



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

LRA Confiscates cigarettes worth over a million

Maseru, 16 November 2018: Lesotho Revenue Authority (LRA) confiscated 38 boxes of RG cigarettes containing 380 thousand sticks worth M1, 140, 000.00 at Maseru Bridge last night.

Confiscation of the cigarettes forms part of the Authority's routine checks on compliance of tobacco and tobacco products in Lesotho. This is biggest single bust on illicit cigarettes in Lesotho in the past five years.

RG is an illicit cigarette as it is usually sold below M20.00 threshold of the packet of cigarette. The cigarettes that were confiscated were smuggled by the hawkers and they were not declared or even paid the excise duties due.

These illicit cigarettes usually compete in the market with cigarettes that have been declared and paid duties upon importation into Lesotho. LRA pleads with all traders and individuals to cease from importing illicit goods into Lesotho.

The routines checks are part of LRA's compliance strategy to deter non-compliance. Similar consignments have been confiscated before which were found to be counterfeit and they were destroyed by the LRA.

For more information please contact us on t.mncina@lra.org.ls/t.loko@lra.org.ls or call 52215531/52215433