

Meeting with Pernod Ricard 2 Dec 2014

[Art. 4.1.b] of Pernod Ricard, accompanied by [Art. 4.1.b] came to see David O'Sullivan this morning (they knew each other from previous meetings in Brussels).

[Art. 4.1.b] raised three issues: (1) not relevant (2) TTIP/GIs; and (3) ISDS.

(1) [not relevant]

(2) TTIP/GIs

Pernod is supportive of TTIP and they reiterated their interest in resolving some long-standing issues re GIs wines and spirits, namely the Champagne/semi-generics issue and expansion of protected spirits (for Polish and Swedish Vodka in particular).

They recalled that they were unable to agree on a common industry position, but confirmed that there is growing interest in the US by certain producers in the protection of GIs, namely by wine producers in Napa Valley and Sonoma. In the spirits area, they stressed that they were not making radical proposals, but they were only seeking solutions for commercially significant products. [Art. 4.1.b]

The politics and power of big players like Kraft were hard to break, but they thought there was opportunity to work with pro-GI interests in the US. David suggested and all agreed that we should compare notes and coordinate outreach activity in this regard. Delegation will follow this up in a more focused meeting with [Art. 4.1.b] shortly.

(3) ISDS

Pernod is in favor of including ISDS in TTIP [Art.4.1.b]
[Art. 4.1.b]