Preparatory meeting on the European side of the EU-Indonesia Vision Group

Brussels, 19.10.2010, CHAR 7/214 , 15:00-16:00

Participants:

Vision Group Members: art 4(1)(b)
DG Trade C3: art 4(1)(b)

art 4(1)(b) briefly outlined some of the objectives for the EU-Indonesia Vision Group Meeting (EIVG) taking place 2 December 2010 in Jakarta. In particular, the meeting should provide an overview of potential challenges and opportunities for cooperation while less emphasis should be put on the potential for FTA negotiations in order to avoid entering in political discussion at this stage.

The Group was informed about a recent visit to Brussels of Indonesian (and Malaysian) Ministers of Agriculture with main focus on the RED directive and the Palm Oil industry. art 4(1)(b) will look for a report of those meetings and will also brief the VG on the issue.

Linking the interests of the European industry to the EIVGM, art 4(1)(b) noted that there will be a meeting with Eurocham representatives on Tuesday the 30th of November in Jakarta. The full programme of the meetings will also be circulated the program.

art 4(1)(b) outlined the agenda of the first VG Meeting and asked for comments and suggestions. There was consensus of making change i.e. (2) "State of play of EU-Indonesia trade and investment relations" should be followed by (4) "Tour de table/brainstorming", while the third point "The view of the business sector..", should conclude the morning session.

It was noted that questions for the "tour de table/brainstorming" should be focused carefully e.g. "Does the studies relate to the reality we know?" and other questions that should be elaborated by the VG members. art 4(1)(b) remarked that the number of studies focusing on services and investments on the agenda appeared to be low. Additional literature could be found in different international organizations websites (APEC, ADB).

art 4(1)(b) gave a brief overview over the content of the afternoon session (5) "Presentation on different models of bilateral agreements..." and he explained that the recent literature will be used to present the potential gains and issues deriving from trade and investment liberalization.

Due to a densely packed afternoon session it was agreed to have a short discussion round after point (6) "What we have already in place" and a second one after (8) "Overview by EU on bilateral and regional economic cooperation activities...". Furthermore, to improve the knowledge of European bilateral and regional cooperation with Asia a paper will be presented by the EU Delegation in Jakarta. The revised agenda is attached to this report.

Looking at the next meeting tentatively scheduled for end February in Brussels, art 4(1)(b) recommended to already identify the main points for the agenda at the end of the meeting. The agenda of next meeting will likely cover sectoral issues such as services, FDI, IPR, SPS, Procurements, etc. art 4(1)(b) also suggested exploring the possibility to invite external experts on sectoral issues to the meeting.