Question for written answer E-007791/2017 to the Commission Rule 130 Adam Szejnfeld (PPE)

Subject: Situation of negotiations on a free-trade agreement between the EU and Indonesia

Indonesia is the largest economy in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), as it accounts for about 36% of the region's GDP. In 2015, bilateral trade in goods between the EU and Indonesia amounted to EUR 25.3 billion, while the trade in services amounted to EUR 6 billion. Furthermore, as it is the most populous country (250 million citizens), it is a natural trade partner and export market for the European Union.

Currently, Indonesia enjoys tariff preferences granted under the Generalised System of Preferences of the EU: about 30% of the total imports from Indonesia is levied with lower duty rates. What is more, the European Union and Indonesia are negotiating a free-trade agreement; the negotiations has been on-going for more than one year. So far, three rounds have been initiated.

As the Commission points out, the aim of the negotiations with Indonesia is the signature of an ambitious agreement which will bring considerable trade benefits to both sides and lead to economic growth in Europe and Indonesia. The planned agreement not only aims to eliminate or significantly restrict tariff and non-tariff barriers, but will also include provisions on sustainable development and the protection of intellectual property and investments.

What progress has been made with regard to negotiations with our partners from Indonesia? In particular, have offers concerning duty reductions already been exchanged?

1142210.EN PE 615.166