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European Commission
DG Enterprise
Unit F 5 "Food and Healthcare Industries, Biotechnology"
Economic and Trade Affairs Manager
B- 1049 Brussels

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Sent by email and by post

Brussels, the 26th April 2011

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The European Smoking Tobacco association, ESTA, would like to request a meeting with you to discuss the currently ongoing discussions within the Commission assessing the impacts of a possible new Tobacco Products Directive.

ESTA represents many small and medium sized companies manufacturing and distributing smoking tobacco products, including fine-cut tobacco, pipe tobacco and traditional nasal snuff and chewing tobaccos.

Several of our member companies have been in existence for decades if not centuries and are very concerned that current thinking on a new tobacco products directive is mainly focusing on regulating factory made cigarettes made by the multinational tobacco companies. It seems to be disregarding that other tobacco products exist, as well as that a substantial number of small medium sized smoking tobacco companies in Europe will experience a significantly higher impact resulting from some of the regulation that is considered.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further with you in order to ensure that Europe's vital SME interests are not forgotten when assessing the impacts of possible new Regulation.

ESTA will contact your office to see when a meeting would be suitable.

 Yours sincerely,

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ESTA SECRETARIAT

Rond Point Schumanplein 9, box 1 • B - 1040 Brussels • Tel : +32 2 230 80 92 • Fax : +32 2 230 82 14 • VAT BE 450.378.324
E-mail : info@esta.be • www.esta.be • IBAN : BE24 3101 1236 0038 • BIC : BBRU BEBB
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