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Sent: 30 October 2014 21:02
To: Consultation-OI-10-2014
Subject: [EOWEB] 'TTIP consultation'
Attachments: Submission to public consultation on transparency in TTIP, 30.10.2014.docx

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Sender

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To Public consultation OI/10/2014
Date Thursday, October 30, 2014 9:02:09 PM CET

Your data

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Language you would like to receive an answer in en - English

Part 2 - Data

To Public consultation OI/10/2014
Subject 'TTIP consultation'
Content

TTIP Consultation

30.10.2014

Submission by Olga Kikou (Compassion in World Farming)

1. Please give us your views on what concrete measures the Commission could take to make the TTIP negotiations more transparent. Where, specifically, do you see room for improvement? (We would ask you to be as concrete as possible in your replies and also to consider the feasibility of your suggestions, in light of the timeframe of the negotiations. It would be most helpful if you could prioritise your suggestions.)

The European Commission has been criticized for a lack of transparency in the negotiations for a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership Agreement.

Suggested actions that would lift the veil of secrecy include:

- Make public the negotiating positions ahead of each negotiating round
- Encourage the national parliaments and the European parliament to make recommendations and submit comments
- Encourage civil society to make recommendations and submit comments
- Undertake more public consultations re all chapters of the proposed agreement and publish the results
- Make public the results of the ISDS consultation which took place a few months ago
- Make public the meetings and communication held with various stakeholders

2. Please provide examples of best practice that you have encountered in this area (for example, in particular Commission Directorates-General or other international organisations) that you believe could be applied throughout the Commission.

Examples by other international bodies include:

- The World Trade Organization (WTO): information on submissions, reports, etc are made available on its website.
- The Aarhus Convention: outside observers can take part in the meetings

3. Please explain how, in your view, greater transparency might affect the outcome of the negotiations.

Given the fact that these negotiations will greatly impact the lives of citizens in Europe (and the US), citizens have a right to know regardless of what the final outcome will be.

The negotiations should follow the usual legislative procedures that apply to all other legislative proposals which are presented to the European Parliament.

Unless there is greater transparency and democracy in the decision making process public opposition to the negotiations will increase and will eventually derail the talks. The lack of transparency will also reflect negatively on the EU institutions and Europe in general.