

UAB JTI Baltic

Imperial Tobacco Limited and Imperial Brands PLC Companies

Ministry of Social Affairs, Estonia

Ministry of Finance, Estonia

DG SANTE, European Commission