

To:

4.1(b)

Subject:

Meeting with European Branded Clothing Alliance (EBCA) on 23 March 2017

Attachments:

170323 - Meeting with EBCA report final.doc

REPORT

Meeting with European Branded Clothing Alliance (EBCA)

23 March 2017, 09:00 – 12:30

CHAR 7/031

Participants:

Industry:

H&M (4.1(b))

Inditex (4.1(b))

PVH (4.1(b))

VF Corp (4.1(b))

EBCA (4.1(b))

Commission:

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EBCA opened the discussion by presenting itself and its members, while also underlining its support for the bilateral and multilateral trade agenda of the Commission.

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As regards **Indonesia**, EBCA expressed its support for the revitalisation of the talks with the ASEAN countries, given the importance of the area for retail. With regard to the negotiations for an EU-Indonesia FTA, EBCA underlined that a successful outcome for the industry would be an agreement providing for the reciprocal opening of the market, the liberalisation of tariff lines, ideally without phase out periods, clear and simple Rules of Origin (RoO) and the removal of NTBs, especially with reference to the SNI regulation, on which 4.2 reported of ongoing problems. According to the industry, issues persist also regarding the shipments of baby garments and batik. On RoO, EBCA would like to be able to benefit from the global value chains and have the liberty to decide where to source from. 4.2

Double transformation, together with bilateral cumulation, would be much more restrictive than the current GSP rules. 4.1(b) gave an overview of the situation in Indonesia and the state of the negotiations, also mentioning that the high number of trade and investment barriers have been repeatedly raised - even by the Commissioner - and discussed in Geneva at multilateral level as well. On the tariffs, it was noted that the aim is an ambitious agreement (95% both in tariff and trade value), but the details will be discussed in the future. Textiles RoO were not discussed yet with Indonesia. 4.1(b) shared with the industry the latest developments on RoO.


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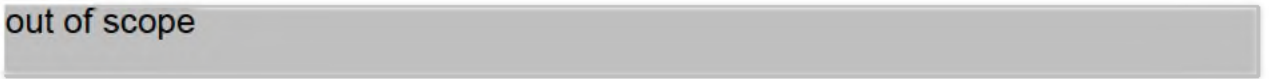
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Policy Officer



European Commission

DG TRADE G3 - Market Access, Industry, Energy and Raw Materials

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B-1049 Brussels/Belgium

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