

From: [Art. 4.1(b)] (TRADE)
Sent: 03 March 2015 18:10
To: [Art. 4.1(b)]
 (TRADE)
Cc: [Art. 4.1(b)] (TRADE)
Subject: TTIP: meeting with Chamber of Crafts for Munich and Upper Bavaria

– for ARES registration please –

[Art. 4.1(b)] had a meeting with Georg Schlagbauer (president), Dr. Lothar Semper (chief executive officer) and [Art. 4.1(b)] (representative in Brussels) of the **Chamber of Crafts for Munich and Upper Bavaria** (Handwerkskammer für München und Oberbayern) on TTIP.

Underlining that the Chamber of Crafts considers TTIP as having several positive aspects, the current public debate has encouraged them to **seek more information** on the following three issues:

1. Recognition of professional qualifications
2. Consumer protection
3. ISDS

We reassured them that discussions in TTIP on recognition of professional qualifications are very limited in terms of scope and are not comparable to the internal market obligations within the EU on this issue. As to consumer protection we underlined that the Commission will not give up the high European standards and referred to the competent Unit within DG Trade for further details. With regard to ISDS, we explained the process following the publication of the results of the consultation and explained that the CETA text contained very significant improvements as compared to past practice incl. in German BITs.

The Handwerkskammer also flagged interest in the SME chapter.

[Art. 4.1(b)]