



11 October 2019

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Germany

Satu Hassi  
Chair of the Grand Committee  
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Dear Colleague,

Thank you for your letter and for drawing attention to this important issue.  
Your observations are well understood.

As indicated in correspondence between our secretariats, we have somewhat reoriented the climate policy session to cover also the linkage of climate and trade policies. Rule-based multilateral trade policy is also one of the priorities of Finland's Presidency. Therefore, both the climate policy session and the address of the Prime Minister Rinne in the XVII COSAC offer an opportunity to discuss the Mercosur trade agreement.

However, after careful consideration, we regret that we are simply not able to accommodate a separate session on trade policy, given the time needed for Multiannual Financial Framework, climate change, Brexit and fundamental rights.

Yours sincerely,

Satu Hassi