

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Directorate-General for Trade

## NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF



## Subject: A vision for enhancing EU-Indonesia Trade and Investments relations

This note kindly requests your participation in the EU-Indonesia "vision group" that will be tasked to bring forward the bilateral trade agenda in view of a possible launch of FTA negotiations. Participation in this work implies to attend three meetings in Indonesia and Brussels and provide input to the discussions. A secretariat, assisted by a consultant, will produce the necessary background documents and reports.

## Background

During their meeting in December 2009, President Barroso and the Indonesian President Yudhoyono convened on the need to establish a "Vision Group" that will examine how to increase trade and investment between Indonesia and the EU.

This project has been discussed with Commissioner De Gucht in a recent Ministerial meeting in Vietnam where they tasked officials to implement it. The task of the Group will be to provide recommendations to Ministers including exploring the feasibility of a bilateral agreement.

Minister Pangestu has recently issued a decree establishing the Vision Group for Indonesia that will be composed by eleven well know personalities from academia, business and different Government Departments such as Trade, Industry, Fisheries, Agriculture and Investments. (The full list of participants is showed in the ToR attached).

## Next steps

We have already selected participants from DG Trade, the academic and business world and it is now important to identify participants from other Directorate Generals sharing the interest in improving bilateral relations with the largest economy of the region. We are aiming at mirroring the Indonesian composition and your participation will ensure that your Directorate General's views will be included in the Group's recommendations.

The first substantial meeting of the Group is tentatively scheduled for the $2^{\text {nd }}$ December in Jakarta. While I understand your possible constraints in terms of workload and budget, I consider important to ensure a wide presence of Commission services to this exercise.

I would be grateful for your reactions by 27 September 2010.


Annex: ToR of the Vision Group
cc:


## TERMS OF REFERENCE VISION OF ENHANCING EU-INDONESIA TRADE AND INVESTMENT RELATIONS

When the Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono met with the European Commission President José Manuel Barroso in December 2009 they discussed ways of enhancing our bilateral ties. The two Presidents agreed that trade and investment is an area where the bilateral relationship has great potential to develop, and on the need to explore ways to strengthen these ties. The two leaders decided to set up a "Vision Group" that will examine how to increase trade and investment between Indonesia and the EU. The expected output is a strategic paper (vision) with recommendations to Ministers (including on the potential for a comprehensive Free Trade/Economic Partnership Agreement). This Group should be constituted by eminent persons from both sides consisting of members of the respective Governments, business and academia.

## The $\underline{\text { Specific Objectives of the Vision Group are: }}$

- To provide a strategic view of EU-Indonesia trade and investment relations and identify on what basis EU-Indonesia trade and investment relationship can best be enhanced in an innovative way.
- To identify opportunities for fostering trade and investment between EU and Indonesia, bearing in mind the market characteristics and potential, evolution of bilateral flows and the challenges for realisation of this potential
- To provide recommendations to relevant parties (GoI, EU, business community, academia) for the full realisation of this trade and investment potential
- In this context, to explore the feasibility of a Free Trade/Economic Partnership Agreement between EU and Indonesia.


## Members

For EU side (to be confirmed)
For EU side (to be confirmed)

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COmmission: (DG Trade )
> Business:
(ING) (EU based) and
(Maersk) (Indonesia
    based)
Academic: (CEPS and College of Europe) tbc
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For Indonesia, already formally appointed:



## Methodology

The Group would form its own assessments and judgements on the basis of existing data and studies.

The work of the vision group will be prepared and supported by a joint EU-Indonesia project group. For the EU Commission from the Indonesia desk of DG Trade in Brussels, and from the EU's Jakarta delegation will be part of the group. For the Indonesian Ministry of Trade... (members to be confirmed).

The Project group will work under the guidance of the Vision group and will

1. Arrange and coordinate all logistics and ensure reports of meetings.
2. Provide relevant input for the Vision Group discussions. This includes primarily relevant trade and investment data and analysis, and existing studies ${ }^{1}$
3. Synthesise the views of the Vision Group in a draft report, to be endorsed by the Vision Group, on
> the potential for further development of EU-Indonesian trade and investment
> the strategic parameters and elements for a comprehensive vision for the enhancement of EU-Indonesia trade and investment relationship
> possible recommendations and proposals to relevant parties (GoI, EU, Business Community, academia) for the full realisation of this trade and investment potential, and the implementation of the vision.

## Timing, Meetings,

The exercise should be contained in a reasonable space of time (not to exceed the 12 months timeframe).

[^0]Three meetings are proposed as well as a conference to present the findings, namely:

- Jakarta, 29-30 November 2010 (in connection with EIBD) -First brainstorming and discussion with business
- Brussels, end February 2011 - Full meeting on all issues, followed by (March 2011) drafting of the Vision groups report
- Jakarta, April 2011 - Finalisation of the report
- Jakarta/Brussels May 2011 - A one day conference presenting the outcome of the Vision Group to stakeholders.


## Background

Indonesia has gained an important role in the G-20 and other international fora as a manifestation of an impressive job in keeping the economy stable and recording the largest growth in Southeast Asia in 2009. It is the largest and considered the most stable democracy in Southeast Asia. On the other hand the EU, with its 500 million citizens, constitutes a large and important market for Indonesia. It is also the source of investments and trade giving rise to fair employment conditions, sustainable development and innovative technological solutions.

In 2008, Indonesia exported 13.5 billion euro worth of goods to the EU, making the EU its biggest export destination of non-oil and gas exports. Indonesia imported goods from the EU worth 6 billion euro. These flows remained stable even during the global crisis last year (bilateral trade amounted to a total of 17 billion euro) and growing by an annual average of $6 \%$ between 2004 and 2008.

The scale of this trade and investment relationship between the EU and Indonesia generates a wide range of new opportunities which we could exploit more. EU and ASEAN started negotiations on a deep and comprehensive FTA in May 2007, but two years later the negotiations were paused due to differing perceptions and ambition levels. The EU has, following this halt in the negotiations, explored the possibility of negotiating bilateral FTAs, with a view of at a later stage create a region-to-region architecture and started negotiations with Singapore in March 2010. Vietnam and Malaysia have also shown interest for a bilateral FTA.


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ In particular the studies on "Trade and Investment between EU - Indonesia: Opportunities and Obstacles" and the complementary study "Indonesian Trade with the EU: Opportunities and Challenges". The two studies will in combination serve as one, but not the single, input for the Vision Group in its work on exploring ways of enhancing bilateral trade and investments.

