



Delegation for Relations with the United States of America
The Chairman

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Mr Jerzy Buzek
President
European Parliament

315387 22.09.2011

Dear President,

At the meeting we had in April this year with John Boehner, Speaker of the US House of Representatives in Mons, Belgium, Speaker Boehner proposed that the Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue (TLD) focus its attention on three priority areas: Agriculture and Food Safety, Financial Markets and Services, and Transport Security, particularly in the aviation field. Discussions on these issues were part of the agenda of the TLD meeting on 30 June / 1 July in Budapest. There it was proposed, and agreed, that working groups comprising Members and staff from both European Parliament and Congress, should ensure continuity and progress on these issues between TLD meetings.

Indeed, these working groups could be an effective form of cooperation between the European Parliament Delegation for Relations with the United States, and, of course, its relevant committees, and would serve to enhance our contacts with the US Congress and Administration. To launch the process on our side, I would propose bringing together a select number of members from both the Delegation for Relations with the US and the relevant Committees, starting with specialists in two of the three fields: Financial Markets and Services, and Transport Security, with Agriculture and Food Safety to follow shortly after. The groups should be informal in nature, and could aim at drafting discussion papers to be shared with our American counterparts, and serving as a basis for discussions at the next TLD meeting on 2 - 4 December in Jacksonville, Florida.

I will contact the Chairs of the relevant Committees (ECON for financial markets and services, TRAN and LIBE for transport security and AGRI and ENVI for agriculture and food safety), proposing their active participation in the working groups as outlined above and ask for their support.

It would be much appreciated if you could agree to sending a letter, jointly signed by yourself and myself, to Speaker Boehner, referring to our meeting in Mons, informing him of the follow-up within the European Parliament and asking him to encourage a similar engagement by Congress representatives in the US House of Representatives.

Yours sincerely,

Elmar Brok