



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Health systems and products  
Cross-border healthcare and tobacco control

## **SYSTEMS OF TRACEABILITY AND SECURITY FEATURES FOR TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

**~ MEETING WITH GERMAN AIRPORT ASSOCIATION (ADV) ~**

**Date: 28 February 2019**

**Meeting venue: DG SANTE, European Commission**

### **– SUMMARY RECORD –**

On 28 February, SANTE met with two representatives of the German Airport Association (ADV). The meeting took place at the request of ADV. The purpose of the visit was to update SANTE on the logistic activities and modalities at airports and to clarify the extent to which the legislation on traceability and security features applies to them.

SANTE provided an outline of the main regulatory aspects of the systems for tobacco traceability and security features, and how these would apply to airport activities. ADV welcomed this information and noted that its members fully supported the objectives of the systems that aimed at fighting illicit trade in tobacco products.

More specifically, ADV inquired as to the applicability of the rules on traceability and security features to duty free products. SANTE clarified that duty free products placed on the Union market, including sales at EU airports, are subject to the rules. In this regard, ADV pointed to the benefits of implementing an EU-wide security feature for duty free products across all Member States, among others, noting an often centralised logistic process.

SANTE explained that there is no legal basis for the Commission to prescribe a common security feature at EU level, and that the obligation to determine the permitted security feature for each national territory was the obligation of individual Member States. The use of tax stamps in multiple Member States was also an important factor. Likewise, the applicable rules on combined health warnings on unit packets should be taken into account.

SANTE said that it would forward the comments of ADV to Member States but, at the same time, noted that the possibility of an EU-wide security feature for duty free products had already been discussed by Member States in the relevant Subgroup meetings. A summary record of these meetings is publicly available.

ADV representatives thanked for this explanation and the constructive meeting.

Participants:

Jan Hoffmann (DG SANTE)

German Airport Association (ADV)