

Meeting with Cosmetics Europe

12 December 2013

List of attendees:

[ART 4.1b] (Cosmetics Europe); [ART 4.1b] (Cosmetics Europe)

KAIZELER Ivone (TRADE); INNOCENTE Francesca (TRADE); MOKRY Roman (SANCO); SELLES Laurent (SANCO)

Summary:

On 12 December, the European Commission met with representatives of the cosmetics industry to discuss the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). The Commission gave a general overview of the timing and content of the negotiations and the industry representatives expressed their interest in discussing several topics.

As regards the list of allowed ingredients, the cosmetics industry would welcome a common approach for safety assessment of cosmetic colorants and UV filters (sharing scientific assessments and a fast track procedure in the US for ingredients that have already been assessed and accepted in the EU). Industry would welcome the waiving of batch-testing for products with certain colorants (required by the Food and Drug Administration).

As regards testing requirements, notably requirements for Sun Protecting Factor (SPF) the industry stated that recognition of available international standards for testing methods is a key factor in lowering the administrative burden for companies. In the EU, the EN standard is identical to ISO SPF standard and is voluntary whereas the EU FDA guideline is compulsory and tough based on ISO it is not identical. Equivalence assessment is being carried out.

On Good Manufacturing Practices, in the EU the EN standard is identical to ISO GMP standard and is voluntary whereas the EU FDA guideline is compulsory and based on ISO but not identical. Equivalence assessment is needed. Furthermore, in the EU GMP certification for cosmetics is not required whereas in the US it is and has to be carried out by FDA at least for cosmetic products classified as OTCs.

As for labelling issues, Cosmetics Europe would welcome future alignment in the areas of trivial names, botanicals and colorants but also warning statements and labelling of nano-scale ingredients.

Cosmetic Europe expressed their concerns in relation to the list of banned ingredients contained in the EU Cosmetics Products Regulation and sees the TTIP as an opportunity to modernise it. COM noted that updates on the list of banned substances is not being considered by the EU as it could be seen as de-regulation and could create confusion amongst consumers.

Finally, reference was also made to international cooperation initiatives in the field of cosmetics such as the International Cooperation on Cosmetics Regulation (ICCR).