Note of a meeting between Anders Ladefoged, European Affairs Director, Danish Confederation of Danish Industry (DI)], Nicholas Collier, FCO, and Niels Martin Andersen, British Embassy, Copenhagen, on 25 June 2014, in Copenhagen.

The DI is the biggest business organisation in Denmark (equivalent to the UK's CBI). It represents around 10,000, primarily medium-big seized, Danish companies active in a variety of sectors including construction, energy, foods, trade, IT, services and transport.

The points below are a summary of the points made by Mr Ladefoged at the meeting.

- Danish legislation is normally lighter and more flexible than EU legislation. National legislation might be a preferred option if a company is only focussed on the domestic market. However, those Danish companies that want to export to other markets have a clear preference for EU-wide legislation.
- The principle of subsidiarity is not a big concern for Danish companies. For them the key question is whether or not new legislation – domestically or at EU level - is necessary at all. i.e. their interest is in the action rather than the actor.
- The DI broadly agrees with the principle of "big on the big things, smaller on the small things", but for its members it's primarily a question of avoiding unnecessary and damaging legislation.
- Danish companies don't mind legislation and standards. What they don't like is constant change, lack of predictability and legal uncertainty.
- Danish companies want good mechanism to ensure that new legislation is effective and useful. In order to prevent unnecessary legislation we need good impact assessments and effective evaluation of existing laws.
- The DI supports its members' interests in the EU through lobbying and influencing the EU decision making process at an early stage. A small country like Denmark cannot block legislation, but it can make difference by offering views, facts and building alliances.