



Newsletter of the European Parliament Committee on International Trade

This issue's highlights

- ***Presentation by the Polish presidency***
- ***Considerations of the draft report on GSP and EU-China***
- ***US seeks massive sanctions in the Airbus case***

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The previous meetings of the Committee on International Trade took place on Tuesday & Wednesday November, 22-23 November 2011 and on Thursday December 8, 2011 in Brussels. The following items were on the agendas [22-23 November](#) and [8 December](#).

Meeting of 22&23 November

1. State of Play on International Trade Negotiations

In camera

An in camera exchange of views was held with Jean-Luc Demarty, the Director General of DG Trade, focusing mainly on the latest developments regarding DDA and the preparations for the WTO Ministerial Conference, WTO accession of the Russian Federation, and the recent Commission proposal for draft negotiating directives for deep and comprehensive free trade areas with four Southern Mediterranean partners: Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia.

2. State of play of ongoing trilogue negotiations

Exchange of views

Members were given an update about the state of play of ongoing trilogue negotiations, in particular regarding progress on transitional arrangements for bilateral investment agreements (Rapporteur: Vital Moreira, S&D) and the ICI+ Regulation (Rapporteur: Helmut Scholz, GUE/NGL).

3. General provisions for macro-financial assistance to third countries

Exchange of views and consideration of working document

First exchange of views was held on the proposal for a framework regulation for macro-financial assistance (MFA) to third countries. For the discussion in the Committee, rapporteur Metin Kazak (ALDE) had prepared a working document.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Metin Kazak (ALDE)	EoW and cons. of work. doc: 22/11/2011
Responsible administrator: Marti Kalas	Cons. of a draft report: 26-27/3/2012
Procedure: 2011/0176(COD)- INTA/7/06475	Planned deadline for Ams: 10/4/2012, 12.00 (tbc)
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption INTA: 26/4/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: tbc

Related documents can be found [here](#)

4. Amendment of certain regulations relating to the common commercial policy as regards the procedures for the adoption of certain measures

Consideration of draft report

A consideration of the draft report was held on the so-called 'Trade Omnibus I' proposal that addresses those trade regulations that contain *sui generis* implementing measures i.e. which escape the old comitology system (under Council Decision 1999/468/EC) and that are now proposed to be aligned to the post-Lisbon system of delegated acts (Article 290 TFEU) and implementing acts (Article 291 TFEU and Regulation (EU) No 182/2011). The rapporteur has presented 325 amendments in her draft report. The deadline for amendments was fixed for other Members at 7 December at 12.00.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Godelieve Quisthoudt-Rowohl (EPP)	Exchange of views: 13/4 & 12/7/2011
Responsible administrator: Marti Kalas	Planned cons. of a draft report: 22/11/2011
Procedure: 2011/0039(COD) - INTA/7/05563	Planned deadline for Ams: 7/12/2011, 12.00
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption INTA: 25-26/1/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: Mar-I-12 (tbc)

Related documents may be found [here](#)

5. UNECE Regulations on Pedestrian safety and light emitting diodes (LEDs)

Consideration of draft recommendation

The EU is contracting party to 106 Regulations on Vehicle Requirements negotiated in the context of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations of the United Nations Economic Committee for Europe. These regulations apply in all UN states that decide to accede to these UNECE Regulations. They not only increase road safety and environmental protection, they also increase trade by harmonisation of standards and creating a level playing field.

Two new UNECE regulations have now been negotiated: one on pedestrian safety and one on LED light sources. The Council decision and a consent of the EP are needed to enable the Commission to vote the Regulations and for the EU to accede to the Regulation. After accession to the Regulations the EU can decide to make them mandatory in EC type-approval of vehicles.

The committee is asked to propose to Parliament give its consent to the Council decision to enable the Commission to vote in favour of two new UNECE Regulations. These Regulations are on the UNECE agenda in Geneva in March and for the Commission to be able to vote in Geneva, INTA and Parliament need to deal with these files quickly.

To act in that line the committee agreed at the start of its meeting to cancel the first exchange of views and to move directly to the consideration of the draft recommendations. All members who spoke expressed support for the regulation. Deadline for amendments was fixed at 24 November. The vote will take place on 20 December.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Vital Moreira (Chairman, S&D)	Exch. of views & Cons. of draft report: 22/11/2011
Responsible administrator: Leon Peijnenburg	Deadline for Ams: 24/11/2011
Procedure: 2011/0188(NLE)- INTA/7/06566	Planned adoption INTA: 20/12/2011
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption in plenary: Jan-12

Related documents can be found [here](#)

6. EU accession to UNECE Regulation No 29

Consideration of draft recommendation

The EU is contracting party to 106 of 126 Regulations on Vehicle Requirements negotiated in the context of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations of the United Nations Economic Committee for Europe. These regulations apply in all UN states that decide to accede to these UNECE Regulations. They not only increase road safety and environmental protection, they also increase trade by harmonisation of standards and creating a level playing field.

The Union has not yet acceded to UNECE Regulation 29 on uniform provisions concerning the approval of vehicles with regard to the protection of the occupants of the cab of a commercial vehicle. This Regulation has recently been amended and now the EU wants to accede to the Regulation, which also requires a Council decision and consent of the EP. After accession to the Regulations the EU can decide to make them mandatory in EC type-approval of vehicles.

The committee is asked to propose to Parliament give its consent to the Council decision to accede to UNECE Regulation Nr. 29. This Regulation is dealt with in parallel with the new Regulations on LED and pedestrian safety, which are on the UNECE agenda in Geneva in March. For the Commission to be able to vote in Geneva on the other two regulations, and to keep the parallelism between the three files, INTA and Parliament need to deal with Regulation 29 quickly as well.

