



All redactions covered by Art. 4.1(b)

BusinessEurope

Meeting date and place

Meeting held on 21/06/2019 11:30 in Charlemagne

Participating organisation(s) & representative(s)

[REDACTED] - BUSINESSEUROPE (TRN: 3978240953-79) Participant,
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] BUSINESSEUROPE (TRN: 3978240953-79) Participant,
[REDACTED] -- BUSINESSEUROPE (TRN: 3978240953-79) Contact.

Main issues discussed

21 June 2019 – Meeting between BusinessEurope and DG Sabine Weyand

Participants:

BusinessEurope [REDACTED]
COM: Sabine Weyand (DG), Sandra Gallina (DDG); [REDACTED] E1), [REDACTED] (G3)

Summary:

Upon the request of BusinessEurope (BE), DG Sabine Weyand met BE [REDACTED] to discuss the latest developments on trade policy. This discussion focussed on the following issues:

·BE presented the main elements of its recent position paper on trade published on 29 April and added that this will be followed up by dedicated papers on China (this is already under preparation) and the US thereafter.

·BE informed that they will travel to Australia and New Zealand in July to meet its counterparts there in view of the ongoing FTA negotiations.

·Concerning the US, BE will have a mission to Washington DC in mid-September. BE remains very concerned about potential Section 232 action on cars and car parts; potential US tariffs as a result of the Airbus/Boeing disputes; as well as about sanctions related to Russia, Iran and Cuba. With regard to the Executive Working Group, BE highlighted interest in regulatory cooperation, including in the cars and chemicals sectors and inquired about the readiness of the US to work on these issues.

·With regard to the WTO, BE stressed the need to defend the multilateral system – according to BE, for this to happen the status quo is not an option and China would need to show more readiness for reform, notably when it comes to industrial subsidy rules. BE referred to the trilateral cooperation as well and advocated for close cooperation with the US (and Japan).

·With regard to China, BE is preparing a detailed paper (expected to be finalized in October) which will focus on 3 main streams: (i) distortions and market access in China; (ii) potential tools in the Single Market, (iii) competition in third country markets. BusinessEurope will then participate in a CEO Dialogue with Chinese business in Beijing in November. One particular concern BusinessEurope raised, other than trade distortions and market access, is the social credit system and the use of AI also with respect to business activities in China.

·On climate and a possible Border Adjustment Tax (about which some considerations are included in the recent BE paper on climate and energy), BE clarified that it is now looking into potential options in more detail, with no clear position at this stage yet.

·On MERCOSUR, BE expressed its support for the negotiations and inquired about the state of play.

·BE also reiterated (as per its position paper) the increasing importance of implementation and enforcement, referring specifically to the Market Access Strategy (also in view of the Trade and Investment Barriers Report published earlier last week).

·BE also touched upon the latest developments related to Brexit.

DG Sabine Weyand (and for MERCOSUR, DDG Sandra Gallina) responded to the questions raised, provided the state of play and outlined the next steps. Finally, BE invited DG Sabine Weyand to its next International Relations Committee meeting to be held on 16 October.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

European Commission
DG TRADE G3
Market Access, Industry, Energy and Raw Materials

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Directorate or unit

TRADE DG

Internal participants

Ms WEYAND Sabine	TRADE DG (sabine.veyand@ec.europa.eu)	Participant,
[Redacted]	TRADE G/3 [Redacted]	Participant, Notetaker,
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Author(s) of minutes

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Validator and validation date

[Redacted] validated the minutes on 26/06/2019 18:51