ESF Policy Committee, 3rd of March 2016

On 3 March 2016, [Art. 4.1(b)] and [Art. 4.1(b)] from DG Trade (unit B1) met members of the European Services Forum (ESF) at the ESF Policy Committee in Brussels. The purpose of the ESF Policy Committee is to give an update on current state of play of on-going trade talks and to take note on the views of the participants. The members who attended the meeting represent sectors including insurance, financial services, telecommunications, postal and express delivery services, distribution and retail, maritime transport, professional services, and computer services.

COM started the meeting by updating the ESF members on the state of play of various on-going trade in services negotiations and initiatives, focusing on [Out of scope] and the EU-Japan FTA. COM also called on ESF and its members to continue providing input to the development of EU policy on trade in services, notably related to ways to assess the value of services liberalization. Following this, a Q&A session took place, giving all participants the opportunity to raise questions and concerns. The main points raised by the ESF members during the discussion were the following:



Next meeting: ESF and DG Trade unit B1 agreed to reconvene the 7th of June 2016.