Summary

Art 4.1(b) introduced the meeting referring to current challenges in the trade environment such as the rising protectionism and the difficulties to convince citizens about the benefits of trade agreements. On the positive side, the Chairman welcomed the consent granted by the European Parliament to CETA and highlighted the need to shift the focus to national ratification procedures.

JLD provided an update on trade topics requested by BusinessEurope: Out of scope

Subsequently, participants raised questions on negotiations with Out of scope, MERCOSUR, Out of scope

JLD’s 30 minutes intervention was followed by 60 minutes of questions and answers
Further questions were raised with regard to the MERCOSUR FTA negotiations, as well as JLD elaborated on the state of play of the both FTAs.