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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Intention to negotiate a non-binding instrument (NBI) in the form of a Joint Statement with India in the framework of the EU-India Trade and Technology Council

DOCUMENT PARTIALLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC (24.04.2023)

Delegations will find attached a note from the Commission on the intention to negotiate a non-binding instrument (NBI) in the form of a Joint Statement with India in the framework of the EU-India Trade and Technology Council.

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Early notice of intention to issue a Joint Statement at the meeting of the first EU-INDIA Trade and Technology Council

ORIGIN: DG TRADE.C.2

DELETED

Senior Expert **DELETED**

DELETED

Policy Coordinator

DELETED

DELETED

DELETED

Policy Coordinator

DELETED

DELETED

DG CONNECT.D.3

DELETED

Head of Unit

DELETED

DELETED

DELETED

Desk Officer

DELETED

DELETED

DG RTD. F2

DELETED

Head of Unit, RTD F2

DELETED

DELETED

Policy Officer, RTD F2

DELETED

The Commission would like to inform you that it intends to initiate discussions with India to develop a Joint Statement on behalf of the EU in the context of the upcoming meeting of the EU-India Trade and Technology Council scheduled to take place on 15-16 May 2023. The Commission is following the inter-institutional arrangement for non-binding instruments (NBI) and providing an early notice during the preparatory phase of the NBI procedure.

The objective of the EU-India Joint Statement is to:

 reaffirm the political commitment of the EU and India towards the Trade and Technology Council;

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- underline the importance of a strong EU-India partnership in addressing strategic challenges related to trade, trusted technology and security;
- establish work plans and provide guidance to the three TTC working groups.

The Commission will engage with India to negotiate the text of a Joint Statement on behalf of the EU.

The Commission will then seek the Council's endorsement of the Joint Statement, in accordance with the relevant procedures. The Commission remains committed to the agreed-upon NBI procedure timelines to the best of its ability.

The Commission will keep the Council informed of the progress with India through the Trade Policy Committee, the Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Society, the Working Party on Research, and other pertinent Council Working Groups and Committees.

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