



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 24 February 2010

6710/10

LIMITE

WTO 56

**DOCUMENT PARTIALLY
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(26.06.2015)**



OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

of : Trade Policy Committee (Deputy Members)

on : 19 February 2010

No. prev. doc.: 6158/10 WTO 32

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meeting on 19 February 2010

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1. WTO issues

1.1 DDA

The Commission debriefed the Committee on the latest developments in Geneva **DELETED**

The Presidency concluded that the Committee had taken note of the information provided by the Commission in relation to the most recent developments in the negotiations **DELETED**

The Commission
will keep delegations informed of developments in Geneva.

1.2 WTO General Council on 22 and 23 February

The Commission informed the Committee on the preparation of the WTO General Council meeting. The main items on the agenda were: the report of Pascal Lamy on the state of the negotiations, the work programme on small economies, the role of the WTO on the financial crisis (requested by Argentina, Ecuador and India), the accession of developing countries, the information on the EU schedule CXL and the appointment of chair persons to the WTO bodies.

The Presidency concluded that the Committee had taken note of the information provided by the Commission on the preparations of the WTO General Council meeting on 22-23 February and indicated that the Committee had invited the Commission to circulate the EU statement on EU schedule CXL before it will be distributed to the other WTO members.

1.3 Art. XXIV.6: Agreement with Australia and New Zealand

The Commission presented the updated versions of the texts of the agreements **DELETED**

The Committee will revert to this item to discuss the formal proposal from the Commission.

2. Bilateral/Regional Issues

2.1. EU-Central America Association Agreement: debrief on the informal meeting of Chief Negotiators for trade (1-3 February 2010), and preparations for the 8th round of negotiations

The Commission debriefed the Committee on the above-mentioned informal meeting and on the preparations for the 8th round of negotiations (22-26 February) which will cover a wide range of issues **DELETED**

Following a detailed discussion, the Presidency concluded that the Committee had taken note of the information provided by the Commission on the informal meeting of Chief Negotiators for trade on 1-3 February 2010, and preparations for the 8th round of negotiations. **DELETED**

2.2 EU-Andean countries: preparations of the 9th round of negotiations with Peru and Colombia (20-26 February, Brussels)

The Commission reported about the remaining open issues ahead of the 9th round of negotiations with Peru and Colombia. **DELETED**

In the Commission's view, it would be possible to conclude the technical part of negotiations already at the next round.

DELETED

The Presidency concluded that the Committee had taken note of the Commission's intention to conclude the negotiations at the technical level if a satisfactory result is achieved.

DELETED

2.3 Eastern Partnership, Preparations of the 1st meeting of the Panel on "Trade and Trade Related Regulatory Approximation linked to DCFTAs" (Brussels, 29-31 March 2010)

The Commission informed the Committee on the meeting of the Eastern Partnership (EaP) Platform on Economic Integration and Convergence with EU Policies held on 9 November 2009. At this meeting it was agreed to establish a Panel on Trade and Trade Related Regulatory Cooperation – linked to the DCFTAs. The Panel's first meeting, to be held on 29-31 March 2010, will focus on the general issues such as the working methods, and the strategic customs issues. **DELETED**

2.4 EU-Russia Trade Relations: update

The Commission updated the Committee on the EU-Russia trade relations, in particular the impact of the Russia-Kazakhstan-Belarus customs union and the Russia's WTO accession process. **DELETED**

DELETED

The Committee had also asked the Commission to present a regular report on the progress in removing the main barriers to trade with Russia.

2.5 EU-Israel ACAA: Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products (ACAA)

Written report, not discussed.

3. AOB

3.1 EU-Mongolia: debrief on 1st round of negotiations of the trade-related chapter of the PCA (Videoconference, 12th February 2010)

The Commission reported on the initial step in the negotiations for the Trade Chapter of the EU-Mongolia Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA). EU relations with Mongolia are currently governed by the 1993 EU-Mongolia Agreement on trade and economic cooperation. A PCA negotiating mandate was approved by the Council in 2009. On this basis the first negotiating round, which had served primarily for presentation and clarification of the respective positions, took place on 12 February 2010 via videoconference. The next negotiating round is to be held on 18-19 March 2010 in Brussels. **DELETED**

3.2 European Trade Economist Network (TEN): point of information

The Commission informed the Committee on the activities of the European Trade Economist Network with a view to attract new members (m.d. 86/10).

3.3 China's Accession to the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

DELETED

The Presidency stated that Government Procurement would be on the agenda of the next TPC-Deputies meeting of 26 February 2010.

3.4 Leaked documents

The Commission informed the Committee about two leaked documents, one RESTREINT UE and the other LIMITED. The Commission stressed the need to keep the confidentiality of such sensitive documents.

3.5 Information on the informal EU Ministerial dinner (21 February 2010)

The Presidency gave some indications on the internal preparations of the informal Trade Minister's dinner on 21 February 2010.
