

Meeting of ETPOA AISBL with the European Commission 30 June 2020

FTA Implementation

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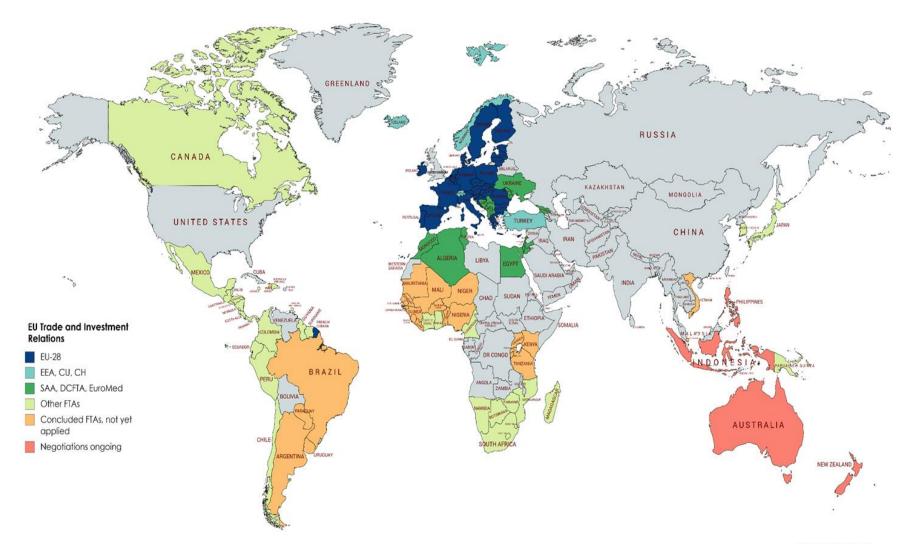
Advisor/DG TRADE



Topics

 1.FTA Implementation in the focus
2.Access2Markets and RoSA
3.Attention: Trade Policy Review!
4.How can COM and TPOs work more closely together in the future?







FTA Implementation in the focus

Commissioner Hogan:

- "Reaping the full benefits of the deals we have already reached" (EP Hearing).
- "Closer cooperation with the EP, MS (including their trade promotion organisations), and regions as well as with business" (*EP Hearing*)
- Guiding the work of the Chief Trade Enforcement Officer to monitor and improve the compliance of trade agreements (*Mission Statement*)



Access2Markets: What it offers (I)

- Brings together the content of the previous online portals "Market Access Data Base" and "Trade Helpdesk";
- Explains each of the EU's trade agreements and benefits;
- For import or export of **goods**, where a trade agreement is in place, all duty preferences, quotas and rules of origin can be retrieved.



Access2Markets: What it offers (II)

- Gives step-by-step guidance to smaller companies with little prior experience.
- Invites companies actively to report trade barriers they are facing in foreign markets.
- Is multilingual (with good quality machine translation) and mobile friendly.
- Future address: <u>https://trade.ec.europa.eu/access2markets</u>



Access2Markets: Process – Where are we today?

- Final steps of preparation of the new portal. Internal testing done; now refinements;
- Expect to launch the tool after the summer; COM will organize training and presentations;
- Active promotion of the portal will be very important & TPOs will have an important role.



(I) Rules of Origin Self Assessment Tool (RoSA)

- The rules of origin for any product under each agreement + origin quotas;
- Automatic transposition to the relevant HS system;
- A step-by-step check-list to see if a product meets the criteria for preferential rules of origin treatment;
- ✓ A tailored self-assessment report based on answers that companies can download or print.



(II) Rules of Origin Self Assessment Tool (RoSA)

- An explanation of rules of origin requirements and terms;
- ✓ Practical examples;
- ✓ Direct access to legal texts;
- \checkmark An overview of rules of origin procedures.



RoSA- Process: Where are we today?

- Test version covering first EU-Japan EPA will be available <u>as part</u> of the new A2M platform (autumn);
- The tool will be progressively rolled out to other EU FTAs;
- Originally, the tool will provide information in English BUT
- the objective is to progressively add other EU official languages.



Attention: Trade Policy Review ongoing

- Launched on16 June based on a <u>consultation</u> <u>document</u> with 13 questions;
- Member States, European and national Parliaments as well as stakeholders and citizens invited to share their views;
- Deadline: 15 September;
- Purpose: Commission Communication to be published towards the end of 2020.



Trade Policy Review: 6 Key Topics

- 1. How to ensure greater resilience and robustness of supply chains?
- 2. How best to support economic recovery and long-term growth with the help of trade policy?
- 3. Specific role for WTO reform and strengthening rules-based trade?
- 4. How trade policy can support the overarching green, sustainability and digital objectives?
- **5. What more can be done to support SMEs?**
- 6. How to advance level playing field objectives?



Trade Policy Review: Consultation

- Launched on 16 June;
- Consultation document has further background and 13 questions;
- Will be available in all EU official languages on 6 July;
- Deadline for input: 15 September;
- Wanted: Views of SMEs to hear how trade policy can support them further in gaining access to third markets or improving their supply chains.



How can COM & TPOs work together?

- 1. What level of cooperation between TPOs ?
- 2. How do we accommodate the heterogeneity of resources between Member States?
- 3. How to acknowledge the variety of Business Models?
- 4. How do we leverage the geographical scales at which TPOs operate?
- 5. How do we manage sectoral sensitivities?