Pearl: 4 people delegation led by Mr Rolf Bolwin (president) and Ms Anita Debaere (Director).

- **Pearle** is a 25 years-old organisation of associations dealing with all matters related to performing arts (theatres, music industry, orchestras, opera houses); represents 40 members in 20 countries; 7,000 enterprises;

- Pearl is aware of the recent letter to CM from **Deutsche Orchestervereinigung** (DOV); however, DOV are the musicians (employees), whereas Pearl represents the companies (employers). Not aware of the reply from CM;

- Main Pearl concern is about **subsidies** to cultural activities. They are aware of the COM's argumentaire on the matter. We reaffirmed those arguments and insisted on a reinsurance message;

- Pearl wondered about the consideration or not of cultural activities as "**Public Services**". We clarified that "Public Services" are not a notion used as such in the negotiation; we have not taken position on whether theatres or orchestras would qualify as "Public Services", but the issue is irrelevant insofar as this has no impact on public funding/subsidies. The US largely shares the EU approach on the matter.

- Pearl also concerned about **visa procedures and costs** faced by EU artist on tour in the US (e.g. need for 100 members of a Munich orchestra to fly for a visa request to Berlin). This is asymmetrical to upcoming "artist visas" allowing 1 year stay to non-EU performers. We explained the problems attached to TTIP negotiations on mobility.

- Finally, limited availability of **radio spectrum** creates increasing difficulties to install mics in theatres. Until now, this was possible without license ("cultural exemption") but TTIP and presence of US mobile operators may add to those difficulties.