

## **WORKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TRANSATLANTIC ECONOMIC COUNCIL**

(Adopted at the meeting of the TEC co-Chairs in Berlin on 28 June 2007)

### **(1) Council membership**

The Transatlantic Economic Council (TEC) consists of the two co-chairs and EU Commissioners and U.S. Cabinet Members with political responsibility for the policy areas covered by the “Framework for Advancing Transatlantic Economic Integration between the United States of America and the European Union” (Framework), adopted at the EU-US Summit on 30 April 2007.

Permanent Members of the TEC will include the European Commissioners for External Relations, for Trade and for Internal Market and Services and the U.S. Secretaries of the Treasury and Commerce and the U.S. Trade Representative. Permanent members will be invited to each TEC meeting. In addition, upon invitation by the co-chairs (when the meeting agenda covers items falling under their responsibility or otherwise as appropriate) other Commissioners and U.S. Cabinet Members may participate.

The incumbent EU Council Presidency will be invited at the Ministerial level to each TEC meeting. The EU Council Presidency will make sure in the composition of its delegation that the continuity of the TEC work is guaranteed.

### **(2) Relations with stakeholders and designation of stakeholder representatives in the Group of Advisers**

The TEC co-chairs will convene a Group of Advisers on promoting transatlantic economic integration. The Group of Advisers should be able to convey in a broad and balanced fashion the views of citizens, consumers and producers on both sides of the Atlantic on priorities for pursuing transatlantic economic cooperation as outlined in the Framework. It will consist of the co-chairs of the three existing transatlantic dialogues (the Transatlantic Legislators’ Dialogue, Transatlantic Consumer Dialogue and Transatlantic Business Dialogue).

The TEC will provide an opportunity for dialogue with the Group of Advisers at each of its meetings and the TEC co-chairs will consult the Group of Advisers whenever they deem necessary. The Group of Advisers will be responsible for its own organisation and rules of procedure.

The Group of Advisers may choose to enrich its internal deliberations with outside expertise and invite, on an ad-hoc basis, “Special Advisers”. The TEC co-chairs may, following a request of the Group of Advisers, invite such special Advisers to contribute to meetings with the TEC.

**(3) Tools to monitor progress on the Work Programme**

The Framework established list of priorities in its seven annexes. Priorities in the short-term are the pursuit of the regulatory cooperation agenda (Annex 1) and the lighthouse priority projects (Annex 2).

While the seven annexes outline a number of topics and objectives in various areas of cooperation, these priorities will be translated into a more detailed work programme which will include the objectives, a timeline of foreseen events (milestones) and expected achievements. This detailed work programme will be adopted at the first TEC meeting.

**(4) Relations with regulators and designation of the heads of regulatory agencies to the High Level Regulatory Cooperation Forum**

The “EU-US High-level Regulatory Cooperation Forum” will provide regular input to the deliberations of the TEC, including on the possible impact of significant differences in regulatory approaches identified in the sectoral dialogues or the EC-OMB dialogue on impact-assessment methodologies. Representatives of the Forum may be invited to provide oral or written reports to the TEC co-chairs.

**(5) Timing of future work**

- First TEC meeting: mid- November 2007 in Washington,
- Second TEC meeting: Spring 2008 (immediately before the EU-US Summit) in a location to be determined,
- Third TEC meeting: November 2008 in a location to be determined.