To act in that line the committee agreed at the start of its meeting to cancel the first exchange of views and to move directly to the consideration of the draft recommendation. All members who spoke expressed support for the regulation. Deadline for amendments was fixed at 24 November. The vote will take place on 20 December.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Vital Moreira (Chairman, S&D)	Exch. of views & Cons. of draft report: 22/11/2011
Responsible administrator: Leon Peijnenburg	Deadline for Ams: 24/11/2011
Procedure: 2011/0191(NLE)- INTA/7/06601	Planned adoption INTA: 20/12/2011
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption in plenary: Jan-12

Related documents can be found [here](#)

7. EU-Georgia Agreement on protection of geographical indications of agricultural products and foodstuffs

Consideration of draft recommendation (consent)

The INTA Committee held a brief debate on this report. The agreement which aims at providing a basis for mutual recognition of geographical indications in agricultural products did not raise any opposition and the rapporteur emphasized that the agreement could be seen as a very positive step in the EU-Georgia trade relations towards the opening of negotiations on a bilateral Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Vital Moreira (Chairman, S&D)	Cons. of a draft report: 22/11/2011
Responsible administrator: Nicolas Dorgeret	Deadline for Ams: 23/11/2011
Procedure: 2011/0090(NLE) - INTA/7/05904	Planned adoption INTA: 20/12/2011
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption in plenary: Jan-12 (tbc)

Related documents can be found [here](#)

8. The World Bank Trade Strategy, 2011-2021

Exchange of views



Bernard Hoekman, Director of the Trade Department at the World Bank, presented the Trade Strategy of the WB for the next decade. This new strategy moves away from tariff reduction to tackle other problems faced by developing countries to participate to the world trade. In debate with INTA Members, it emerged that the World Bank's Trade Strategy emphasizes in particular trade competitiveness, trade facilitation and finance, and management of external shocks in developing countries.

The strategy has a very pragmatic approach as it consists in helping governments to identify the obstacles and the means to implementing their own growth path through trade-related programmes. Mr Hoekman further explained that the projects of the WB in trade require enhancing the coordination between all the local stakeholders involved in trade to ensure that the benefits of the projects be as inclusive and sustainable as possible.

9. Amending Council Regulation (EC) No 617/2009 opening an autonomous tariff quota for imports of high-quality beef

Consideration of draft report

The Committee considered the draft report on increasing autonomous tariff quota for imports of high-quality beef into the EU. Rapporteur Godelieve Quisthoudt-Rowohl urged Members to support regulatory change necessary to bring the long-lasting transatlantic beef hormones dispute to an end. In the commitments undertaken in Memorandums of Understanding signed with the USA (2009) and Canada (2011), the EU undertook to progressively increase its quota for imports of hormone-free beef in return for abolition of retaliatory duties that had been imposed on certain European food products. Members of INTA underlined mutual benefits of the deal for the trading partners on both sides of the Atlantic.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Godelieve Quisthoudt-Rowohl (EPP)	Exchange of views: 11/10/2011
Responsible administrator: Mindaugas Kojelis	Cons. of a draft report: 22/11/2011
Procedure: 2011/0169(COD)- INTA/7/06358	Deadline for Ams: 28/11/2011
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption INTA: 25-26/1/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: Mar-I-12 (tbc)

Related documents can be found [here](#)

10. Second amendment to the Cotonou Agreement of 23 June 2000

Exchange of views

The Cotonou Agreement, that covers the relations between the EU and 79 African Caribbean and Pacific states, is up for its second revision. The amending Agreement was signed on 22 June 2010. Now the European Parliament has received the request for consent.

DEVE committee is the lead committee. INTA decided to do an opinion since the EU-ACP relation contains many trade aspects. INTA held its first exchange of views in which INTA rapporteur Daniel Caspary explained that the amendments should be welcomed. The Commission explained that the consultation from the Council (asking for the EP to give its consent) should be coming shortly.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Daniel Caspary (EPP)	Exchange of views: 22/11/2011
Responsible administrator: Leon Peijnenburg	Planned cons. of a draft opinion: 20/12/2011
Procedure: 2011/0207(NLE) - INTA/7/06687	Planned deadline for Ams: 21/12/2011
Lead committee: DEVE	Planned adoption INTA: 25-26/1/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: tbc

Related documents can be found [here](#)

11. Regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin

Presentation of a legal opinion

The Committee listened to an in camera presentation by the Legal Service on its opinion on the Regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin. This report was requested by the rapporteur as part of his work to present to the Committee a draft recommendation for consent to this agreement. The rapporteur also put forward a proposal, which was accepted, to accompany the consent with an Oral Question and an accompanying resolution.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Emilio Menéndez del Valle (S&D)	Present. of legal opinion: 22/11/2011
Responsible administrator: André Corrado	Cons. of a draft recommendation: 8/12/2011
Procedure: 2010/0093(NLE) - INTA/7/02793	Planned deadline for Ams: 12/12/2011
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption INTA: 25-26/1/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: Feb-II-12 (tbc)

Related documents may be found [here](#)

12. Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement between the EU and its Member States, Australia, Canada, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Singapore, Switzerland and the USA

In camera

The Committee heard an in camera presentation by the Legal Service of its opinion on certain issues relating to conformity of ACTA with the existing legal framework. Members of INTA raised many questions relating to various aspects of the agreement, dealt with by the opinion.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Kader Arif (S&D)	Present. of legal opinion: 23/11/2011
Responsible administrator: Miriam Korteweg	Cons. of a draft report: tbc
Procedure: 2011/0167(NLE) - INTA/7/06356	Planned deadline for Ams: tbc
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption INTA: tbc
	Planned adoption in plenary: tbc

