



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Trade

Directorate E - Neighbouring countries, USA and Canada
USA and Canada

Brussels,
 USA and Canada

Meeting Report

Meeting VDMA on 25.02.2015

VDMA: Dr. R. Festge (President), [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED].
 Trade: J-L Demarty, [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Main issues discussed were FTAs (TTIP, CETA, Latin America). The other issues that VDMA asked to discuss in preparation of the meeting (Post-Bali, market access problems in Korea) were not raised by VDMA.

The main interests of VDMA in TTIP are 100% duty elimination at EIF, RoO and TBTs/NTBs in the field of mechanical engineering. VDMA stated that they will try to continue working on providing more common positions across the Atlantic, in particular in their VDMA-WGs (around 6-8 out of 37), which have an equivalent Committee structure in US.

VDMA stressed to fully support TTIP and CETA, in particular to defend these FTAs offensively in discussions with NGOs and trade unions in DE. In this respect JLD provided explanations on the core issues currently discussed politically in DE (also with regard to discussions in SPD/Gabriel). He stressed that also MS and industry need to well communicate the benefits of TTIP and CETA in public. He explained in detail the ratification processes, both for TTIP and CETA, and gave an overview of our trade relations in Latin America (Mexico, Chile, Columbia/Peru, Mercosur). A negative outcome on TTIP would certainly have implications on practically all our bilateral negotiations.

Regarding RoO for chapters 84, 85, JLD clarified that conclusions should not be drawn from CETA for TTIP.