

## **VAICEKAUSKAITE Indre (TRADE)**

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**From:** TRADE ACCES DOCUMENTS  
**Subject:** Report of a meeting between Director Signe Ratso and [Art. 4.1.b], VDA on 10 April 2013 in Brussels

**Participants:**

**[Art. 4.1.b], German Association of the Automotive Industry (VDA)**

**[Art. 4.1.b] VDA**

**[Art. 4.1.b] VDA**

**Mr. Peter Balas, Deputy Director General, DG Trade (end US / [Not relevant for the request]points only)**

**Ms. Signe Ratso, Director, DG Trade, Directorate G**

**Mr. Arek Szymanski, DG Trade G.3**

**Ms. Jane Amilhat, DG Trade E.2**

**Mr. Graham Taylor, DG Trade G.3**

***Not relevant for the request***

On the prospective EU-US TTIP Agreement, **[Art. 4.1.b]** indicated VDA have members both exporting to the US (e.g. Daimler and BMW) and invested in the US (e.g. VW). They are therefore very interested in an Agreement that would remove tariffs and NTBs in both directions and they would be in favour of mutual recognition of regulatory aspects on both sides.

**[Not releasable - part 1]**

They also requested information on the timeframe foreseen **[Not releasable - part 2]**

SR emphasised the large benefits the EU car producers would obtain from tariff elimination and removal/reduction of NTBs and requested VDA to encourage the EU industry to work closely with the US industry in the process. She indicated that any FTA would be international law and **[Not releasable - part 3]**, although we would raise this concern with appropriate colleagues. The extent to which there would be mutual recognition would depend on agreement between the two parties.

On the timeframe, SR indicated the Commission hoped to receive a mandate by June and if so, it should be feasible to start negotiations in July.

Peter Balas (PB) indicated **[Not releasable - part 4]**

***Not relevant for the request***