

European Commission
DG Sante, Unit B.2
Ms. Thea Emmerling
Head of Unit
Rue Breydel 4
Brussels
Brussels

Brussels, March 2021

Ref. Workshop ICF

Dear Ms Emmerling,

We want to express our concerns regarding the recent workshop by ICF consultants on the review of the Tobacco Products Directive (TPD), held online on 18 March 2021. We expressed our concern during the workshop, but considering that there were no notes taken, we feel urged to express our concerns in writing.

We object against the presentation of this event with the reference 'validation'. The term validation is misleading as industry had no other role than to listen to the presentation of the findings of the study. Moreover, stakeholders only received the summary findings a couple of days before the webinar. We can therefore not be thought of as validating this workshop or the report in any form.

We would very much appreciate the opportunity to obtain the full study, preferably prior to its publication. We believe that we can make constructive comments.

We thank you for your consideration to this matter and look forward to your reaction.

With best regards

Maurits Bruggink
Secretary General