Related documents may be found [here](#)

13. Votes

1) *Amendment of Regulation (EC) No 428/2009 setting up a Community regime for the control of exports, transfer, brokering and transit of dual use items*

	in favour	against	abstentions
Decision on the outcome of the negotiations in view of an early 2nd reading agreement	24	1	2

2) *Extension of the provisions of the EC-Uzbekistan Partnership and Cooperation Agreement to bilateral trade in textiles*

Rapporteur: George Sabin Cutaş (S&D)

	in favour	against	abstentions
Draft interim report as amended	26	0	1

14. European standardisation

First exchange of views

For more information please see the [point 12](#) of the meeting of 20 December.

15. Delegation to Japan, 2-6 October 2011

Presentation of mission report

David Martin (S&D), presented the mission report to the Committee. The visit of the delegation led by Chairman Moreira was extremely timely, as it coincided with the ongoing scoping exercise of the EU-Japan trade relations, aiming to pave way to free trade negotiations between the two economies. He also flagged that possible FTA negotiations between the EU and Japan should aim to a deep and comprehensive FTA, including removing the Japanese non-tariff barriers, which are currently the biggest obstacle for trade between us. (Participants: Vital Moreira (S&D), Paweł Zalewski (EPP), Emilio Menendez del Valle (S&D), Keith Taylor (Greens/ALE), Helmut Scholz (GUE/NGL), David Martin (S&D), Metin Kazak (ALDE), Daniel Caspary (EPP) and Christofer Fjellner (EPP)).

16. Exchange mechanism with regard to intergovernmental agreements between Member States and third countries in the field of energy

First exchange of views

For more information please see the [point 6](#) of the meeting of 8 December

17. Agreement between the EU and Morocco concerning reciprocal liberalisation measures on agricultural products and fishery products

Exchange of views

Due to the political sensitivity of this agreement and the proposal to withhold the consent by one of the opinion-giving committees, INTA decided to hold a further exchange of views with the Commission. During the third exchange of views the Commission listed a set of issues that it felt the rapporteur was concerned about, and gave its point of view on these matters.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: José Bové (Greens/EFA))	Exchange of views: 12-13/7 & 22/9 & 23/11/2011
Responsible administrator: André Corrado	Planned cons. of a draft recommendation: 20/12/2011
Procedure: 2010/0248(NLE) - INTA/7/03836	Planned deadline for Ams: 21/12/2011, 12.00
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption INTA: 25-26/1/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: Feb-II-12 (tbc)

Related documents may be found [here](#)

18. Exchange of views with Karel De Gucht, Commissioner for Trade

The Committee held an exchange of views with the Commissioner De Gucht in the format of "structured dialogue". The Commissioner expressed his appreciation for the good cooperation with INTA and underlined that 2011 had been a successful year for trade with the agreements with Korea, Ukraine and the Russian accession to the WTO, but highlighted that next year would definitely become still busier for INTA. He also stated the Commission supported the INTA line on Uzbekistan.

Meeting of 8 December

1. State of play of ongoing trilogue negotiations

Exchange of views

Under regular item, Members were informed about the fourth trilogue on the Regulation on transitional arrangements for bilateral investment agreements (Rapporteur: Vital Moreira, Chairman, S&D) as well as about the successful conclusion of the conciliation on the ICI+ Regulation (Rapporteur: Helmut Scholz, GUE/NGL) which has been the Committee's first third reading procedure.

2. Conclusion by the European Union of the International Cocoa Agreement 2010

Considerations

Rapporteur Vital Moreira suggested the Committee to recommend the Parliament to give its consent to 2010 International Cocoa Agreement, accompanying it with a resolution on elimination of worst forms of child labour on cocoa farms. The new International Cocoa Agreement aims to bring more transparency and sustainability into cocoa economy, recognising the need to ensure fair cocoa prices and equitable returns to farmers. Members urged to draw a clear distinction between work on family farms and the worst forms of child labour, including trafficking and forced labour.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Vital Moreira (Chairman, S&D)	Exchange of views: 15/3 & 13/4/2011
Responsible administrator: Mindaugas Kojelis	Cons. of draft resolution and draft recom.: 8/12/2011
Procedure: 2010/0343(NLE) - INTA/7/04746	Deadline for Ams: 13/12/2011, 12.00
Procedure: 2011/2957(RSP) - INTA/7/07882	Planned adoption INTA: 25-26/1/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: Feb-II-12 (resolution)
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption in plenary: Mar-I-12 (consent)

Related documents may be found [here](#)

3. Regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin

Considerations

During the consideration of the draft recommendation on Regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin the Committee also considered a draft oral question with an accompanying resolution.

The rapporteur made it clear that while he considers the adoption of this Convention as an important step towards the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area and is proposing a positive consent he believes that there are issues that need to be taken into consideration. His draft resolution refers to, inter alia, the revision of the Convention, the resolution of potential disputes and the issue of how the technical arrangement with Israel on products originating from those areas brought under Israeli Administration since 1967 can be respected with regard to cumulated products under the Convention.

[Calendar](#)

4. Trade for Change: The EU Trade and Investment Strategy for the Southern Mediterranean following the Arab Spring revolutions

Consideration of working document

This item was postponed to the [meeting of 20 December](#).

