



Delegation to Japan

Tokyo, 6 March, 2018

DELJPN (2018)

TUESDAY, 6 MARCH 2018 10.00-12.00

Out of scope

The chief negotiator for Suzuki was in Brussels last week to discuss EPA details. College decision on the EPA is planned for the 17th of April. Adoption by the Council is expected in early Summer and the signing ceremony mid-July.

Discussion on investment and ICS are still ongoing with Japan. EU has provided a lot of explanations to Japan on the merits of the ICS, but an agreement has yet to be reached. Next step is to start bilateral investment negotiations.

Regarding GIs, a media campaign was run during the previous week on Twitter. Leaflets explaining the concept of GIs were produced both in Japanese and English to be distributed during FOODEx. A public campaign is to follow in the following months. DG AGRI has decided on a 2-year promotional

campaign for agricultural products, including GIs to start next autumn. The Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries is also starting a campaign to promote not only Japanese GI products but European GI products as well.

A post-impact report on the EU-South Korean FTA that has been in force since 2011 has been published. Lessons learned that should be followed up also in case of EU-Japan EPA are customs related

4. NTMs - Proposed working method to follow up progress on elimination of NTMs

The assessment regarding NTMs has been forwarded to MS before Christmas. The Delegation will now recheck the state of play of the measures, and start regular follow-up of them. Meeting every two months will most likely be set up, in particular regarding SPS issues.