

## Document 3

**From:** [REDACTED] ([NEAR](#))  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; [NEAR\\_D3](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting request on Kosovo  
**Date:** vendredi 12 octobre 2018 18:12:16

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Personal  
data

Dear [REDACTED],

My Assistant will schedule a call next week.

Yours,

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 4, 2018 4:37 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; [NEAR D3 <NEAR-D3@ec.europa.eu>](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting request on Kosovo

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Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your mail.

We have indeed met with Mr Charalambous earlier this week. He was able to inform us that the legislation would be under your scrutiny, however, he agreed that if we wanted to understand better the stage of the scrutiny and the timelines we should expect, we were advised to contact you.

In view of further information, besides that the proposed law is not in line with EU law (2 different excise regimes depending on local or imported products), there are also consequences for a full ad valorem system in Kosovo which are not mentioned in the concept document.

If you are not available for a meeting, could I suggest a call where we could understand the timings we should expect and where we can explain other issues related to the concept document developed by the Ministry of Finance?

Thank you

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 03 October 2018 20:56  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; [NEAR-D3@ec.europa.eu](mailto:NEAR-D3@ec.europa.eu)  
**Subject:** Re: Meeting request on Kosovo

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[ This is an EXTERNAL email ]

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email. Mr Charalambous has informed me of your meeting with him and your concerns.

I am currently out of the office.

Should you wish to provide further details beyond what you have explained to Mr Charalambous, I suggest that you provide these to me in writing.

We naturally follow legislative developments and policy making in Kosovo and advise the authorities on acquis alignment and their EU commitments.

Yours,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On 1 Oct 2018, at 19:12, [REDACTED] wrote:

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Dear [REDACTED],

I work for British American Tobacco and I am based in Brussels responsible for excise and trade.

My colleagues in BAT covering Kosovo are currently facing an issue on excise in Kosovo which has emerged since late summer.

A concept document which developed by a working group advising the authorities on how to create support for local growers and producers of tobacco. This concept document is suggesting the creation of a separate excise regime for tobacco products produced locally against imported products. This proposal would be voted into law in October, becoming effective as of January 2019.

My colleagues are very concerned about this as it would create several issues in the market. Besides the existence of one excise regime for locally produced tobacco products and another for imported products, the excise structure for the locally produced tobacco products could be a concern for collection purposes.

Me and my colleague have met earlier today with Mr Charalambous from the Cabinet who suggested to get in touch with you directly.

Therefore, I would kindly like to ask for a meeting to discuss further in detail the proposal and what the consequences would be.

Looking forward to your hear from you.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
British American Tobacco  
Aarlenstraat 80 Rue d'Arlon  
B – 1040 Brussels

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
BAT EU Transparency Register ID number 2427500988-58

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