5. 2010 discharge: EU general budget, Section III, Commission

Exchange of views

During the exchange of views on the INTA opinion on the Discharge procedure 2010, the rapporteur (Peter Šťastný, EPP) was concerned of the fact that the Court of Auditors Annual Report concludes that the payments in accounts for the year ended 31 December 2010 are materially affected by error. This error is a result of inefficient control systems. The rapporteur welcomed that, for the first time, the Court has included in its report a new chapter on performance audit issues, which reflects an attempt to modernise the approach from number crunching to assessing the value for taxpayers' money. The rapporteur suggested that the INTA opinion could consider pointing out some trade related key issues, such as macro-financial assistance and the Union's business centres. In particular, the Parliament should ensure that the Union's Aid for Trade policy is conducted in an efficient manner and under the rules and regulations in force.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Peter Šťastný (EPP)	Exchange of views: 8/12/2011
Responsible administrator: Heikki Suortti	Planned cons. of a draft opinion: 20/12/2011
Procedure: 2011/2201(DEC) - INTA/7/06945	Planned deadline for Ams: 4/1/2012, 18.00
Lead committee: CONT	Planned adoption INTA: 25-26/1/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: tbc

Related documents may be found [here](#)

6. Exchange mechanism with regard to intergovernmental agreements between Member States and third countries in the field of energy

Second exchange of views

The INTA Committee had the second exchange of views on its opinion on the legislative report of the ITRE Committee on Intergovernmental agreements in the field of energy. The INTA rapporteur for opinion is Yannick Jadot (Greens/EFA). The share of imported energy in the Union is constantly rising. The Commission has now proposed to put in place an information exchange mechanism between Member States and between Member States and the Commission regarding intergovernmental agreements on energy. There is a significant trade and investment dimension to this proposal. According to the rapporteur the proposed information exchange between Member States and a coordinated support by the European Commission would strengthen the internal market by ensuring the correct implementation of legislation such as the Third Energy Package. Secondly, it also would enhance energy security by making sure that all agreements are fully compatible with the Union's internal market for energy and EU law. INTA Members considered that an exchange of information regarding the agreements is vital for the interests of the Union. It was also raised that special attention should be paid in our investment agreements in respect of the investments in the energy sector.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Yannick Jadot (Greens/EFA)	Exchange of views: 23/11 & 8/12/2011
Responsible administrator: Heikki Suortti	Planned cons. of a draft opinion.: 20/12/2011
Procedure: 2011/0238(COD) - INTA/7/06806	Planned deadline for Ams: 4/1/2012
Lead committee: ITRE	Planned adoption INTA: 25-26/1/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: tbc

Related documents may be found [here](#)

7. U.S.-EU Transatlantic Economic Council (TEC)

Exchange of views

INTA had an exchange of views on both the EU-US Summit and the annual US-EU Transatlantic Economic Council (TEC) meeting that had taken place in Washington (on 28 and 29 December respectively) and where transatlantic trade was high on the agenda. Particular attention was given to the launching of a joint High-Level Working Group on Jobs and Growth that should identify and assess options for strengthening the US-EU trade and investment relationship, and the Commission elaborated on the practical work ahead and the various options under consideration and discussion.

8. Agreement between the EU and Morocco concerning reciprocal liberalisation measures on agricultural products and fishery products

Consideration of draft recommendation (consent)

This item was postponed to the [meeting of 20 December](#).

9. State of Play on Economic Partnership Agreements

Exchange of views with Commission representatives

Ahead of the Joint ACP-EU Trade Ministerial Committee on 12 December, the European Commission gave an extensive summary of the ongoing negotiations of the Economic Partnership Agreements. These negotiations have gained momentum under 2011, and meetings at least at technical level have taken place with all the regions during the last months, with positive prospects to be able to conclude at least some of the agreements in the coming year. This optimism was however not shared by all the Members in their interventions.

10. Delegation to Canada, 1- 4 November 2011

Presentation of the mission

The Chairman who led the INTA seven-member delegation to Canada, and other Members who participated in the delegation, reported back to the Committee highlighting the most rewarding moments of the visit and its pertinence in the framework of CETA negotiations.

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The next meeting of the Committee on International Trade will take place on Tuesday December 20, 2011, 9.00 – 12.30 and 15.00 – 18.30. The meetings will be [webstreamed](#), except for in camera items.

1. Trade for Change: The EU Trade and Investment Strategy for the Southern Mediterranean following the Arab Spring revolutions

Consideration of working document

INTA has been closely following the momentous changes that have been happening in the Southern Neighbourhood particularly as trade has been earmarked by the Commission, in several Communications including the recent one on the Neighbourhood Policy, as a major aspect of EU relations with the region. In this context INTA will consider a Working Document presented by the rapporteur in preparation for the Own-Initiative report on Trade for Change: The EU Trade and Investment Strategy for the Southern Mediterranean following the Arab Spring revolutions.

The Working Document is expected to lay down the main ideas behind the report, taking a pragmatic approach to how trade relations can be effective by distributing the generated wealth across all levels of Southern Mediterranean societies.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Niccolò Rinaldi (ALDE)	Exchange of views: 21/6/2011
Responsible administrator: André Corrado	Cons. of working document: 20/12/2011
Procedure: 2011/2113(INI) - INTA/7/05860	Cons. of a draft report: 25-26/1/2012
Lead committee: INTA	Planned deadline for Ams: 17/2/2012
	Planned adoption INTA: 26-27/3/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: Apr-I-12

Related document may be found [here](#).

2. Agreement between the EU and Morocco concerning reciprocal liberalisation measures on agricultural products and fishery products

Consideration of draft recommendation

INTA has held 3 exchanges of views on the topic, during which the Moroccan government, the European Commission, the EEAS and several stakeholders have all had the possibility of briefing our Members. One of the Committees for opinion has proposed withholding the consent. During its next meeting INTA will be debating the position proposed by rapporteur.

