

From: MOREL Guillaume (CAB-BARROSO) on behalf of KLAUS Henning (CAB-BARROSO)
Sent: mardi 24 avril 2012 15:23
To: DARMANIN Joanna (CAB-DALLI); BEHRNDT Nils (CAB-DALLI)
Subject: FW: EU Tobacco Products Directive
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

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FYI

Best regards,

Henning

From: MOREL Guillaume (CAB-BARROSO) **On Behalf Of** KLAUS Henning (CAB-BARROSO)
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 3:23 PM
To: 'lars.ramstrom@tobaccostudies.com'
Subject: RE: EU Tobacco Products Directive

Dear Mr Ramström,

Thank you for drawing our attention on these issues. I would certainly encourage you to actively continue to share such information with Commissioner Dalli and DG SANCO.

At this stage no decision has yet been made on the revision of the Tobacco directive. The impact assessment which is currently under preparation covers a number of areas such the scope of the legislation - where the status of oral tobacco and snus will be discussed, labelling and packaging, ingredients as well as issues related to retail and sales of tobacco products. The impact assessment should provide a thorough analysis of the problems and consider appropriate options for action. The preferred options would have to be supported by appropriate evidence taking into account the objectives to be achieved before being converted in a legislative proposal.

Indeed, the drafting of the legislation will only start, once this analysis has been completed, and after it has received a favourable opinion of our Impact Assessment Board.

According to my knowledge, the intention of Commissioner Dalli is to present the proposal for adoption towards the end of this year.

Regards,

Henning Klaus

European Commission

Member of Cabinet of President J.M. Barroso

henning.klaus@ec.europa.eu

From: Lars Ramström [mailto:lars.ramstrom@tobaccostudies.com]
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2012 4:04 PM
To: KLAUS Henning (CAB-BARROSO)
Subject: EU Tobacco Products Directive

Dear Mr. Klaus,

The ongoing revision of the EU Tobacco Products Directive involves important questions regarding the scientific evidence that should be the basis for a regulatory system serving the purpose of a high level of health protection. As far as smokeless

tobacco is concerned there has been a very rapid advancement of that scientific basis, and last year a group of prominent researchers found it appropriate to elucidate this development in a letter to Commissioner Dalli. Now a Swedish MEP, Mr. Christopher Fjellner, has given me an indication that you may be interested to receive copies of that letter and the response from DG SANCO, and I hereby take pleasure in attaching these documents.

The response from DG SANCO raises concerns about how thoroughly the most recent advancement of science is taken into account. For example, there is no attention given to the evidence pointed out in the researchers' letter about the wide international recognition that the Swedish product, snus, has been beneficial for public health as a contributing factor behind the development making Sweden the European country with lowest level of smoking and all tobacco-related diseases including oral cancer. A revised Directive with status quo regarding ruling on smokeless tobacco would be utterly unscientific by banning the least harmful product while much more harmful kinds of smokeless tobacco are allowed. A Directive combining continued ban of snus with regulation of other kinds of smokeless tobacco would be an even more startling version of negligence of science. A regulation of other-than-snus kinds of smokeless tobacco will mean that the very most harmful products are banned, while at the same time the products allowed for sale would be more harmful than the least harmful one, snus, that in this alternative would be kept under a specific, not scientifically justified ban.

A smart regulation would have to put all kinds of smokeless tobacco products under a common system that bans the most harmful products and exploits the potential public health benefits of the least harmful ones.

I very much value your interest in these matters and hope that you will find the attached data useful. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would need further details.

Sincerely,

Lars M Ramström Ph.D.

Director and Principal Investigator
Institute for Tobacco Studies
Stockholm, Sweden

www.tobaccofindings.org