

ZAJICOVA Karin (CAB-HAHN)

Subject: FW: request for a meeting - tobacco excise in Kosovo

From: CHARALAMBOUS Kyriacos (CAB-HAHN)
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2018 11:36 AM
To: CULLEN David (NEAR)
Cc: LE BRAS Jean-Baptiste (NEAR); MENENDEZ BONILLA Javier (NEAR); MORAN Mary Teresa (NEAR)
Subject: RE: request for a meeting - tobacco excise in Kosovo

Thanks David,
Had a rather short meeting in which they expressed their concerns about the proposal. I confirmed that it is on our radar and that colleagues are looking into it but underlined that our relationship is governed by SAA and we can only act if there is a breach.
They will contact you for a meeting>
Kyriacos

From: CULLEN David (NEAR)
Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2018 3:47 PM
To: CHARALAMBOUS Kyriacos (CAB-HAHN)
Cc: LE BRAS Jean-Baptiste (NEAR); MENENDEZ BONILLA Javier (NEAR); MORAN Mary Teresa (NEAR)
Subject: RE: request for a meeting - tobacco excise in Kosovo

Kyriacos, between leave, missions and meetings, none of us are available on Monday morning.

[REDACTED]

Here is, as you asked. Indeed KO is planning legislation. I will raise it with the Ambassador at my meeting on Friday with him. EUO has also raised concerns on, the draft legislation as it might be in breach of the SAA.

[REDACTED]

Let me know if you need further information and how the meeting goes.

Regards

David

From: Nicole SCOURTI
[mailto:Nicole_Scourti@bat.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2018 2:00 PM
To: CHARALAMBOUS Kyriacos (CAB-HAHN)
Subject: request for a meeting - tobacco excise in Kosovo

Dear Kyriacos,
Please see below the email from my colleagues dealing with excise, setting out a very important issue for the EU industry. Would it be possible to organise a meeting for my colleagues to explain the details? Rather urgent given the timing of the proposal...
Many thanks,
Nicole

Nicole Scourti
EU Affairs Director
Juriste d'Entreprise
British American Tobacco Representation Brussels
Rue d'Arlon 80
B - 1040 Brussels
Belgium
Tel: +32 2627 88 92
GSM: +32 471 923 716

From: Christa PELSERS
Sent: 21 September 2018 14:52
To: Nicole SCOURTI <Nicole_Scourti@bat.com>
Cc: Federica Patalano <federica_patalano@bat.com>
Subject: Note on KOSOVO

Dear Nicole

The issue is as follows:

A draft initiative on tobacco excise is under discussion by the Government of Kosovo.

The Government proposal contains recommendations to support to the domestic tobacco industry by introducing a new tax structure for tobacco products produced in Kosovo. This would be the result:

- ? domestic producers of tobacco products would pay only ad valorem excise at the level of 30% of the retail price;
- ? importers pay full specific excise of €45 per thousand cigarettes (this is half of the EU minimum rate)

This proposal raises several concerns given the discriminatory treatment of the players in the market,

creating an unstable business environment, which is also against of the EU law. In addition, this would also negatively impact EU, given the high potential of illicit trade of these products.

We understand that it seems that there is an intention to fast track this law (approval foreseen for beginning of October),

Thanks a lot

Best

Federica & Christa

Confidentiality

Notice: The information in this document and attachments is confidential and may also be legally privileged. It is intended only for the use of the named recipient. Internet communications are not secure and therefore British American Tobacco does not accept legal responsibility for the contents of this message. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify us immediately and then delete this document. Do not disclose the contents of this document to any other person, nor take any copies. Violation of this notice may be unlawful.
