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MEETING REPORT

Subject: Meeting on 6 February 2018 with representatives of STEP ("The Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners", global legal association advising families across the generations) accompanied by a representative of the consultancy firm "Passerelle Public Affairs"

Participants: a) for STEP ; , b) for DG TAXUD

The meeting had been asked by "Passerelle Public Affairs" on behalf of its client STEP.

–Director of Global, including EU, Policy, his wish was to establish a first contact with Unit TAXUD.D2 and its activities, at the occasion of a visit to Brussels for meeting the same day a representative of DG JUST

-explained that STEP, as a global network of trust practitioners, is currently in contact with the FATF for providing advice on the setting of new guidance of risk-based AML approach, and with the OECD for providing advice on the mandatory disclosure rules for Addressing CRS Avoidance Arrangements and Opaque Offshore Structures. STEP also assists the UK Authorities on the implementation of a register for trusts under the new AMLD rules.

explained that the main implication of our Unit in these policy matters relates to mandatory disclosure, as the DAC6 proposal currently discussed by the Council partially overlaps with the OECD related exercise. MS are however keen on an alignment of the two projects, so the Commission tries to ensure that any reporting to be made under DAC6 will also satisfy the OECD requirements. We can't provide any detail on discussions held on DAC6 by the Council WP as they aren't public, there is however a strong wish from the Bulgarian Presidency to achieve a political agreement on the text by March. By the same time the EP should issue its report on the Commission proposal, so the formal adoption of the Directive in the coming months may be feasible.

-asked about the time schedule for the implementation of the measures, answered that the Commission proposal was certainly ambitious in this respect but the real dates are normally set by the Council once there is agreement on the substance of the provisions, so it is soon to guess at this stage.

