Federal Government announces commencement date for revised excise rates on tobacco and alcoholic beverages

The Honourable Minister of Finance ("the Minister"), Mrs. Zainab Shamsuna Ahmed, via a communique announced the commencement date for 2019 excise rates on alcoholic beverages and tobacco products as 4 June 2019.

The Minister equally issued clarification on the applicable excise rate on items included under Heading 22.06 of the ECOWAS Common External Tariff (2015 - 2019). The affected items include:

- Other fermented beverages (e.g. cider, perry, mead);
- Mixtures of fermented beverages; and
- Mixtures of fermented beverages and non-alcoholic beverages, not elsewhere specified or included.

The excise rates on these items shall be at a specific rate of ₦0.30 per CL for 2018, and ₦0.35 per CL for 2019 and 2020. This is similar to the current excise regime for beer and stout products.

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