

**BRITISH CHAMBER**
OF COMMERCE IN BELGIUM

Mr Damien Levie
Head of Unit
USA & Canada
DG TRADE
European Commission
1049 Brussels

Brussels, 22 November 2012

Dear Mr Levie,

I am writing to you on behalf of the British Chamber of Commerce in Belgium. I am delighted to invite you to give a keynote speech at an EU Committee Business Lunch. The event will take place at the British Chamber's office, centrally located at Boulevard Bischoffsheim 11, from 12.30 until 14.00, and are attended by a maximum of 40 participants to encourage interaction. We would appreciate you making a 20 minute presentation on "EU-US trade relations" after which there will be a question and answer session.

The British Chamber of Commerce in Belgium is one of Brussels most dynamic and active business organisations which enjoys an excellent reputation with the business community and stakeholders in the EU institutions. The EU Committee organises a large number of high-level briefings, seminars, dinners and conferences with key decision-makers from the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers.

The British Chamber's work and close connections with the EU institutions attracts members (currently 280), with specialist EU involvement covering industry, commerce, legal and financial matters and EU consultancy in general. Current corporate members include: BP, Shell, Philips, Rolls-Royce, L'Oreal, BASF, Colgate-Palmolive, eBay and British Airways, together with a large number of other companies, law firms, consultancy firms and regional government offices.

In the recent past we have had the pleasure of welcoming such speakers as European Commissioners Dalli, Reding, and Almunia, Chef de Cabinets, Director Generals, as well as a number of Captains of Industry and other prominent members of the political and diplomatic community. These include William E. Kennard, US Ambassador to the EU, Sir Kim Darroch, UK Permanent Representative to the EU, Willie Walsh, CEO, British Airways, Ambassador Jean de Ruyt, Belgian Ambassador to the EU, and The Rt Hon Michael Howard MP. We also organise regular briefings with the Permanent Representatives to the EU during the Council Presidencies including most recently Belgium and Sweden.

In terms of dates, I would like to propose one of the following: 5th, 6th, 7th or 8th of February 2013. Alternatively, we would be happy to accommodate later dates for you. May I suggest the British Chamber team contacts your office to take this forward.

Yours sincerely,

James Stevens
Chair, EU Committee
British Chamber of Commerce in Belgium

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