ACTIVE WORKING GROUPS UNDER THE MARKET ACCESS PARTNERSHIP –MARCH 2011

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.

Working Groups	Chair/Contact	Scope
SPS/Products of Animal Origin	Trade SPS Unit C1: Contact: Secretariat TRADE C.1: TRADE-SPS-EXPORTPROBLEMS@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: Contact: Secretariat TRADE C.1: TRADE-SPS-EXPORTPROBLEMS@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).
Medical devices /	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 China, Indonesia, and India, but also to other third country markets such as Russia

Automotives	Trade Market Access Unit G1 Contact: Secretariat MAAC: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Started in November 2008 Mainly focusing on barriers in China, India, Russia, but also other third country markets such as Argentina, Colombia, Japan and Turkey
Services (Postal courier)	Trade Market Access Unit G1 Contact: Secretariat MAAC: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Started in November 2008 Currently focusing on priority markets in China, India and Russia but also other third country markets are analysed (Indonesia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bosnia, Kenya and Egypt).
Services (Distribution)	Trade Market Access Unit G1 Contact: Secretariat MAAC: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Started in November 2008 Currently focusing on priority markets in China, India and Russia but also other third country markets are analysed (Indonesia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bosnia, Kenya and Egypt)
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.
Alcoholic beverages	Trade Market Access Unit G1 Contact: Secretariat MAAC: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Started in September 2009 Currently focusing on barriers to trade for alcoholic beverages in China, Russia, Thailand and Turkey as well as a number of other third countries..
Leather	Trade Market Access Unit G1 Contact: Secretariat MAAC: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu	Started in February 2010 Priorities include 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, , Brazil) which can be subject to changes in the future.