

**From:** NEIRA Pablo (TRADE)

**Sent:** Friday, July 13, 2012 5:29 PM

**To:** PERREAU DE PINNINCK Fernando (TRADE)

**Cc:** GARCIA BERCERO Ignacio (TRADE); LOPIAN Arthur (TRADE); DE LUSIGNAN Paul (TRADE); EMBERGER Geraldine (TRADE); DUPUIS Philipp (TRADE); SOURMELIS Petros (TRADE); SZYMANSKI Arkadiusz (TRADE)

**Subject:** HLWG - Regulatory issues: meeting with ORGALIME - report

Meeting took place together with ENTR C. Siebert. C. Roeland, F. Sacchetti, G. Buhagiar ; ORGALIME [Art 4.16] and representatives from VDMA, [Art 4.16] and French and German national associations.

COM provided overview of HLWG and requested input from them, if possible for September.

Points raised by ORGALIME:

- They welcome the initiative, and they have felt that there is real support for it also in the US. Certain degree of scepticism from past experiences (MRA and SDoC - which they do not think is worth raising again)
- European industry enjoys a quite strong position in the world market, around 40%, while a decline has been observed for the Japanese and US industry in recent years against the Chinese industry.
- Regarding the US, there are some barriers and trade irritants, as a result of which European industry has opened or purchased subsidiaries there.
- Fragmentation of the US market is one their greatest concerns, and there some welcome [NR] "harmonisation" effects.
- Tariff issues are not very relevant apart from some very specific sectors.
- They need to analyse in more detail to see which benefits could be achieved, although they already see US/EU regulatory convergence could have a great impact in other economies.

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- In their sector EU standards are much more aligned with international standards (IEC/ISO) than the US ones.

Conclusion:

- Initiative welcomed by ORGALIME, although potential gains need yet to be analysed.
- They will provide input after the summer break.