



EUROPEAN UNION
Delegation to Japan

[REDACTED]

Tokyo, 12 January 2018
DELJPN [REDACTED] (2017)

Art. 4.1(b)

EU COMMERCIAL COUNSELLORS' MEETING
WEDNESDAY, 10 JANUARY 2018 10.00-12.00

Out of scope

[REDACTED]

2. EPA - Update on the state of play

The outcome of the EPA negotiations in terms of tariff reduction/elimination had been shared with the MS at the TPC late 2017 as a *restricted* document; this explains why the MS headquarters had not been in a position to share it further with their Tokyo Embassies. The tariff schedules have now been posted entirely on DG TRADE home page. The next steps would be to conclude the legal scrubbing by mid-February, which we expect to be a fairly smooth process, followed by the translation of the text.

Out of scope

[REDACTED]

Europa House, 4-6-28 Minami-Azabu, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0047, Japan.
Tel Main: +81 (0)3 5422 6001 - Tel Direct: +81 (0)3 5422 [REDACTED] - Fax: +81 (0)3 5420 5544 - E-mail: Delegation-Japan@eeas.europa.eu, <http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/japan>
E-mail: [REDACTED]@eeas.europa.eu

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4. NTMs – State of play of the two NTM lists linked with the EPA negotiations

Brussels is currently finalizing the paper that analyses the outcome of the negotiations for the NTMs. DEL has provided Brussels with an assessment of the outcome, based on input from industry and MSs in Tokyo. MSs recently received a copy of the outstanding NTMs, which can be discussed more in detail at the next meeting. SPS related issues were already discussed in detail at the agricultural counsellors' meeting in December and no further input for submission to Brussels by MS is expected. The assessment sent to Brussels was a rather conservative one, given that issues that had not been entirely solved were deemed "open" and one will need to continue to monitor progress for them. . Monitoring of NTMs continues and should any new issues come up, the MSs and their businesses are encouraged to report them back to the Delegation as soon as they appear. In this context, the two lists of remaining NTMs can be shared with business.

6. AOB

Out of scope

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