Report of the meeting between Commissioner Malmström and a delegation of the European Services Forum (ESF)

Date: 31 March 2015

Participants:

- Commission: Cecilia Malmström, Jon Nyman (Cab), [Art. 4.1 b] (HoU B1)
- ESF: Sir Thomas Harris (Chairman of ESF), Pascal Kerneis (ESF), Tilman Kupfer (British Telecom), [Art. 4.1 b]

ESF requested the meeting to present their views on the new trade policy strategy, TTIP, TiSA and other bilateral negotiations.

Key issues raised by ESF:

- New trade strategy:
  - Geographical priorities: Sir Harris acknowledged that there is a disagreement between the EU industry (that supports China's accession to TiSA) and the US industry (that aligns itself to the USTR position). CM stressed our support for China. Pascal Kerneis asked for an active Commission outreach for new TiSA members beyond China.

- Sectoral issues:
  - [Out of scope]
- Direct Selling (Eurocommerce): [Art. 4.1 b] highlighted the importance of direct selling (sales at private venues) in TiSA and asked for COM support.

- Post-Bali work programme: ESF would like to see a good result on services in the post-Bali work programme, but they would not like attention being detracted away from TiSA.