[Calendar](#)

3. Second amendment to the Cotonou Agreement of 23 June 2000

Consideration of draft opinion

The Cotonou Agreement, that covers the relations between the EU and 79 African Caribbean and Pacific states, is up for its second revision. The amending Agreement was signed on 22 June 2010. Now the European Parliament has received the request for consent.

DEVE committee is the lead committee. INTA decided to do an opinion since the EU-ACP relation contains many trade aspects. The revised Agreement amongst others updates the economic and trade chapter, taking into account the Economic Partnership Agreements and the expiry of the non-reciprocal trade preferences by 2007. More attention is also give to trade adaptation strategies and tailor made 'Aid for Trade' measures

INTA rapporteur Daniel Caspary therefore calls on the DEVE committee to propose the EP to consent to the revised Agreement.

[Calendar](#)

4. Presentation by Waldemar Pawlak, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy of Poland, representing the President-in-Office of the Council, on the achievements of the Polish Presidency in the area of International Trade Policy

An exchange of views will be held on the outcome of the Polish Presidency in the field of Common Commercial Policy and the legislative cooperation during the second half of 2011.

5. EU-Georgia Agreement on protection of geographical indications of agricultural products and foodstuffs

Votes

The INTA Committee is going to vote on this report. Since no amendment was tabled, a single vote on the recommendation to consent to this agreement will take place. The rapporteur supports the consent to this agreement on geographical indications with Georgia.

[Calendar](#)

6. UNECE Regulations on Pedestrian safety and light emitting diodes (LEDs)

Votes

The committee will vote whether or not to propose to Parliament give its consent to the Council decision to enable the Commission to vote in favour of draft UNECE Regulations on LED and Pedestrian safety. No amendments were put. In case the Committee votes in favour of consent, the recommendation is expected to go to January plenary. That would allow the EU internal procedures to be completed in time for the vote in UNECE in Geneva in March.

[Calendar](#)

7. EU accession to UNECE Regulation No 29

Votes

The committee will vote whether or not to propose to Parliament give its consent to the Council decision to accede to UNECE Regulation 29. No amendments were put.

[Calendar](#)

8. Customs enforcement of intellectual property rights

Consideration of draft opinion

INTA will consider a draft opinion on a proposal for a revised Regulation on Customs Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) that aims at strengthening border enforcement while streamlining customs procedures. Rapporteur Josefa Andrés Barea (S&D) will be highlighting trade related concerns such as treatment of non-EU goods in transit and international cooperation to combat counterfeits. [Statistics](#) of customs detentions recorded at the EU external borders in 2010 show a doubling in the number of shipments suspected of violating IPR. Small postal envoys, resulting from on-line sales and in particular of medicines, are a growing concern. As for countries of provenance, China continues to be the main source of IPR infringing goods.

INTA has (together with JURI) an associated Committee status on this file. On November 22 the rapporteurs of the three Committees heard experts on how to ensure smart and effective customs enforcement. [Hearing documents](#).

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Josefa Andrés Barea (S&D)	Exchange of views: 11/10/2011
Responsible administrator: Hannariikka Nieminen	Planned cons. of a draft opinion: 20/12/2011
Procedure: 2011/0137(COD)- INTA/7/06140	Deadline for Ams: 9/1/2012 18.00
Lead committee: IMCO, Rule 50	Planned adoption INTA: 25-26/1/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: March II 2012 (tbc)

Related documents can be found [here](#)

9. Exchange mechanism with regard to intergovernmental agreements between Member States and third countries in the field of energy

Consideration of draft opinion

For more information please go to the [point 6](#) of the meeting of 8 December

10. Amended Constitution and Rules of Procedure of the International Rubber Study Group

Exchange of views with stakeholders

The EU is the world's second biggest consumer of natural rubber. Its tyre industry depends on imports from South East Asia that holds over 90% of the production. With the financial crisis and the ensuing global economic downturn, major price rises and high volatility have affected commodity markets, including of natural rubber.

Located in Singapore, the International Rubber Study Group (IRSG) is both a forum for discussion and a source of analysis and statistics for rubber producers and consumers, aiming at increasing transparency in rubber markets and market trends. With the United States and some South East Asian members pulling out or planning to, what is the future of the IRSG?

INTA Members will hear stakeholders on the IRSG and related rubber market issues. Chairman Vital Moreira (S&D) is the Committee rapporteur for the Parliament's consent on the amended Constitution and Rules of Procedure of the IRSG.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Vital Moreira (Chairman, S&D)	Exchange of views: 20/12/2011
Responsible administrator: Hannariikka Nieminen	Planned cons. of a draft report: 25-26/1/2012
Procedure: 2011/0116(NLE)- INTA/7/06064	Planned deadline for Ams: 6/2/2012
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption INTA: 29/2-1/3/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: March II 2012 (tbc)

Related documents can be found [here](#)

11. Scheme of generalised tariff preferences

Consideration of draft report

The Committee will consider a report by Mr Christofer Fjellner (EPP) on the Scheme of generalised tariff preferences (GSP), as part of the legislative process which will revise the current scheme, set to expire on 31 December 2013 at the latest. The GSP grants preferential access for products from beneficiary countries in the developing world, with the aim to promote economic growth. In his report, the rapporteur suggests some changes to the Commission proposal, for example regarding the transitional periods for applying new eligibility criteria, or the extension of the product coverage. The meeting will set the deadline for amendments to this proposal, to be discussed in the beginning of next year.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Christofer Fjellner (EPP)	Exchange of views: 12/7/2011
Responsible administrator: Helena Halldorf-Romero	Cons of a working document: 11/10/2011
Procedure: 2011/0117(COD) - INTA/7/06028	Planned cons. of a draft report : 20/12/2011
Lead committee: INTA	Planned deadline for Ams: 13/1/2012, 12.00
	Planned cons. of Ams: 25-26/1/2012
	Planned adoption INTA: 29/2-1/3/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: Mar-12 (tbc)

Related documents may be found [here](#).

