

**ACTIVE WORKING GROUPS UNDER THE MARKET ACCESS PARTNERSHIP AND
COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES – FEBRUARY 2010**

1. WORKING GROUPS

While the Market Access Advisory Committee (MAAC) serves as a general platform for coordinating market access issues, ensuring a coherent approach as well as increasing transparency among all partners, the tackling of specific barriers to trade needs a more detailed discussion among experts. Therefore, the setting up of specialised Working Groups under the authority of the MAAC brings together experts from industry, Member States and Commission services in order to evaluate market access barrier cases, discuss the steps towards removal of the barriers and coordinate joint actions.

The following list gives an overview of all formally established and active Working Groups in Brussels. In addition, there are a number of ad hoc meetings and other coordination activities between partners that - because of their ad hoc nature - are not included hereafter. But regular information about all activities among partners will be ensured via the monthly MAAC meetings.

Working Groups	Chair/Contact	Scope
SPS/Products of Animal Origin	Trade SPS Unit C1: TRADE-SPS-EXPORTPROBLEMS@ec.europa.eu Contact: Secretariat MAAC: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Started in 2005 as a WG on SPS Asia and later enlarged its scope. Business was invited to participate from June 2008. Covering several points of offensive interest for food industry (meat products).
SPS/Products of Plant Origin	Trade SPS Unit C1: TRADE-SPS-EXPORTPROBLEMS@ec.europa.eu Contact: Secretariat MAAC: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Started in 2005 as a WG on SPS Asia and later enlarged its scope. Business was invited to participate from June 2008. Covering several points of offensive interest for food industry (plant products).
Vaccine Market / Japan	Trade Market Access Unit G1 Contact: Secretariat MAAC: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Started in October 2007 Targets access to Japanese market for human vaccines (currently 98% domestic). Local team in Tokyo was set up in January 2009.

Working Groups	Chair/Contact	Scope
Medical devices / China, India, Brazil, Turkey, Taiwan, Korea	Trade Market Access Unit G1 Contact: Secretariat MAAC: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Started in October 2007 Targets new regulations in key emerging markets for the EU medical devices industry (China, India) and has been enlarged to encompass other important markets (e.g. Brazil, Turkey, Korea, Taiwan)
Electronics and ICT	Trade Market Access Unit G1 Contact: Secretariat MAAC: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Started in May 2008 Currently focusing on barriers to trade for electronics and ICT in China.
Tyres	Trade Market Access Unit G1 Contact: Secretariat MAAC: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Started in June 2008 Mainly focusing on trade barriers for EU tyre exporters in Indonesia, India and China, but also to other third country markets (e.g. Taiwan and GCC).
Automotives	Trade Market Access Unit G1 Contact: Secretariat MAAC: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Started in November 2008 Priority markets to be established although the following target countries have been identified: ASEAN, Japan, Australia, Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Mercosur, Canada, Venezuela, Mexico, Euromed, GCC, African countries, Turkey.
Services (Postal courier)	Trade Market Access Unit G1 Contact: Secretariat MAAC: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Started in November 2008 Priority markets to be established although countries like China and India are possible candidates and other third countries are also considered (Colombia Vietnam, Indonesia, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman and Bosnia).
Services (Distribution)	Trade Market Access Unit G1 Contact: Secretariat MAAC: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Started in November 2008 Priority markets to be established although the following target countries are possible candidates: Russia, India, Japan, Ukraine and other geographical areas like Latin America and Euromed.
Textiles	Trade Market Access Unit G1 Contact: Secretariat MAAC: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Started in January 2009 Analyses a broad range of barriers in the sector, focussing on the US, Russian, Indian, Turkish and Latin American markets.
Wines and spirits	Trade Market Access Unit G1 Contact: Secretariat MAAC:	Started in September 2009 Currently focusing on barriers to trade for wines and spirits in China, Israel,

Working Groups	Chair/Contact	Scope
	TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Russia, Thailand and Turkey.
Leather	Trade Market Access Unit G1 Contact: Secretariat MAAC: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Started in February 2010 Priorities to be set up on the basis of the information provided by leather industry. Initial discussions focusing on export restrictions for raw materials and labelling, certification and testing requirements, i.e. in Morocco, Russia and Latin America.
Chemicals	Trade Market Access Unit G1 Contact: Secretariat MAAC: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Started in March 2010 Focuses on the main trade obstacles in the chemical sector. A preliminary list of priorities was set up in the first meeting (IPR, customs, chemicals registration, import restrictions, SPS), as well as a list of priority markets (China, India, Russia, US, Japan, Argentina, Brazil) to be fine-tuned in the future.

2. Market Access Cooperation with third countries

In order to increase our leverage on some market access issues we have ongoing cooperation with the U.S. and Japan on issues of common interest. Regular Digital Video-Conference (DVCs) sessions serve to exchange information and agree on joint actions where possible.

Third Country	Contact	Started/Scope
EU – U.S.	Secretariat MAAC	Started in May 2006. DVCs with the U.S. discuss different market access issues of common interest. Next DVC scheduled for February/March 2010.
EU – JAPAN	Secretariat MAAC	Started in November 2007, six DVCs with Japan have been held to date to discuss different market access issues of common interest. Next DVC foreseen for February 2010.