



International Institute for Legislative Affairs

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**RE: STATEMENT ON SUCCESSFUL RATIFICATION OF THE PROTOCOL TO ELIMINATE ILLICIT TRADE
IN TOBACCO PRODUCTS BY THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA.**

May 6, 2020

IILA wishes to congratulate the Government of Kenya for the successful ratification of the Protocol to eliminate illicit trade in tobacco products, also known as the ITP. We also extend our heartfelt appreciation to all the stakeholders from government, Civil Society Organisations, media and partners for the tireless efforts of many years to see this process completed successfully. As we celebrate this achievement, we at IILA are proud and grateful to be associated with all stakeholders involved in this outstanding milestone.

The ITP is a key tobacco control policy espoused within the World Health Organisation's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) to which Kenya is a party; and provides governments with guidelines on eliminating illicit trade in tobacco products as a measure to protect public health from the harmful effects of tobacco. Through this milestone effected by the United Nations on May 4th 2020, Kenya becomes the 59th state to ratify the protocol, and proudly joins the global tobacco control community through the Members of the Parties (MOP) to the Protocol in discussions on solutions and policy interventions for effective elimination of illicit trade in tobacco products. As a global leader on goods track and trace system through the Electronics Goods Management System (EGMS) administered by the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), Kenya brings on board a wealth of knowledge and expertise that we believe will enrich the global discussions in this area.

We now urge the government and concerned stakeholders to remain vigilant and committed in the next phase of implementing and enforcing the Protocol. As IILA, we

continue to commit our support in that process. We look forward to continued collaboration on this area and to ensure that the goal of the Protocol and FCTC in general to protect public health Kenya.

Ends.

About IILA

The International Institute for Legislative Affairs (IILA) is a not-for-profit organization that offers technical support to government departments, Members of Parliament and other stakeholders in the legislative process in terms of research for policy lobbying, legislation drafting and capacity building on various thematic areas including tobacco control. IILA has worked on tobacco control for over 10 years.

For an interview with IILA staff or for more information, please contact:

Chief Executive Officer

International Institute of Legal Affairs

Email: ewanyonyi@ilakenya.org

Mobile: +254 723942347