



Kansspelautoriteit

Datum

8 december 2014

Ons kenmerk

8732 / 00.041.691

Bijlage 30

14 juni 2013: Verslag rondetafelgesprek

Report on the Roundtable on 14 June 2013, on the proposal on regulating online gambling, organized by the Netherlands Gaming Authority, in Spiritual Center "De Boskant" in The Hague.

On 14 June 2013 the Netherlands Gaming Authority organized a Roundtable in Spiritual Center "De Boskant" in The Hague, on the draft bill on regulating online gambling in the Netherlands. More than hundred representatives from land based licensees, international online gambling industry, testing laboratories, treatment and training centers, and other interested parties gathered in this inspiring location to discuss and share opinions on the proposal to regulate online gambling in The Netherlands. This proposal had been given in public consultation by the Ministry of Security and Justice on 22 May 2013.



Chairman of this gathering was [REDACTED] Member of the Board of Governors of the Gaming Authority, who inspired the participants to share their feelings on this proposal. Subjects to be discussed were a general picture, licensing conditions, registration and identification of players, responsible gambling and fighting illegal operators.

General picture

Participants were asked to rate the proposal on a scale from 1 to 5. Although it was mentioned that the proposal did not show enough ambition - legalizing 75% of the market was a goal set to low - most of the people present would give the proposal a score of almost a 4.

Responsible gambling



Some of the international operators thought that the proposal was too proactive with regard to responsible gambling. It was mentioned that self exclusion and self restriction in money and time for players should be made available and stimulated, and the responsibility for this could be, more than was incorporated in the proposal, dealt with as a responsibility of the operator. In stead of exclusion of players by a Central Registering system it was preferred to promote feedback systems for the players and operators. Also, it was to be made simple for players to access online care and treatment. The whole problem was to be seen in

its proper proportions. Reference was made to monitoring systems to make players aware of their behavior and to pin point players at risk. Especially the prevention of players to go beyond their boundaries was felt to be more important than taking measures when the damage had already been done.

Illegal operators

A larger numbers of participants agreed that the participation in regulated online gambling should be attractive for players. Especially the registration process should not be to complicated, as it would discourage players to go through it. It should be easy to register or people would tend to take the easy route to an illegal site. A well executable law and well executable regulations were felt to be essential to fight illegal operators. One suggestion was to have an approval seal for licensed operators, like the Danish system has. Looking at the Danish system it was mentioned that their model is workable and very clear about the tax rate, and not as it was regulated in the proposal, where it was unclear what in the end the several contributions would ad up to. One of the larger

international operators stressed that it was hard to compete with the illegal operators and thought that the blocking of advertisements and payment blocking were the only effective measures.



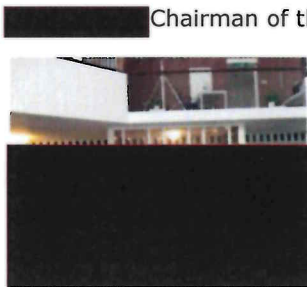
Cooperation

With regard to the cooperation between the regulator and the industry it was suggested to the Gaming Authority to visit some of the larger online gambling operators, to better understand the way they operate on a day to day basis. Furthermore it was suggested to establish a working group to cooperate with the treatment professionals. In general it was felt to be utterly important to maintain a dialogue between all parties involved in regulating and in operating online gambling.

Public consultation

A representative of the Ministry of Security and Justice stressed that the public consultation of the proposal was open to 21 July 2013, and invited the parties present to send in their observations.

Closure



Chairman of the Gaming Authority, concluded that a lot of discussion had passed this afternoon on player protection, enforceable regulations, ambition and on the scope of the

proposal. He thanked all present for their contributions to the discussions and assured that the Gaming Authority will be happy to stay in dialogue with all parties involved. Before closing the meeting, he invited all for some networking drinks and snacks.

