



TAXE COMMITTEE

Special Committee on tax rulings
and other measures similar in nature or effect

Summary report of the meeting with the Belgian Minister of Finances, Mr Van Overtveld

The meeting took place in the offices of the Minister on 17 June – 7:45-8:45

Members present: Bernd Lucke (chair), Elisa Ferreira, Michael Theurer, Danuta Huebner, Peter Simon, Tom Vandenkendelaere, Philippe Lamberts

Members asked questions notably with regard to the CCCTB, CBCR, excess tax profit legislation, tax competition between countries and the way a Federal State handles corporate taxation.

Main messages from the Minister:

- Belgium is very much in favour of more transparency in the tax area: as from October 2015 Belgium will automatically exchange tax rulings*
- Belgium is however less supportive of harmonisation, mainly because of the risk to lose sovereignty. This said Belgium has a positive view on the CCCTB but would exclude any harmonisation of tax rates.*
- Belgium has stopped delivering tax rulings in the framework of its excess profit tax ruling legislation. BE awaits the outcome of COM's investigations and will modify its legislation if required.*
- Belgium has not yet defined its position towards CBCR. In any case, the reporting should not be more than summary information.*
- Belgium always examines whether there is sufficient economic substance in Belgium before delivering a tax ruling. It is however sometimes very difficult to quantify it, mainly when it comes to valuating IP rights.*