

U.S.-EU HLRCF Joint Statement on Standards in Regulation

December 16, 2010

- The United States Government and the European Commission recognize that each side has a different approach to the use of standards in regulation.
- However, the two sides agree on their need to enhance cooperation in this area as a way to minimize unnecessary divergences and reduce the incidence of non-tariff barriers to trade. Such efforts will also stimulate economic growth and job creation and strengthen the competitiveness of the transatlantic market.
- In this context, both sides agree on the importance of enhancing transparency and meaningful stakeholder participation in their respective processes for developing standards and regulations, as well as participation in the development of international standards.
- To build bridges based on the shared principles of transparency, stakeholder participation, and a commitment to international standards, the two sides agree to develop by the next Forum meeting a set of proposals to implement these principles.
- They also agree on the importance of ensuring compliance with these principles in other major economies.