12. European standardisation

Consideration of draft opinion

The INTA Committee will consider its opinion to the IMCO Committee on the Commission proposal on Standardisation. The INTA rapporteur for the opinion is Mr Franck Proust (EPP). Standards play an important role not only in functioning of the single market, but also in respect of international trade. At the same time, there are several challenges to standardisation and standards must keep pace with rapid technological development in a changing world and society. The rapporteur suggests that the European Union must promote international standards. It would also be desirable for the Commission to include international objectives in its work programme. The draft opinion is concerned with technical specifications in the field of ICT and the role of fora and consortia in this regard, which are not subject to the same obligations as European standardisation bodies, and suggests retaining a clear distinction between standards and technical specifications.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Franck Proust (EPP)	Exchange of views: 23/11 & 8/12/2011
Responsible administrator: Heikki Suortti	Planned cons. of a draft opinion.: 20/12/2011
Procedure: 2011/0150(COD) - INTA/7/06244	Planned deadline for Ams: 4/1/2012
Lead committee: IMCO	Planned adoption INTA: 25-26/1/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: May-12 (tbc)

Related documents may be found [here](#)

13. EU and China: Unbalanced Trade?

Consideration of draft report

China has emerged the first exporter in the world and the second single economy since its accession to the WTO in 2001. China is currently the Union's second trading partner and the biggest source of imports. The draft report flags that the Union has had an increasing deficit in this trade since 1997. It also suggests that one reason for this imbalance in trade is the undervaluation of the Chinese currency. The EU-China trade relation has big opportunities arising from the Chinese 12th five-year plan, striving to develop the Chinese domestic market and infrastructure. The draft report suggests paying more attention to reciprocity and market access, defending the interest of the European industry in relation to access to raw materials and protection of intellectual property rights. According to the draft, the Union should also better monitor the holders of its sovereign debt with a view to any trade negotiations. In addition, the report suggests that the Union creates a body for prior controls on strategic foreign investment on its soil.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Marielle De Sarnez (ALDE)	Exchange of views: 11/10/2011
Responsible administrator: Heikki Suortti	Planned cons. of a draft report: 20/12/2011
Procedure: 2010/2301(INI) - INTA/7/04390	Planned deadline for Ams: 12/1/2012
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption INTA: 29/2-1/3/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: Apr-12

Related documents can be found [here](#)

14. 2010 discharge: EU general budget, Section III, Commission

Consideration of draft opinion

For more information please see the [point 5](#) of the meeting of 8 December.

15. Trade aspects of the Eastern partnership

First exchange of views

The committee will hold a first exchange of views on its own-initiative report on the Trade aspects of the Eastern Partnership. Trade is one of the core elements of the EU relations with countries belonging to the Eastern Partnership, facilitating economic development and providing impetus for necessary structural, political and regulatory reforms. The conclusion of the DCFTA negotiations with Ukraine, recent decision on the kick-off of such negotiations with Georgia and Moldova and the future of our trade relations with Armenia, Azerbaijan and Belarus deserve close attention of the INTA committee. At this first exchange of views, the rapporteur aims at collecting ideas with regard to the priority issues to be addressed in his draft report.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Miloslav Ransdorf (GUE/NGL)	Planned exchange of views: 20/12/2011
Responsible administrator: Tatiana Mrazikova	Planned cons. of a draft report: 29/2-1/3/2012
Procedure: 2011/2306(INI)- INTA/7/08037	Planned deadline for Ams: 21/3/2012, 12.00 (tbc)
	Planned cons. of Ams: 25/4/2012
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption INTA: 25-26/4/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: May-12 (tbc)

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State-of-play of ongoing negotiations

Free trade agreements: tentative dates of upcoming negotiation rounds

All dates are indicative and subject to possible changes and postponement.

India	10 December 2011
Singapore	16 - 20 January 2012
Malaysia	7-11 February 2012

Source: DG TRADE, European Commission, more [info](#)

WTO Dispute settlement - Recent developments

WTO Dispute settlement - Recent developments

US seeks massive sanctions in the Airbus case

The Commission says that it has met the deadline for complying with a WTO ruling against Airbus and outlined its actions in a letter to the United States and the World Trade Organization.

"Today we have presented a comprehensive package of actions that achieves full compliance with the WTO recommendations and rulings in the Airbus case. Through this package we address all categories of subsidies, all forms of adverse effects, and all models of Airbus aircraft covered by the WTO rulings. What is now important is for everyone to realise that the United States will be in the same position as we are today after the WTO Appellate Body will rule on subsidies to Boeing early next year. At that point the EU expects to receive an equally solid set of compliance actions from the United States.", stated EU Trade Spokesman John Clancy on 1 December 2011.

Following the Commission's statement, U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk announced on 9 December that the United States is requesting that the European Union enter into consultations regarding the notification. At the same time the US asked the WTO Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) in Geneva to authorize sanctions worth \$7-10 billion annually.

Ambassador Kirk said that "The WTO clearly found that every single grant of launch aid to Airbus, for every single aircraft that company produced, was a WTO-inconsistent subsidy that caused unfair adverse effects to U.S. industry and jobs. Our action today underscores what we have said all along – that the United States cannot accept anything less than an end to this subsidized financing.

