To: SCHLEGELMILCH Rupert (TRADE); (TRADE); (TRADE); (TRADE); (TRADE); (TRADE)

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Subject: Meeting report with ECIPE - EU-Mercosur - 15/06/21

On 15/06/21 a meeting took place between COM ECIPE EU-Mercosur project.

ECIPE presented the EU-Mercosur project and the activities foreseen. The objective of the project is to organise a series of events, blogs, and the production of discussion papers to provide a different, more balanced and more diversified perspective regarding the various aspects of the EU-Mercosur agreement. There is no time limit foreseen for the activities and the idea is to organise 10 good events in the coming months. A first event took place last May on the geo-politics of the agreement which saw a very good turn out with lively exchanges and lots of participants. The next event is foreseen on 7th of July and the topic will be deforestation. One of the objectives is to identify what are the instruments to address embedded deforestation and analyse the relationship between trade agreements and deforestation on the basis of facts and figures. ECIPE is in the process of finalising the list of panellists and would welcome suggestions of possible invitees.

COM (_________) welcomed the initiative of ECIPE and the project in view of fostering a more informed debate on issues related to the EU-Mercosur Agreement. He provided a short state of play with regard to the agreement. It was agreed to remain in contact to coordinate future activities and exchange of information.