

**From:** Guardans, Ignasi < Art.4.1(b) >  
**Sent:** Friday 19 January 2018 15:37  
**To:** MALMSTROM Cecilia (CAB-MALMSTROM)  
**Subject:** Trans Atlantic Business Council  
**Attachments:** TABC Press Release Announcing K&L and Bennett Retirement.pdf

**Importance:** High

Dear Cecilia,

I hope you started well 2018!

I wanted to personally share with you these news which you may have received from other channels or via your team: as you can [see here](#) and in the attached press release, the Transatlantic Business Council is restructuring internally: starting February 1, it will be managed by K&L Gates both in Brussels and in Washington DC. And that means that after that date I will be acting as TABC Director on the European side.

As you know, the promotion and support of transatlantic trade is the most important issue in the TABC agenda, and essentially one of its reasons to exist. At the same time, and for that very reason, the lack of progress in the transatlantic dialogue in this area has contributed to the general weakening of structures dedicated to a real and efficient transatlantic business dialogue. These changes at the TABC are also witness to that, while at the same time they prove the commitment of several large companies to remain engaged even in times which may not seem easy.

I know that the current TABC Director General, Tim Benett will be communicating this to people in your team to provide continuity in the fluent relationship. But on a more direct and informal basis, I also wanted you to have this directly from me. Once the handover has taken place, I would really love to have the opportunity to hear from you directly, in a conversation as frank as possible, about what you believe would be the best service the TABC and its members can offer to an advance in this whole matter and, if I may, for me to push for it. And indeed, there will later be opportunities and requests for formal meetings of the TABC members and people on your team to keep working together in the good direction.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,

Kindest regards

**Dr. Ignasi Guardans**  
Partner

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