

Cabinet SIMSON - Minutes of Meeting

MEETING CONCLUSIONS

Title	Meeting with Eurocommerce
Date	31/01/2020
Participants	Ext: Christian Verschueren, Director-General; [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] COMECIS, and [REDACTED] (Eurocommerce) COM: Stefano Grassi, Laure Chapuis (CAB Simson)
Disclosure authorisation :	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES - <input type="checkbox"/> NO - <input type="checkbox"/> Partial (pls highlight unauthorized parts)
	<p>Mr Verschueren introduced Eurocommerce's role representing the retail and wholesale sectors that together represent 5.4 million businesses, 29 million jobs and account for 10% of EU GDP. He mentioned the increasing regulatory burden on these sectors in areas such as product information and liability, consumer protection, consumer security and privacy, and waste collection. He then presented Eurocommerce's policy priorities and requests for the new Commission in three areas of key importance for retailers and wholesalers: digital, competition, and open markets and free trade.</p> <p>Mr Grassi mentioned the importance of the wholesale and retail sectors for the European Green Deal given their proximity to end-consumers and potential as both producers and consumers of green energy. Corporate sourcing of renewables in the long-term will increasingly become an economic strategy rather than a greening strategy. He highlighted the ways in which the new renewable energy directive could support the use of renewables, and the expectation that energy efficiency measures will lead to reduced energy consumption overall in the industrial and commercial sectors, but with a greater share of electricity consumption.</p>