

Here is the briefing as you suggested.

Out of scope

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.

Decision-making process

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

Regards

STATE OF PLAY

- GoK adopted a positive opinion and will now planning on proceed with the draft Law proposal in the Assembly.

International relations

Decision-making process

EU key concerns/actions

[Redacted]

International relations

Decision-making process

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

BACKGROUND

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

From: CHARALAMBOUS Kyriacos (CAB-HAHN)
Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2018 2:33 PM

To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted] (NEAR); [Redacted] (NEAR); [Redacted] (NEAR); [Redacted] (NEAR)

Personal data

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

Thanks for your replies. I would like a short briefing by Monday 10:00. If someone is available to join please let me know.
K

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2018 5:43 PM
To: CHARALAMBOUS Kyriacos (CAB-HAHN)
Cc: [REDACTED] (NEAR); [REDACTED] (NEAR); [REDACTED] (NEAR); [REDACTED] (NEAR); [REDACTED] (NEAR)
Subject: Re: request for a meeting - tobacco excise in Kosovo

Personal data

I'm not available.

[REDACTED]

On 25 Sep 2018, at 17:01, CHARALAMBOUS Kyriacos (CAB-HAHN) <Kyriacos.CHARALAMBOUS@ec.europa.eu> wrote:

Thanks for confirming your availability for Monday morning.

From: [REDACTED] (NEAR)
Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2018 2:55 PM
To: CHARALAMBOUS Kyriacos (CAB-HAHN); [REDACTED] (NEAR)
Cc: [REDACTED] (NEAR); [REDACTED] (NEAR)
Subject: Re: request for a meeting - tobacco excise in Kosovo

Personal data

[REDACTED]

Decision-making process

De: CHARALAMBOUS Kyriacos (CAB-HAHN)
Envoyé: mardi 25 septembre 2018 14:47
À: [REDACTED] (NEAR)
Cc: [REDACTED] (NEAR); [REDACTED]

Personal data

(NEAR); [REDACTED] (NEAR)

Objet: RE: request for a meeting - tobacco excise in Kosovo

Thanks,

[REDACTED], are you available on Monday morning? we can hear their concerns.

Kyriacos

From: [REDACTED] (NEAR)

Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2018 2:46 PM

To: CHARALAMBOUS Kyriacos (CAB-HAHN)

Cc: [REDACTED] (NEAR); [REDACTED]

(NEAR); [REDACTED] (NEAR)

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

Personal data

[REDACTED]

Decision-making process

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On 25 Sep 2018, at 14:40, CHARALAMBOUS Kyriacos (CAB-HAHN)

<Kyriacos.CHARALAMBOUS@ec.europa.eu> wrote:

If I set up a meeting for next week (Monday or Wednesday) will someone from the Unit be able to brief me in advance and join me for the meeting?

K

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2018 2:00 PM

To: CHARALAMBOUS Kyriacos (CAB-HAHN)

Subject: request for a meeting - tobacco excise in Kosovo

Personal data

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,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

British American Tobacco
Representation Brussels
Rue d'Arlon 80
B - 1040 Brussels
Belgium
Tel: [REDACTED]
GSM: [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 September 2018 14:52
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Note on KOSOVO

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data

Dear [REDACTED]

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



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