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Subject: Meeting with DigitalEurope on 15 July 2015

For registration

I met on 15 July at their request with Digital Europe, represented by Ms Mievis, ▓▓▓▓▓ and ▓▓ ▓▓▓▓▓▓. They wished to present two new documents that build on the Digital Single Market strategy and are meant to inform our upcoming trade and investment strategy:

- 10 Leading principles to foster EU Digital Trade - *creating a level playing field, delivering international vision, securing global market access, supporting the global digital economy, fostering innovation, enabling cross-border data flows, preventing and addressing localisation barriers, resisting protectionism, promoting global cooperation on raw materials and scaling up European strategies.*

http://www.digitaleurope.org/DesktopModules/Bring2mind/DMX/Download.aspx?Command=Core Download&EntryId=998&PortalId=0&TabId=353

- Towards an ambitious Digital Trade Policy

http://www.digitaleurope.org/DesktopModules/Bring2mind/DMX/Download.aspx?Command=Core Download&EntryId=997&PortalId=0&TabId=353

The message is that digital is everywhere, it is a cross-sectoral issue and for the purposes of trade agreements, cuts through market access and regulatory pillars. Cross-border data flows are important, but so is digital infrastructure and issues related to standards, certificates, licences, access to public procurement. Very concerned about forced data localisation measures (legislation and practices) globally.

DigitalEurope and ITI (US counterpart) proposal to arrange a WTO public forum in early October has been accepted.

OECD report on Data flows is due in September. This is considered important, as was also underlined at the recent Lisbon Council event and in their study, so as to bridge the measuring gap on data flows. Without empirical basis, the economic benefits of data flows are different to advocate.

DigitalEurope informed about a forthcoming event they are planning together with the LU Presidency on Digital trade in September.

Kind regards,
Nele