



Council of the  
European Union

026847/EU XXVI. GP  
Eingelangt am 18/06/18

Brussels, 15 June 2018  
(OR. en)

9145/18  
ADD 1  
PV CONS 28  
RELEX 432

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION  
(Foreign Affairs)  
22 May 2018

## CONTENTS

Page

### TRADE

#### Non-legislative activities

3.	Negotiations on Free Trade Agreements with Australia and New Zealand .....	3
	Council Decisions	
	Negotiating Directives	
4.	Conclusions on the negotiation and conclusion of EU trade agreements.....	3
5.	11th World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference (MC11): Follow-up .....	4
6.	EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement, EU-Singapore Free Trade Agreement and EU-Singapore Investment Protection Agreement .....	4
7.	Any other business .....	4
	State of play of ongoing trade negotiations	

### DEVELOPMENT

#### Non-legislative activities

8.	Current Affairs.....	5
9.	Post-Cotonou .....	5
10.	EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa .....	5
11.	External Financing in the post-2020 MFF.....	5
12.	Any other business .....	5

\*

\* \*

## TRADE

### Non-legislative activities

3. Negotiations on Free Trade Agreements with Australia and New Zealand 8624/1/18 REV 1  
Council Decisions 7663/18  
Negotiating Directives 7663/18 ADD 1  
*Adoption* **R-UE**  
7661/18  
7661/18 ADD 1  
**R-UE**

The Council:

- adopted the Council Decisions authorising the opening of negotiations with New Zealand and Australia for Free Trade Agreements, as finalised by the lawyer-linguists and set out in 7661/18 and 7663/18;
- adopted the respective negotiating directives as set out in 7661/18 ADD 1 R-UE/EU-R and 7663/18 ADD 1 R-UE/EU-R.

The Council agreed that, in view of their nature, these two Decisions would not be published after adoption in the Official Journal.

The European Parliament will be informed in accordance with Article 218(10) TFEU and the texts of both Council Decisions and the related negotiating directives will be transmitted to the European Parliament.

4. Conclusions on the negotiation and conclusion of EU trade agreements 8622/18  
*Adoption*

The Council adopted the conclusions on the negotiation and conclusion of EU trade agreements as set out in 8622/18.

5. **11th World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference (MC11): Follow-up**

The Council discussed the latest developments regarding the post-Buenos Aires process, and continued its strategic discussion on the possible future WTO agenda.

6. **EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement, EU-Singapore Free Trade Agreement and EU-Singapore Investment Protection Agreement**

*Exchange of views*

7959/18  
+ ADD 1-11  
7960/18  
+ ADD 1-11  
7966/18  
+ ADD 1-13  
7967/18  
+ ADD 1-13  
7973/18  
+ ADD 1-2  
7974/18  
+ ADD 1-2

The Council welcomed the Commission's proposals and expressed its broad support for the Free Trade Agreements with Japan and Singapore, as well as the Investment Protection Agreement with Singapore.

The Council encouraged the continuation of intensive work on the Agreements, with a view to preparing for their signing as soon as possible.

7. **Any other business**  
**State of play of ongoing trade negotiations**

The Commission updated the Committee on the state of play of ongoing trade negotiations with Mexico, Mercosur, Chile and Vietnam.

\* \* \*

During **lunch**, Ministers discussed the recent developments in EU-US trade relations.

## **DEVELOPMENT**

### **Non-legislative activities**

#### **8. Current Affairs**

No items were raised.

#### **9. Post-Cotonou**

*Information on State of play*

Ministers had an exchange of views on the Post-Cotonou negotiating mandate, and in particular its parts related to migration.

#### **10. EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa**

*Exchange of views*

The Council took stock of the results achieved so far and had an exchange of views on the sustainability of the EUTF.

#### **11. External Financing in the post-2020 MFF**

*Presentation*

Ministers had an exchange of views on the future financing instrument under Heading 6 of 2021-2027 MFF: Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument.

#### **12. Any other business**

The Swedish Delegation announced the Stockholm Tax Conference concerning Capacity Building on 30-31 May 2018.

---

**R-UE** Document classified RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED

---