

From: [Art. 4.1 b] (TRADE-EXT)
Sent: 26 April 2013 10:02
To:

[Art. 4.1 b]

Subject: Meeting with ESF Policy Committee 23 April 2013

Dear all,

On Tuesday 23 April, [Art. 4.1 b] attended the meeting of the ESF with its members, to present a state of play on the ongoing and future services negotiations. Later in the afternoon there was an ESF Policy Committee where also the Member States were invited. The COM was here represented by [Art. 4.1 b] Mauro (MM), [Art. 4.1 b] and [Art. 4.1 b]

I. Meeting with ESF and her members

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II. TPC meeting with ESF and MS

TISA

COM ([Art. 4.1 b]) informed the participants on the current state of play in the TISA negotiations. COM explained the content of the EU's text proposal for a text. This proposal suggests the inclusion of key GATS articles and the Understanding on Specific Commitments, plus additional liberalisation commitments (e.g. national treatment as a horizontal principle). Furthermore, the EU suggested the RGF's series of standards. COM asked the industry to defend these standards in their contacts with RGF and industry. The COM informed the ESF members about the public survey that will be launched in May.

Pascale Kerneis made clear that the discussion on mode 4 is very important for ESF's members. ESF does not perceive this as a defensive issue, but sees a real need for EU industry to move personnel abroad. He also talked about dispute settlement and the enforcement of agreements. Pascale will also get back to his members from the financial sector to ask for additional provisions.

There were more questions from Deutsche telekom (on the timing for the industry interests to be heard), British telecom (on digital economy agenda and ICT services) and the European express association (the link with the trade facilitation agreement).

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