

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ

[working translation]

On 27th June 2019 the Association Committee, an institutional body of the Agreement, met for the fifth time in the framework of the trade pillar of the Association Agreement between Central America and the European Union.

Among the achievements of this meeting, the agreement reached between the Parties on the final text of the Protocol of Accession of Croatia to the Association Agreement between Central America and the European Union stands out. Having approved the text, the Parties will be able to start the necessary internal procedures so that Croatia can be part of the Agreement.

Additionally, the Association Committee was pleased with the letter signed between the Secretariat of Central American Economic Integration (SIECA) and the General Secretariat of the Andean Community (SG CAN) that will allow the cumulation of origin using raw materials from the Andean Community countries. This will bring comparative and competitive advantages to the economic operators of both regions in their exports to the European Union.

On the other hand, the Association Committee reviewed issues relevant to the implementation of the Agreement, which had been addressed in the meetings of the subcommittees and technical groups that preceded the meeting of the Association Committee, as well as the results of the Dialogue Forum with Civil Society in the area of Trade and Sustainable Development. In this respect, the substantial progress in different topics of high interest for the Parties in terms of bilateral trade and investment is highlighted, which will be followed up as a priority.

The next meeting of the institutional bodies of the Agreement is planned to take place in June 2020, in Brussels, Belgium.

Antigua Guatemala, 27 June 2019.