

DRAFT – NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED

European Commission DG Sante 1.B.2 Filip Borkowski Acting Head of Unit Brussels Belgium

Brussels, 24 January 2022

Ref. Flavorings and Tobacco Heated Products

Dear Mr. Borkowski,

We would like to share our views on the importance of flavorings in Tobacco Heated Products (THP). At the same time, we express our concerns about reports that the European Commission may restrict if not ban flavorings in THPs.

It is undisputed that consumers of THPs are exposed to less toxic substances than combustible cigarettes. Tobacco Europe has data indicating that the difference in exposure levels is considerable. In this context, it would be incomprehensible to restrict the use of flavorings in THPs. It would incite consumers to use combustible cigarettes, for which (non-characterizing) flavorings can be used.

In line with the suggestions made concerning e-cigarettes in the European Parliament Report on Europe's Beating Cancer Plan, we would suggest restricting the use of flavors in THPs that have a particular appeal to youth.

We would be grateful for your consideration to this matter and sharing our views with the members of the Tobacco Experts Group.

With high regards

Maurits Bruggink Secretary General