

**From:** EMBERGER Geraldine (TRADE)

**Sent:** Friday, September 07, 2012 5:20 PM

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

**Cc:** NEIRA Pablo (TRADE); GARCIA BERCERO Ignacio (TRADE); BOESHERTZ Caroline (TRADE); PELLEGRINI Mattia (ENTR); ROELAND Christophe (ENTR); LOPIAN Arthur (TRADE)

**Subject:** report of meeting with Eurometaux

- TRADE informed on state of play of discussions in the HLWG
- Eurometaux would be interested in working with the EU on transatlantic and global trade issues, with a view to achieving a level playing field and fair competition in particular in third country markets such as China and Russia, which remain the priority for Eurometaux members, although trade with the US is growing and the Jobs and Growth initiative with the US is an opportunity to grasp.
- Eurometaux recognised general conceptual differences between the EU and US to regulation (i.e. "management" rules against "liability" in case of a damage) but then also added some concrete examples where EU and US differences create costs for companies, which could be reduced or avoided through increased compatibility. Eurometaux specifically mentioned environmental regulations (waste collection, recycling, such as RoHS) and chemical registration, classification, transport and labelling (in particular REACH) where EU and US approaches differ, thus creating additional (on-necessary) costs for trade (while not stopping trade).
- When looking at solutions, Eurometaux recommended converging around international 'guidance' and standards such as the UN Global Harmonised System (GHS) or the OECD mutual recognition of data: in both cases US was applying a different approach which sometimes led to different thresholds for classification of products.
- Since many of Eurometaux' members are present on both sides of the Atlantic these members tend to have similar issues – there could be a common interest in tackling some of the problems in a future negotiations (tbc). But establishing the position of the US industry is rather complex due to the lack of a "proper" counterpart for Eurometaux. Eurometaux happy to investigate, bearing in mind the costs and benefits.

Follow-up:

- TRADE will communicate practical information to Eurometaux relating to outreach by the US administration vis-à-vis industry in the US.
- Eurometaux will get in touch with its US counterparts to see whether a joint contribution could be envisaged.
- Eurometaux will also seek to deepen discussion with its members on the various issues, concentrating on NTMs but possibly also "third country issues" such as raw materials, and will seek to submit some economic data on prospective benefits stemming from reduction or elimination of regulatory hurdles.

Geraldine Emberger