For more info please see the [Commission website](#) and [press release](#).

Latest DSU developments as at 05 December 2011

- EC- Measures affecting trade in Large Civil Aircraft ("Airbus") (DS316) – on 1 December the EU submitted its compliance report to the WTO DSB.
- US – Boeing (DS353): The second part of the Appellate Body hearing took place on 11-14 October.
- Philippines- tax on spirits (DS396-403): The hearing before the Appellate Body took place on 25-26 October.

For more [info](#)
[Full list of cases and details](#)

State of Play on Trade Defence Instruments

State of Play of the Trade Defence Instruments as at 30 November 2011

On 30 November 2011, there were 120 anti-dumping and 10 countervailing measures in force. Furthermore, there are undertakings in force from 8 countries covering 8 products. At the end of November, 49 investigations were on-going.

A total of 38 investigations were initiated, split up as follows:

- 18 new investigations, of which 4 anti-subsidy; 7 expiry reviews; 9 interim reviews, of which 1 anti-subsidy; 1 other review; 1 new exporter reviews; 2 anti-circumvention investigation

The measures imposed resulting from new procedures:

- 10 provisional measures were imposed involving imports from 6 countries and covering 7 products; 12 definitive measures were imposed (of which 2 anti-subsidy), involving imports from 6 countries and covering 9 products;

The investigations terminated without the imposition of measures:

- 7 new investigations (of which 2 anti-subsidy) were terminated without the imposition of measures; 1 safeguard investigation was terminated without imposition of measures:

List of new proceedings initiated by 30 November 2011

- Oxalic acid, (AD), India and the P.R. China, 26.01.2011
- Polyethylene terephthalate (PET), (AD), Oman and Saudi Arabia, 16.02.2011
- Sodium cyclamate P.R. China, (AD), 17.02.2011
- Soy protein products (certain concentrated) P.R. China, (AD), 19.04.2011
- Stainless steel fasteners P.R. China, (AD), 13.05.2011
- Certain seamless pipes and tubes of iron or steel, (AD), Belarus, 28.6.2011
- Woven and/or stitched glass fibre fabrics, (AD), P. R. China 28.7.2011
- Tartaric acid, (AD), PR China, 29.7.2011
- Aluminium radiators, (AD), P.R. China, 12.8.2011
- Tube and pipe fittings of iron or steel, (AD), Russia and Turkey, 01.11.2011
- Bioethanol, (AD), U.S.A., 25.11.2011
- Polyethylene terephthalate (PET), (AS), Oman and Saudi Arabia 16.02.2011
- Stainless steel fasteners P.R. China, (AS), 13.05.2011
- Bioethanol, (AS), U.S.A., 25.11.2011

[Full report](#)
[Full listing and further details of investigation](#)

Delegation to the 8th WTO Ministerial Conference, 15-17 December

The European Parliament will send an ad-hoc delegation to the 8th WTO Ministerial Conference, which will take place in Geneva on 15 to 17 December 2011. The European Parliament has been present at all the WTO Ministerial Conferences, as part of the official EU delegation.

The ministerial meeting is intended to address both the WTO's regular work programme and the future of Doha talks, and will take decisions i.e. on a special package for the least developed countries. In parallel with the plenary session, three working sessions will take place with the following themes: "Importance of the Multilateral Trading System and the WTO", "Trade and Development" and "Doha Development Agenda". The Conference will also take up the accessions of Russia, Samoa and Montenegro to the WTO.

[More info](#)

INTA Delegation visit to Canada



A delegation from the Committee had meetings in Canada from 1 to 4 November 2011. The delegation was led by Chairman Vital Moreira, and comprised of Philip Bradbourn (ECR, Chairman of the delegation for relations with Canada), Helmut Scholz (GUE/NGL), David Martin (S&D), Peter Šťastný (EPP), Salvatore Iacolino (EPP) and Silvana Koch-Mehrin (ALDE).

The delegation was very timely and successful; meetings were held with key representatives of federal and provincial government, as well as with a number of key stakeholders having interest in the ongoing negotiations for CETA. Meetings in Ottawa were held at the highest level with Canadian government and parliament: the delegation met with Ed Fast, Minister of International Trade, with Steve Verheul, CETA Chief Trade Negotiator for Canada, and with all members of the Standing Committee on International Trade of the Canadian House of Commons (including Rob Merrifield, Chairman).

In Toronto the delegation met inter alia with Brad Duguid, Ontario's Minister of Economic Development and Innovation, and Maurice Bitran, Ontario Chief Negotiator for CETA. In Ottawa and Toronto extensive meetings were held with various stakeholders, including business organisations, trade unions, representatives of agricultural producers, representatives of pharmaceutical companies etc. The delegation also met with the representatives of the Alberta province (oil sands) and of the Inuit Circumpolar Council (seals and Arctic issues) and visited Research In Motion (company producing BlackBerry smartphones).



INTA Delegation visit to Denmark



Between the 28th and the 29th of November 2011 an INTA delegation including INTA Chair Vital Moreira and S&D Member George Sabin Cutaş visited Copenhagen. The visit was in preparation for the forthcoming Danish Presidency of the Council hold discussions. During its short stay, the Delegation held several meetings with the different actors involved. A very fruitful working lunch with Mr. Nicolas Wammen, Danish Minister for European Affairs, was followed by meetings with the Danish Ambassador for Trade, Mr. Søren Kelstrup and with Members of the Folketinget (the Danish Parliament) coming from the relevant Parliamentary Committees, including that for

Trade. During these meeting the primary aims and challenges of the Danish Presidency and of the EU in the fields of trade and investments was thoroughly discussed. The INTA delegation also had the possibility of explaining the positions of the European Parliament on certain issues and also of presenting its priorities to the Danes.

