



EUROPEAN UNION
DELEGATION TO CANADA

UNION EUROPÉENNE
DÉLÉGATION AU CANADA

Minutes of the ECR Meeting of July, 2nd 2013

Attendance: All except Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Luxemburg, Malta, Poland, Slovakia

1. CETA update

EUDEL briefly recalled the latest CETA developments, particularly the meeting between PM Harper and President Barroso, which took place at the margin of the G8 meeting in Northern Ireland. As it was reported by the press the meeting did not result in a political breakthrough and therefore negotiations will continue in the coming weeks albeit a calendar of meetings has not been fixed yet.

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2. Canada Trade Policy – developments

The Committee on International Trade of the House of Commons has published a study on the Canada - Japan FTA following a series of hearings it conducted.

The results are positive and forecast additional CAD 3.8bn for the Canadian economy and the creation of 25 000 new jobs.

Trade Minister Ed Fast travelled to Russia, where he tried to open new market opportunities for meat exports. Russia has a strict approach when it comes to sanitary regulations and no immediate results of the Minister's mission are to be expected.

TPP Members held a negotiating session in Vancouver dedicated mainly to investment provisions. This process is very "hermetic" and not much information was made available to the public.

Canada has concluded the 8th round of FTA talks with India. This process is quite slow and one shall not expect its swift conclusion.

3. ECR mission to Alberta – update

Following contacts made with the Alberta Provincial Government, a preliminary programme was presented at the monthly ECR meeting in June. The group (EUDEL and Member States representatives travelling from Ottawa) would arrive in Calgary on a Sunday morning flight from Ottawa. This would allow for a working session in the evening with EU Member States representatives present in Alberta. On Monday the group would travel to the oil sands - travel modalities are still to be discussed with the Alberta Government.

On Tuesday the group would meet with various Alberta Government departments to discuss various topics of bilateral interest (CETA, FQD, environment, etc.). In addition, several meetings with other EU-related stakeholders would be organised (private companies and business associations, academia, etc.).

The programme received a positive feedback from MS. However, due to scheduling and budgetary considerations it has been decided to postpone the trip from October 2013 to spring 2014 (April or

May). EUDEL will continue to work with the Alberta Government to prepare the programme and logistical details.

4. AOB

- **EU participation to Europe Now 2013**

Following questions on the Europe Now trade show (focused on travel and wellness), EUDEL reported that it was present at the show in 2012. EUDEL spoke at the CETA conference organised in the margins of the show. The conference itself was well prepared by EUCOCIT. However, the trade show itself was rather poorly attended. This year's edition will also host a CETA seminar and most probably EUDEL will also participate as a speaker.

When it comes to the show, organisers explained that they drew lessons from last year, when they focused too much on general public participation. This year's show will be opened to professionals only. A former DFAIT trade commissioner has been hired to manage business-to-business meetings.

MS are invited to evaluate themselves the cost-benefit of the participation, as the EUDEL does not cover trade promotion and cannot assess whether the event will provide awaited results

5. Guest Speaker

Mr Peter Hall, Vice-President of Export Development Canada, made the attached presentation on the current economic situation in Canada and economic growth perspectives.

6. Next ECR Meeting

- The ECR meeting in September will take place on September 10th, 2013.
- Concerning the ECR meeting in November, it will not be able to take place on the scheduled date (November 5th). As an alternative we propose either November 4th or November 12th. The group will have to decide on which date at the September ECR.