

GARCIA LOPEZ BERGES Victor (TRADE)

Subject: TACD / BEUC meeting today

Le 12 déc. 2013 à 17:43, "DAWKINS Miranda (TRADE)" <Miranda.DAWKINS@ec.europa.eu> a écrit :

Ignacio, Geraldine,

As requested, a quick note of the main points of today's meeting with [ART 4.1b] (TACD) and [ART 4.1b] (BEUC):

- [ART 4.1b] explained that TACD would be publishing a paper on regulatory coherence within the next few days, and gave Ignacio a draft. He promised to look over it (with Geraldine) and send any comments back before going to Washington.
- Generally, TACD's main concern with the US regulatory process is that decisions are taken based on pure value for money considerations (OIRA), without taking into account the broader social perspective. This is an area where the EU process is certainly more positive. Therefore, TACD are not sure how we can achieve real regulatory coherence via the TTIP, given that the systems are so different.
- Ignacio explained where we are on the regulatory cluster by pointing out the recent De Gucht and Froman speeches. Described the US as putting emphasis on their notice and comment procedure, while the EU is emphasising the need for genuine regulatory cooperation in a number of sectors (mentioned cars, chemicals and pharma). But neither side openly wishes to impose its system on the other.
- On chemicals: TACD asked if we could agree a list of hazardous substances. On food, Ignacio explained the issues will mostly come up in SPS discussions. On TBT, each side is very far apart (standards and conformity assessments, ISO). Generally, Ignacio underlined that we would be looking for practical solutions that do not reduce the level of protection on either side.
- On transparency, we hope to agree on public information portals of some kind – important for SMEs.
- On the Regulatory Cooperation Council, Ignacio explained we had not yet considered in detail how to involve stakeholders, but we will discuss with the US. He clarified it would not be set up until after negotiations had finished: it would be part of the institutional provisions of the TTIP.

Finally, when I escorted [ART 4.1b] and [ART 4.1b] to the lifts, [ART 4.1b] mentioned a press conference taking place on Monday at 12 in Washington, organised by Public Citizen to fit in with the start of round 3. She will be taking part over the phone from London. Copying to Catherine and Alex to be aware of this.

Happy to assist with reviewing the paper if that would be helpful.

Miranda

Miranda DAWKINS

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European Commission