

**Meeting Report: MVH at the International Relations Committee
of BusinessEurope 5 October 2012**

[Not relevant for the request.]

MVH continued with an update on the **EU-US High Level Working Group on Jobs and Growth**. At the moment, the focus is on the final report and the aim is to recommend starting the negotiations of a comprehensive agreement shortly after the new US administration is in place. Both sides see a lot to be gained but the agreement should be comprehensive. Being the two major world economies, failure on this agreement is not an option and, moreover, we should make sure that after two years of negotiations the deal can be wrapped up. How to ensure together a strong regulatory convergence is the key question at stake. This is why Commissioner De Gucht together with Tajani and Dalli sent letters to several business federations encouraging them to identify the possible divergences in regulatory matters and, above all, propose practical ways to solve them.

[Not relevant for the request.]

On the **EU-US HLWG**, industry highlighted that there is work being done at sectoral level across the Atlantic to find what the regulatory divergences are and hoped that the momentum will not be lost. MVH stressed that, indeed, there is political momentum for an agreement between the EU and the US and that both sides are committed. Asked about the inclusion of sensitive services areas in the agreement, MVH replied that with regards **[Not releasable]**.

[Not relevant for the request.]