



CIVIL SOCIETY DIALOGUE

MEETING ON THE STATE OF PLAY OF THE EU-CHILE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS AND THE SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT - DRAFT FINAL REPORT

Date: 10 April 2019

Time: 11:00 – 12:30

Location: Room 1.B, Centre Albert Borschette, Rue Froissart 36, Brussels

Lead speakers

- Deputy Head of the Latin America Unit, DG Trade, European Commission
- Study Coordinator/Team Leader, accompanied by BKP team.

Moderator

Civil Society Coordination, DG Trade, European Commission

Opening

DG Trade opened the meeting by welcoming the participation of civil society and highlighting the importance of the dialogue for the negotiations. DG Trade also explained that the meeting would first provide an update on the negotiations, and then focus on the presentation and discussion of the SIA draft final report, which had been shared on the CSD meeting webpage.¹

1. Presentation of the state of play of the negotiations

DG Trade reminded participants that Chile is an important trading partner for the EU and that the Association Agreement, as well as the modernisation negotiations, not only cover trade but also other dimensions, notably political dialogue and cooperation. Negotiations on the modernisation started in November 2017, with two rounds having taken place in 2018, and the latest round in Santiago in the first week of April 2019.

At the last round progress was made in a large number of chapters, including sanitary and phyto-sanitary issues (SPS), technical barriers to trade (TBT), good regulatory practices, services, competition, trade and sustainable development (TSD) and Trade and Gender. Negotiations on market access, intellectual property rights (IPR), and subsidies were more difficult. Both parties will now engage in further work before the next round. The timeline for concluding the negotiations will depend on progress in substantive issues.

¹ <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/civilsoc/meetdetails.cfm?meet=11535>.

Questions and Answers

ORGALIME requested more information about the negotiations on TBT. DG Trade confirmed that good progress was made.

The **European Patent Office** requested more information about progress on IPR, notably patent protection for pharmaceuticals and the potential effect on access to medicines. DG Trade responded that negotiations on these issues were difficult and would require more time, but that there had been good progress on other areas of IPR, such as copyrights and trademarks. Also, the fact that Chile had published the list of EU GIs for opposition was a good sign of engagement.

The **European Services Forum** requested more information about the status of negotiations on rules of origin (RoO) as well as if a date for the next round was already envisaged. DG Trade responded that negotiations on RoO were still at the early stages, and there had been a first exchange of views on the provisions including on verification. The report from the last round will be published in the coming days. No date for the next round had been set yet; however, it may take place before the summer break.

Human Society International/Europe requested more information about the SPS and Animal Welfare chapter as well as the coverage of the TSD chapter, in particular the inclusion of species protection, including in fisheries. DG Trade responded that talks on animal welfare took place within the SPS chapter, with the main focus being on cooperation. Good progress had been made on fisheries, within the TSD chapter, based on the existing common ground.

Eurogroup for Animals expressed their disappointment that the objectives regarding animal welfare in the current proposed text had not changed in comparison to the existing Agreement, and encouraged that in the context of the modernisation the ambition to protect animal welfare should be higher. The Commission took note.

2. Presentation & Discussion of the Draft Final Report

The **Study team's presentation** of the draft final report focussed on (1) an overview of consultations undertaken and the main feedback obtained; (2) the key overall findings and recommendations as presented in the draft final report across the four sustainability pillars; and (3) the key findings and recommendations derived from the sector analysis and case studies undertaken. The corresponding slides are available on the SIA website.²

Discussion Highlights / Questions and Replies

Humane Society International/Europe welcomed the environmental analysis as part of the dairy sector analysis but regretted that no mention was made of animal welfare, in particular in the salmon farming case study, despite the various issues arising e.g. from the use of antibiotics or the threat from invasive alien species and their impact on marine environment, water quality and pollution. The Study Team responded that the issues mentioned – use of antibiotics, potential threats to native species – were addressed in the case study, and that the study recommendations aimed at improving the situation, although the modernisation of the EU-Chile Agreement would have no notable impact on bilateral salmon trade.

Eurogroup for Animals suggested that methods of production applied in the dairy sector and their impact on animal welfare should also be considered in the study, and reiterated the need for fish welfare to be included in the salmon farming case

² <http://trade-sia-chile.eu/en/resources-2>.

study. Although the specific recommendation regarding the fostering of trade in certified products was welcome, what was needed was a more general reference to animal welfare in the SPS chapter in order to bring about positive regulatory change in Chile in the long term. The Study Team took note of this proposal and will take it into consideration in the preparation of the final report.

The **Friedrich Ebert Stiftung** requested clarification why the human rights survey had not been undertaken online. The Study Team explained that the human rights questionnaires were very detailed and aimed at target groups with knowledge of human rights issues; they were complementary to the online surveys, which also include sections on the modernised Agreement's potential impact on human rights issues. The human rights questionnaires had also been made available publicly (in fact are still available) on the SIA website,³ open for any interested person to answer.

NB

Comments on the draft final report should be send to the Study Team (contact@trade-sia-chile.eu) by 30 April 2019 in order to be considered in the preparation of the final report.

³ They are available both in English and Spanish; see <http://trade-sia-chile.eu/en/consultations-2/interviews-and-surveys>.