



CSD Contact Group Meeting

Meeting date and place

Meeting held on 15/01/2019 14:00 in Charlemagne

Participating organisation(s) & representative(s)

[REDACTED]	-- ACT Alliance Advocacy to the European Union (TRN: 5189768701-12)	Participant,
[REDACTED]	-- BUSINESSEUROPE (TRN: 3978240953-79)	Participant,
[REDACTED]	-- Bureau Européen des Unions de Consommateurs (TRN: 9505781573-45)	Participant,
[REDACTED]	-- Copa-Cogeca	Participant,
[REDACTED]	-- EUROCHAMBRES – Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry (TRN: 0014082722-83)	Participant,
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] -- EUROPEAN SERVICES FORUM (TRN: 3562594969-02)	Participant,
[REDACTED]	-- EuroCommerce (TRN: 84973761187-60)	Participant,
[REDACTED]	-- European Economic and Social Committee	Participant,
[REDACTED]	-- amfori (TRN: 84768556104-35)	Participant,

Main issues discussed

The Commission welcomed the representatives of eight Civil Society Organisations (CSO), plus the European Economic and Social Committee, and announced that Transport & Environment has withdrawn from the group for an undefined period of time.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the calendar of Civil Society Dialogue meetings for 2019. COM presented the provisional calendar that includes dialogues on Trade and Sustainable Development (enforcement), e-Commerce, Rules of Origin, WTO Reform as well as ongoing negotiations (Mercosur, Mexico, Chile, Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand).

Meetings with contractors on sustainability impact assessment reports relating to ongoing negotiations have also been scheduled. The yearly high-level meetings with the DG Trade Director-General Jean-Luc Demarty and Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström have been planned for March and May respectively.

CSO representatives agreed with the provisional calendar of meetings and added some suggestions for future meeting topics. These included: Brexit preparedness/future EU-UK relations (European Services Forum), Trade Defence Instruments (TDI) (BusinessEurope), Trade and Climate, China, Generalised System of Preferences, trade relations with the US and India, and a meeting with the new DG Trade Director-General when in office.

Eurocommerce suggested to advance the WTO reform discussion before July and to plan a second meeting on rules of origin in the second half of the year. ESF explained their concerns with regards to civil society participation in forthcoming Domestic Advisory Groups (DAGs) in view of the new financial rules regarding travels.

COM took note of the questions and suggestions and mentioned the upcoming joint EU-Canada conference "CETA – Taking Action for Trade and Climate" on 24 January.

Directorate or unit

TRADE A/3/001

Internal participants

[REDACTED]	TRADE A/3/001 ()	
[REDACTED]	TRADE A/3 [REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu	Participant, Notetaker, Requested for,
[REDACTED]	TRADE A/3 [REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu	Participant, Requested for,

Author(s) of minutes

[REDACTED]

Validator and validation date

[REDACTED] validated the minutes on 26/02/2019 09:17

