Cécile and I met on 24 September 2015 with the Trade Policy Committee of the Confederation of Netherlands Industry and Employers (VNO-NCW).

At the request of VNO-NCW, we informed them of the state of play on DDA, EGA and TTIP negotiations and the themes of the upcoming trade strategy communication.

VNO-NCW raised three main concerns:

1. The COM’s new suggested approach to investment protection offers less protection for investors than the old one, especially as regards indirect expropriation (the manifestly arbitrary criterion)
   - Art 4.2 first indent and 4.3 first subparagraph
   - Art 4.2 first indent and 4.3 first subparagraph

There was also a brief exchange on prospects for the Dutch council presidency on trade. VNO-NCW was keen to cooperate on demonstrating how business can be responsible and profitable at the same time.

Art 4.1(b)

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