



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 24 October 2016  
(OR. en)

13432/16

LIMITE

PV/CONS 52  
RELEX 859

## DRAFT MINUTES

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Subject: **3493rd** meeting of the Council of the European Union  
**(Foreign Affairs/Trade)**, held in Luxembourg on 18 October 2016

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1. **Adoption of the agenda**

13242/16 OJ CONS 51 RELEX 837

The Council adopted the above agenda.

**NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES**

2. **Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between Canada, of the one part, and the European Union and its Member States, of the other part**

- **Decision on signature**
  - = Adoption
- **Decision on provisional application**
  - = Adoption
- **Decision on conclusion**
  - = Request for the consent of the European Parliament  
13239/16 WTO 288 SERVICES 25 FDI 21 CDN 21  
12865/1/16 REV 1 WTO 275 SERVICES 24 FDI 20 CDN 19  
10972/16 WTO 194 SERVICES 19 FDI 15 CDN 11  
+ COR 1 (sl)  
10973/16 WTO 195 SERVICES 20 FDI 16 CDN 12  
+ ADD 1 to ADD 15  
+ ADD 3 COR 1 (sl)  
+ ADD 8 COR 1 (es)  
10974/16 WTO 196 SERVICES 21 FDI 17 CDN 13  
+ COR 1 (lt)  
+ COR 2 (fi)  
10975/16 WTO 197 SERVICES 22 FDI 18 CDN 14  
+ COR 1 (sl)

The Council took stock of the situation with regard to the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement with Canada (CETA) and discussed the way forward.

Ministers expressed overwhelming support for the Agreement. One Member State voiced the need for clarifications related to substance, ahead of completing its constitutional process, while Bulgaria and Romania made their agreement conditional on the confirmation by Canada regarding the issue of visa reciprocity.

In order to address remaining issues of concern, the Council also discussed and agreed a number of additional statements to be inserted in the Council minutes at the moment of adoption of the CETA package, as set out on pages 9 and 10 of 13463/16.

In this context the Council Legal Service provided the following clarification concerning the statement from the Council regarding the termination of provisional application of CETA (see page 10 of 13463/16):

*"The Council Legal Service confirmed that the terms "other constitutional processes" refer to all processes, other than review by constitutional courts, that are foreseen by the constitutions of Member States to allow them to express their consent to be bound by the Agreement. The terms thus necessarily include parliamentary approval when it is required prior to ratification by the constitutional rules of a Member State."*

The Presidency concluded that after the European Council, the Council could be in a position immediately to adopt the CETA package by written procedure. Following this, the Agreements Office would contact Member States individually for the signature.

3. **Any other business**

No issues were raised under this item.

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