

**Report Meeting: JLD at the International Relations Committee of BusinessEurope 4 May 2012**

***Not relevant for the request.***

Asked about the outcome of the recent discussion with Ms Shapiro, about any further meeting with the US, the timing and the way of proceeding in view of launching an FTA with the US, JLD explained that overall the discussion with Shapiro was very good and that it appeared that gaps are not unbridgeable. He added that only a comprehensive approach will bring meaningful results, whereas a piecemeal sectorial approach would not bring a sufficiently meaningful outcome. He then added that the overall approach should be

**NOT RELEASABLE**

4 Asked about a declaration on the FTA the US would table at the upcoming G8, JLD explained that realistically this would be difficult for the US in this pre-electoral phase and that at the same time COM cannot proceed any further at this stage since the ball is in the US court. Overall, COM rather expects to launch negotiations in 2013 after the HLWG is completed.

***Not relevant for the request.***