

From: [REDACTED] (GROW)
Sent: 22 June 2015 16:37
To: [REDACTED] (GROW)
Subject: FW: Meeting report - AirBnB on 17/2

From: [REDACTED] (GROW)
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 4:29 PM
To: BURY Claire (GROW); [REDACTED] (GROW)
Cc: [REDACTED] (GROW); [REDACTED] (GROW); [REDACTED] (GROW); [REDACTED] (GROW); [REDACTED] (GROW); [REDACTED] (GROW); [REDACTED] (GROW)
Subject: Meeting report - AirBnB on 17/2

Dear Ms Bury,
Dear Colleagues,

On 17 February we met AirBnB represented by Mr [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]), [REDACTED], [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]).

Participants from the Commission side: [REDACTED] (D1), [REDACTED] (D1), [REDACTED] (D1), [REDACTED] (D1), [REDACTED] (D2), [REDACTED] (D2), [REDACTED] (H1), [REDACTED] (H1)

AirBnB argued that COM should have a broad approach in the DSM Package in order to support e-commerce and invited COM to look into the barriers hindering the take up of certain activities in the sharing economy by citizens.

AirBnB explained that:

- **Insurance:** Although AirBnB is not part of the contract between the host and the guest, it provides a guarantee for the host, covered via Airbnb's insurance at Lloyd's
- **Quality requirements** for hosts: no quality prescription for hosts [only recommendations published on the website]; the overall functioning of the system is guaranteed by the feedback/rating system in place; possibility to report to AirBnB about (safety) issues and they will take action against the host
- **Market fragmentation:** diversity of the applicable legal requirements is an important issue; when registering with AirBnB, the host engages himself to respect the legislation in force but often it is not clear which are the relevant rules; AirBnB prepares fiches to explain the legal framework applicable in a given area and talks to the legislator to clarify the rules (ex. Amsterdam, Paris);
- **Private activity / professional:** divergence in the approaches (ex. ES: renting is considered a professional activity with requirement to register the business and to publish personal data; Hamburg, Paris, London: private activity; Amsterdam: short term location with special rules including tourism/city tax collection; Berlin: legislation passed last year ongoing grace period causing unclear situation; Barcelona: obligation to register but registration is frozen now)

- **Concerns of public authority:** housing, cheap tourism (Barcelona), unavailability of short-rental apartments (Berlin)
- **Privacy:** AirBnB has a preference to protect the privacy of the host as far as it is possible, ex. prefers collecting the tourist tax and revering anonymously to tax authorities
- **Tax:** AirBnB introduces a system to communicate to the host the summary of its revenues for the past year and inviting him to declare them; not clear yet on which markets
- **Impact:** AirBnB will share with us data about the companies impact [already sent to H1]
- [REDACTED]

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

<< OLE Object: Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) >>

European Commission

DG for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

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