

United States and European Commission Pledged Their Continued Cooperation in the Area of Telecommunications and Information Society Issues

At the annual Information Society Dialogue (ISD), on 17 September 2004, officials from the United States and the European Commission confirmed their continued cooperation in the area of telecommunications and information society issues. The ISD focussed on the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, the liberalization of telecommunication markets worldwide, assistance to third-world countries to reach these goals, and the creation of open, interoperable, non-discriminatory and demand-driven standards. In addition to the role of ICT on economic development, the delegations exchanged information about such issues as spam and the participation of disabled or older people in the Information Society.

Following the EU-US Summit in Ireland in June 2004, the Dialogue also made possible a preliminary assessment of the status of transatlantic relations in the Information Society sector to examine the bilateral economic relationship and to explore means to eliminate trade, regulatory, and investment impediments to further economic integration. A public consultation involving the American and European people will also be part of this exercise.

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