During the stay the INTA Delegation also held meetings with the Trade Union representatives, with the Danish Agriculture and Food Council and with DI, the Danish Industry confederation. This way the Delegation could also take into its perspective the positions and point of views of the social partners who will be supporting the Danish government during its presidency.

The Delegation was also taken on a boat tour of the Middelgrunden Offshore Windfarm as an example of an industrial sector for which Denmark has become a centre of excellence and in which the country has particular export interests. During this trip the INTA Members also had the possibility of discussing the challenges and opportunities for the EU industry in the face of competition from emerging markets.

The visit ran very smoothly and the Delegation returned to Brussels with a particular feeling of success in having established a very good working relationship with the Danish Presidency.



chairman's diary

Meetings held during weeks 45 & 46

- ✓ **November 9, 2011**, Meeting with the Ambassador of Denmark to the EU, to discuss the up-coming Danish Presidency
- ✓ **November 16, 2011**, Meeting with the Ambassador-designate of New Zealand to the EU, for an exchange of views on the economic relations between New Zealand and the EU

trade news and studies

Briefing notes, studies and workshops by the Policy department

Delivered

- Internal briefing note on Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA): state of play
- Quick Policy Insight on Russia
- Quick Policy Insight on India-Pakistan
- Internal briefing note on Singapore
- Internal briefing note on GCC (trade and economic relations)
- Internal briefing note on Protectionism in the G20
- Internal briefing note on Safeguards in the Colombia and Peru FTA and the in the Central America AA**

Pending

- External briefing note on SME and Euromed
- External study on TA* Colombia and Peru
- External study on Association agreement with Central America
- Internal briefing note on Trade and economic relations with the US
- External study on Macro-financial Assistance
- Internal briefing note on Trade and Economic relations with Russia
- Internal briefing note on Country note Cyprus
- External study on public procurement
- Internal briefing note on Trade and economic relations with Moldova
- Internal briefing note on Trade and economic relations with Georgia
- Internal briefing note on Trade and economic relations with Armenia
- Internal briefing note on Trade and economic relations with Azerbaijan
- External study on Economic significance of Russia's accession to the WTO

*TA = trade aspects

**AA = Association agreement

Databases

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New books in the Library reading room collection (available for loan)

[International Investment Law and EU Law](#)/ Bungenberg, Marc; Griebel, Joern; Hindelang, Steffen; Heidelberg: Springer, 2011, 198 p.



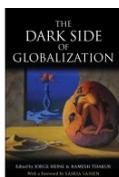
(European yearbook of international economic law.). TOC:"The division of competences between the EU and its member states in the area of investment politics -- The division of powers between the EU and its member states "after Lisbon" -- The future of bilateral investment treaties of EU member states -- Art. 351 TFEU, the principle of loyalty and the future role of the member state's bilateral investment treaties -- For a complementary European investment protection -- -- Balancing investors' and host states' rights: what alternatives for treaty-makers? -- The crucial question of future investment treaties : balancing investors' rights and regulatory interests of host states "

[Negotiating trade liberalization at the WTO: domestic politics and bargaining dynamics](#)/ Conceição-Heldt, Eugénia da, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011, xviii, 275 p.



"This book shows how domestic political institutions and the lack of time pressure have an impact on negotiations at the WTO. It provides detailed information on WTO ministerial meetings as well as on the political economy of trade policy in the EU, U.S., Brazil, and Australia"

[The dark side of globalization](#)/ Heine, Jorge, Thakur, Ramesh Chandra, New York: United Nations UP, 2011, 302 p.



"Seen by some as a desirable and irreversible engine of prosperity and progress, globalization is resisted by others as the soft underbelly of a corporate imperialism that plunders and profiteers in the global marketplace. Globalization has brought many benefits, including the reduction of poverty in several countries. But it also has a dark side: the unleashing of negative forces as a result of the compression of time and space made possible by modern technology. Examples include the transnational flows of terrorism, drug and human trafficking, organized crime, money laundering, and global pandemics."

[Figuring out the Doha Round](#)/ Hufbauer, Gary Clyde; Schott, Jeffrey J., Wong, Woan Foong , Washington, Peterson Institute for International Economics, 2010, 220 p.

This book argues that an additional effort by the G-20 countries, WTO countries can put together a Doha package that is both ambitious and balanced between the interests of developed and developing countries. The study finds that following these recommendations can lead to a world GDP gain of almost \$300 billion a year."

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Contact - [Nils Hammarlund](#), Ext. 42871 / [Odile Maisse](#), Ext. 46201

Important Meetings and Events

WTO events

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 12 December | Launch of "Regulation of Energy in International Trade Law: WTO, NAFTA and Energy Charter" published by Kluwer Law International
WTO Headquarters |
| 12-13 December | UN Regional Commissions Global Trade Facilitation Conference
"Connecting International Trade: Single Windows and Supply Chains in the next decade" |
| 15-17 December | Eighth WTO Ministerial Conference |

[Events Calendar 2011](#)

Upcoming Summits and Events

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 15 December | EU-Russia Summit, Brussels |
|--------------------|----------------------------|

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Calendar of committee's meetings for 2012

The next regular meeting of the Committee on International Trade will take place on Wednesday January 25, 2012, 9.00 - 12.30 and 15.00 - 18.30 and on Thursday January 26, 2012, 9.00 - 12.30 in Brussels. The annual calendar can be found [here](#).

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