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Like other cigarettes, heated tobacco sticks for electronic cigarette devices (heatsticks) will pay excise tax: Cárdenas

- *The National Tax and Customs Directorate (Dian) issued the 153 memorandum of 2018, which defines that all goods destined to human consumption containing tobacco, including heatsticks, have to pay the same excise tax as cigarettes.*

Bogotá, May 21, 2018 (COMH). The Finance Minister of Colombia, Mauricio Cárdenas, pointed out that heated tobacco sticks for electronic cigarettes devices, known as heatsticks or heets, will have the same tax treatment as tobacco and traditional cigarettes. “This kind of taxes, have benefits that go beyond fiscal revenues due to the reduction of tobacco consumption and therefore having an impact on healthcare” explained Cárdenas.

This policy, highlighted Mr. Cárdenas, meant to Colombia the recognition of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and World Health Organization (WHO), as a country leading the implementation of fiscal policies intended to reduce tobacco consumption.

“We made the right decision. We will generate more fiscal revenues that help reduce tobacco consumption. The only missing regulation was on heatsticks, which is now covered and aligned. This is the right step. I hope other countries follow in taxing not just conventional but also electronic cigarettes” he emphasized.

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