

(TRADE)

Subject: Meeting report - Tsar 4601 - Invitation to Copa-Cogeca Praesidia for Commissioner De Gucht

From: (TRADE)
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2013 5:49 PM
To: VANHEUKELEN Marc (CAB-DE GUCHT)
Cc: (CAB-DE GUCHT); (TRADE); (TRADE); (TRADE);
(TRADE)
Subject: RE: Add to Tsar 4601 Invitation to Copa-Cogeca Praesidia for Commissioner De Gucht

Report of Head of KDG Cabinet, Mr Marc VANHEUKELEN's (MV) participation at the COPA-COGECA Praesidia meeting on 19 September 2013 to discuss International trade issues, particularly the challenges of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership negotiations.

In his introductory speech MV highlighted the importance of the TTIP agreement. The agreement would boost the EU GDP by 0.5-1%. An important part of the gains would come from regulatory convergence. The rest of the world would also gain as transatlantic standards could become international standards. It is, however, not our objective to have the lowest common possible denominators on standards. Better approximation of standards and mutual recognitions are the ways ahead.

He emphasised that our food safety standards such as those on hormones/GMOs are not up for negotiations but there's a need for specific measures in areas where our systems are needlessly not compatible.

TTIP negotiations are conducted under great transparency and with the proper involvement of stakeholders.

He recalled the EU offensive (e.g. dairy and "Mediterranean products") and defensive interests (e.g. some meats) in agriculture and US defensiveness on sugar. He reminded that the EU has an export surplus in agri-food products in its trade with the US. Tackling longstanding NTBs would also be very beneficial for the sector. For that, an Action Plan has been set up.

The ensuing exchange of views focused on the following issues:

Difference between EU-US animal welfare and environmental standards; growth promoting substances, antibiotics used by US; need to prepare an impact assessment of TTIP with the involvement of the agri sector; need to be extremely vigilant about cumulative effects of various agreements in the pipeline; need to have reciprocity on making progress on NTBs (lactic acid – BSE); problems with the Russian market; problem with tomato imports from Morocco; importance of GI protection; MC9 in Bali, agri cultural concessions;

COPA-COGECA informed that together with Food Drink Europe they produced a joint statement on the TTIP negotiations which will be communicated to us soon.

From: Pekka Pesonen [REDACTED] copa-cogeca.eu
Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2013 1:09 PM
To: [REDACTED] (CAB-DE GUCHT)
Cc: BENGTSOON Claes (CAB-DE GUCHT)
Subject: RE: Invitation to Copa-Cogeca Praesidia for Commissioner De Gucht

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you very much for your confirmation! I fully understand the difficulty of your Commissioner's timetable and I highly appreciate your commitment to our event by sending a replacement, Commissioner's Head of Cabinet, Mr Vanheukelen.

As we spoke over phone, perhaps the ideal timetable for Mr Vanheukelen would be to join us at 16.45 in our premises at 61 Rue de Treves, ground floor meetingroom A+B. Our discussions will take approximately an hour, including a short presentation of Mr Vanheukelen and questions and answers.

We expect a constructive debate on international trade, both multilateral and bilateral, especially in the light of the upcoming Bali Ministerial Conference and US-EU trade negotiations. For your information, Copa-Cogeca intends to take part in Bali and we are also planning to launch an event possibly in Washington with our American counterparts (farm unions, cooperatives, USTR, USDA, Congress, Senate, politicians..) in early 2014.

I warmly welcome Mr Vanheukelen to our meeting!

Pekka Pesonen
Secretary General
Copa-Cogeca

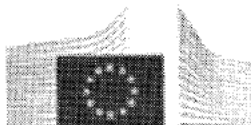
From: [REDACTED] [\[REDACTED\]@ec.europa.eu](mailto:[REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu)
[REDACTED] [\[REDACTED\]@ec.europa.eu](mailto:[REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu)
Sent: mardi 17 septembre 2013 16:07
To: Pekka Pesonen
Subject: FW: Invitation to Copa-Cogeca Praesidia for Commissioner De Gucht

Dear Mr Pesonen,

This is to confirm that Mr Vanheukelen, Head of Cabinet to Commissioner De Gucht, will be pleased to accept your invitation the joint Copa-Cogeca Praesidia meeting on Thursday 19th September.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]



European Commission
Cabinet Karel de Gucht

BERL [REDACTED]
B-1049 Brussels/Belgium
+32 2 29 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu

From: Pekka Pesonen [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 03, 2013 9:22 AM
To: DE GUCHT Karel (CAB-DE GUCHT)
Cc: DEMARTY Jean-Luc (TRADE); BENGTTSSON Claes (CAB-DE GUCHT);
[REDACTED] (CAB-DE GUCHT); [REDACTED]

Subject: Invitation to Copa-Cogeca Praesidia for Commissioner De Gucht

Dear Commissioner,

Please find enclosed an invitation to our Copa-Cogeca joint Praesidia that takes place in Brussels on Thursday 19th September 2013 at half past 4 p.m.

It would be a great honor if you could join us in talks on how to make the ongoing EU-US trade negotiations a success. We intend to be in contact with our US counterparts, US administration and key policy makers in pushing for a common understanding on agriculture and food chain. Collaboration with the Commission services is therefore vital for the positive outcome of the process.

In case you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours,

Mr Pekka PESONEN
Secretary General

Copa - Cogeca
Rue de Trèves 61
1040 Bruxelles
Tél : + 32 (0)2 [REDACTED]
Fax : + 32(0)2 [REDACTED]
GSM: +32(0) [REDACTED]

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