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Confronting industry challenges



TFWA MEADFA Conference Dubai, 30 January 2018

FCTC Illicit Trade Protocol





- WHO starting assumption is that duty free retailers are a major source of illicit trade
- ITP clause calls for study into "the extent to which" duty free contributes to illicit trade





FCTC Illicit Trade Protocol

ITP comes into force once 40 countries . have ratified (34 as of January)

2018

 MOP1 (October 2018) initiates duty free research

2020

 Amends ITP to call for ban / restriction of duty free tobacco

2021

 66% of countries that have ratified ITP vote to make it legally binding

- Study on duty free must commence within 5 years of ITP coming into force
- Study findings may lead to call for a ban or further restrictions on the sale of DF tobacco products
- There is risk of a domino effect of FCTC ITP for other product categories, e.g. alcohol, food



FCTC Illicit Trade Protocol

- Essential that duty free industry campaigns to delay study and influence governments to reject a ban on Duty Free tobacco
- Parties that have ratified the ITP in MEADFA Region



15 additional countries have signed but have yet to adopt national legislation to ratify the Protocol, including **Kuwait** and **Qatar**



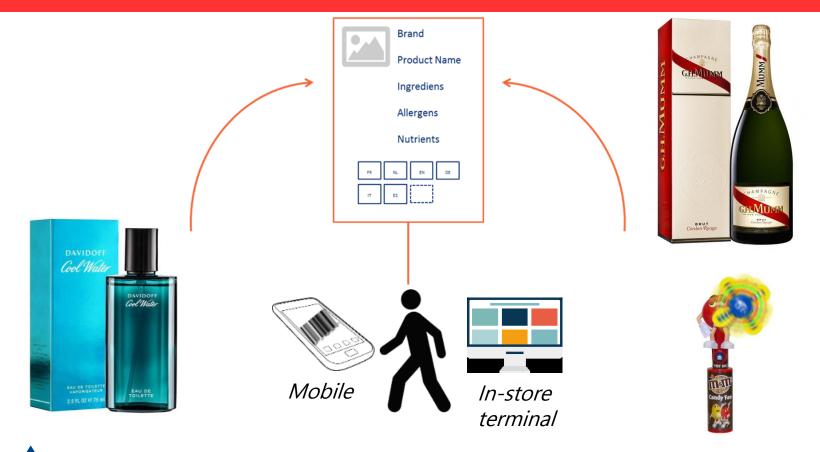
Increasing legislation on product information



- At national and regional level such as Halal certification requirements in GCC countries
- Affecting all product categories



ETRC pilot for a digital platform on product information





Tackling carry-on baggage restrictions



- Some Middle East airlines imposing weight limit, sometimes as low as 7/8 kilos including airport shopping
- Deterrent effect on airport shopping
- Airports encouraged to secure agreement with airlines and communicate rules to passengers





Thank you



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