



Brussels, 24 October 2012

**Report of the meeting of the Market Access Working Group on Services**  
**(Area of Postal and Courier Services)**  
**Brussels, 4 October 2012**

**Chair:** *Services Unit, DG TRADE B.1 / Market Access, Industry, Energy and Raw Materials Unit, DG TRADE G.3*

**Participants:**

- **COM:** *DG TRADE, DG MARKT, EU DEL-Tokyo, EU DEL-Seoul, EU DEL-Jakarta, EU DEL-Delhi*
- **EU Member States:** *DE, FR, HU*
- **EU Business associations:** *European Express Association (EEA), European Services Forum (ESF), La Poste*

**1. Market access issues and postal reform updates**

*[not relevant]*

**2.2. US**

COM invited industry to signal any problematic issues (beyond normal FTAs) which could be taken up in the on-going negotiations. **La Poste** and **EEA** mentioned aviation/air cargo security, and said that stability is needed as new amendments are costly for industry. Furthermore, common airline security and advance notice (common risk criteria) would be welcomed. The existing bilateral arrangement does not seem robust enough for the industry. EEA further noted that clearly understandable mutual recognition of regulatory environment for long-term should be aimed at through the negotiations. Issues relating to customs and trade facilitation should also be looked at. This latter was backed by **ESF** and added that bilateral work on regulatory issues should be enhanced and possibly expand to other areas of services as well. On the FTA in general, **ESF** voiced its doubt that there will be any value added on services unless detailed regulatory approaches are included, which would mean that on the US side the state regulators, who have competence on many issues, need to be involved. **EEA** further pointed out that the de minimis level in US and in EU could be raised ; in particular in EU the problem relates to the relation to VAT rules (10-20€), effectively creating considerable burden.

*[not relevant]*