Cc: KONIG Helena (TRADE); art 4(1)(b) Subject: Report of a courtesy meeting with the economic team of the Embassy of Indonesia, Brussels, 4 February 2016

Today art 4(1)(b)**Indonesian Embassy**

held a courtesy meeting with the economic team from the

The Indonesian side:

- confirmed that Indonesia is willing to deepen EU/Indonesia trade relations.
- provided an overview on the new political climate and the President's willingness to ease trade and investment climate. It confirmed Minister Lembong's lucidity about Indonesia's and the EU respective concerns-and his willingness to address them.
- It informed that the date for the President Widodo's visit in Brussels is not yet confirmed (22 April 2016).
- It pointed to the issues of: a) Visas for Indonesian citizens, as a major issue for discussion with the EU and to b) market access in general, including rumours on the market that palm oil would be affected negatively by EU policies (no specification N.B. At Indonesia's request DG TRADE will meet representatives of the palm oil industry and senior officials on 10 February).
- It finally informed that Ambassador Thamrin will start on 27 February.

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- Welcomed the Indonesian delegation and informed that he would hold regular meetings with ASEAN commercial counsellors;
- provided an overview on DG TRADE strategy, the focus on ASEAN, the state of play of bilateral negotiations in the region as well as the ultimate objective of the a region-toregion agreement and the current stocktaking exercise, in this regard.
- He suggested Indonesia should study the text of the EU/Vietnam FTA, which is now available on line, as it would provide a valuable input into Indonesia's internal discussions on the determination of the level of ambition for an FTA with the EU.
- He explained that the scoping exercise is not academic, but outlines what the parties want to achieve. The EU aims at a robust scoping paper and is ready to pursue discussions, when Indonesia is ready.
- With regard to market access, he welcomed the recent reforms: the EU is closely watching how they will be implemented. He hinted at Indonesia's trade restrictive measures and insisted on the need for them to be addressed. He also mentioned restrictive SPS measures in general. He singled out Indonesia's Halal law and the need to address the extremely trade restrictive impact its implementation will have, if it remains unchanged.
- He mentioned the need to plan routine annual meetings, e.g. the working group on trade and investment and suggested it should take place in autumn, in Brussels.

Best regards, art 4(1)(b)



European Commission

DG TRADE

Unit C2 "South and South East Asia, Australia, New Zealand"

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