



Department for International Trade

The Lord Price CVO

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Dear Colleague,

EU-US Free Trade Agreement – Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)

As you will be aware, the Prime Minister has been clear that the Government is seeking to ensure that the UK becomes the global leader in free trade. While we remain in the EU, we will continue to support the EU's efforts to negotiate free trade agreements, including the EU-US Free Trade Agreement, known as the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP).

I am pleased to advise you that UK Parliamentarians can now access certain classified documents relating to the EU-US Free Trade Agreement, as agreed by the European Commission and the US. This builds on the increased openness that the European Commission has introduced in trade negotiations in response to the unprecedented public interest in TTIP (see 'Trade for All' on the Commission website <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1381>).

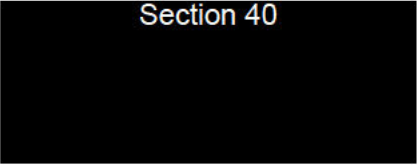
- Access to the documents is through a reading room located in the Department for International Trade, at 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.
- The reading room will be open from Wednesday 19 October and will be accessible to all parliamentarians. This does not extend to members of their staff.
- Parliamentarians can request an appointment by emailing [REDACTED]. Appointments will be available in hourly slots every Wednesday between 12pm and 5pm, and should be made at least a week in advance.

- Documents available will be those that the European Commission and US have agreed can be shared with national parliamentarians from EU Member States. These include documents relating to TTIP classified at “Limited” and “Restricted” levels – including “consolidated texts” comprising both EU and US positions. A list of documents available can be provided upon request.

Parliamentarians will be required to respect the European Commission’s rules governing the protection of these documents, which in practice means not sharing documents or their contents with anyone who is not entitled to access the room.

You may also be interested to read the European Commission’s update on progress during the most recent negotiations of the EU-US Free Trade Agreement, available here at http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/july/tradoc_154811.pdf and at http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/august/tradoc_154837.pdf.

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Minister of State at the Department for International Trade