

GARCIA LOPEZ BERGES Victor (TRADE)

Subject: Meeting on data flows and TTIP with BEUC – 5 February 2014

Importance: High

From: VERHEIJDEN Jan-Willem (TRADE)

Sent: Thursday, February 06, 2014 5:03 PM

To: SCHLEGELMILCH Rupert (TRADE); GARCIA BERCERO Ignacio (TRADE); IRUARRIZAGA DIEZ Ignacio (TRADE); LEVIE Damien (TRADE); DUEERKOP Marco (TRADE); GALAR Mirosław (TRADE); SCHMITZ Jan (TRADE); NIETO HERNANDEZ Esther (TRADE); EMBERGER Geraldine (TRADE)

Cc: DAWKINS Miranda (TRADE); GEHL Fabien (TRADE)

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Yesterday, Miranda, Fabien and myself had a **meeting on data flows and TTIP with BEUC**, the European consumer organisation. Our interlocutors were [ART. 4.1b] and [ART. 4.1b].

Main points:

- Digital rights is a priority for BEUC. In the context of TTIP, privacy is a major concern because of the fundamental differences in approach between the EU and the US.
- We explained our line on TTIP and data: personal data is a subset of all data and rules on personal data protection are outside the scope of TTIP. We also explained that all EU FTAs repeat GATS Article 14, which ensures that parties can maintain their own data protection rules.
- BEUC argued that it is a thin line between personal and non-personal data. We suggested that BEUC provides us with concrete examples of concerns.
- BEUC considers the timing to be unfortunate for a discussion on data flows with the US, in particular because of the reform of the DP framework.
- BEUC inquired about the possibility to provide input to TTIP beyond the TTIP Advisory Group. We stressed that our door is always open and mentioned the possibility of a second TRADE-CNECT stakeholder dialogue later this year.
- They asked whether cooperation between data protection supervisors would be covered by TTIP. We told them that this is not foreseen.

Jan-Willem