ESF Policy Committee, 16th December 2014.

Resume:
As in past occasions, the main purpose of the ESF Policy Committee meeting was to go through the state of play of on-going trade in services negotiations and initiatives. The discussion underlined a keen interest of ESF members to exchange views on these matters:

• On TiSA, COM debriefed the Committee on the results of the 10th round of negotiations held during the first week of December.

Details:

• The Policy Committee meeting was chaired by Mr. Tilmann Kupfer from BT Group with broad participation from ESF committee members. [Art. 4.1 b] (E1), [Art. 4.1 b] and [Art. 4.1 b] (both B1) participated from DG Trade.

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[Out of scope]
• TiSA:
  • COM briefed on the results of the 10th round of negotiations held in the first week of December in Geneva, referring mainly to the areas where some technical progress has been achieved (maritime services, financial services, domestic regulation). It also referred to new proposals tabled (EU proposal on government procurement, proposal on patient mobility presented by Turkey, proposal on environmental services by Canada). It also informed that the incorporation of Uruguay to TiSA seems very close. The next round will be chaired by the US and will take place in the week of the 9th of February.
  • The City UK showed concern about the lack of offers on financial services by some TiSA parties and La Poste requested more information on competitive delivery services. Questions were also posed regarding e-commerce and data flows (Deutsche Telekom) and localisation of data storage (IBM). COM explained the issues discussed in the respective sectors and mentioned that in e-commerce no discussion on data flows had taken place at this round.

[Out of scope]