



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Cabinet of Executive Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis

Brussels, 2023

Meeting with ESF

01-03-2023

MINUTES

Participants: Kevin Keary, Cristina Rueda Catry, **Art. 4(1)(b)** (CAB Dombrovskis) **Art. 4(1)(b)** **Art. 4(1)(b)** (DG TRADE); **Art. 4(1)(b)** **Art. 4(1)(b)** **Art. 4(1)(b)** (ESF)

Minutes of the meeting:

During the meeting ESF reiterated the importance of services in the EU and world trade and presented their priorities for 2023. On bilateral trade ESF highlighted the need to conclude EU-Australia, EU-India and EU-Indonesia FTAs and to ratify Mercosur, New Zealand, Chile and Mexico FTAs. Support for resuming negotiations with Thailand, GCC, Malaysia, Philippines and Morocco was also expressed. On digital trade and data flows, ESF mentioned that the conclusion of negotiations on cross-border data flows with Japan is of importance and raised the need for binding trade rules to complement activities like EU-US TTC and Digital Partnerships.

On multilateral trade the preparations for MC13 were discussed. The ESF underscored that the extension of the WTO moratorium on customs duties on electronic transmissions is of the utmost importance for the services industry, together with the conclusion of WTO eJSI and conclusion of the WTO JSI on Investment Facilitation.

Topics: Bilateral trade agenda, WTO e-commerce

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