



Newsletter of the European Parliament Committee on International Trade

This issue's highlights

- Priorities of the Danish Presidency***
- Votes on Morocco Trade agreement on agricultural products and Omnibus I***
- Workshop on European SMEs and International trade***

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The previous meeting of the Committee on International Trade took place on Tuesday December 20, 2011 (9.00-12.30 and 15.00-18.30) in Brussels. The following items were on the [agenda](#).

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

Consideration of working document

The committee advanced in its work on this pertinent own-initiative report by considering a working document presented by the rapporteur, Niccolò Rinaldi. The rapporteur's approach aimed at offering practical solutions that would improve the life of the citizens in Southern Mediterranean countries by opening up markets and ensuring that the benefits of such opening are enjoyed by everyone and not just the selected few. The working document touches upon the importance of increasing investment in the regions particularly for SMEs, and how SMEs should form the background of any commercial strategy that the EU devises for the region. Other points proposed included the facilitation of movement for business representatives across the two sides of the Mediterranean, the effective implementation of the "more for more" approach through Deep and Comprehensive FTAs and progressive market opening.

<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 (consent)

The Committee considered the draft recommendation presented by the rapporteur José Bové. The Draft Recommendation proposes that Parliament rejects its consent to this agreement. The rapporteur gave the reasons that led him to his conclusion, which included damages to the small agricultural enterprises on sides, environmental concerns and political considerations. A detailed debate followed, with several Members expressing concern over various aspects of the agreement and indicating that rejecting the consent might not be the way to solve address these worries. The Committee, ultimately, decided that the recommendation should be accompanied by a non-legislative resolution where Parliament can express its concerns in more detail.

<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	Cons. of a draft recommendation: 20/12/2011
Procedure: 2010/0248(NLE) - INTA/7/03836	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](#)

3. EU and China: Unbalanced Trade?

Consideration of draft report

Marielle de Sarnez (ALDE) presented the draft report on EU and China trade relations. 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 e.g. 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. 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 should create a body for prior controls on strategic foreign investment on its soil. In the discussion it was raised that Member States should seek to join effort in their relations with China. It should also be born in mind that there are severe internal imbalances in the Chinese economy. It was also appealed that the role of the SMEs in this trade relationship should be brought more to the forefront.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Marielle De Sarnez (ALDE)	Exchange of views: 11/10/2011
Responsible administrator: Heikki Suortti	Cons. of a draft report: 20/12/2011
Procedure: 2010/2301(INI) - INTA/7/04390	Deadline for Ams: 20/1/2012, 18.00
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption INTA: 29/2-1/3/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: Apr-12

Related documents can be found [here](#)

4. Achievements of the Polish Presidency in the area of International Trade Policy

INTA held an extensive exchange of views with the Minister Hanna Trojanowska, Undersecretary of State, responsible for trade, representing the President-in-Office of the Council who presented the achievements in the area of International Trade Policy, inter alia the Russia's WTO accession, two Trade Omnibus proposals, GSP reform, free trade agreements with Peru and Colombia, Central America and Ukraine and great progress regarding the trade aspects of the EU neighbourhood policy.

5. Votes

1) ***EU-Georgia Agreement on protection of geographical indications of agricultural products and foodstuffs***

Rapporteur: Vital Moreira (S&D)

	in favour	against	abstentions
Draft recommendation	24	0	0

2) ***Pedestrian safety and light emitting diodes (LEDs)***

Rapporteur: Vital Moreira (S&D)

	in favour	against	abstentions
Draft recommendation	25	0	0

3) ***EU accession to Regulation No 29 of the UN Economic Commission for Europe***

Rapporteur: Vital Moreira (S&D)

	in favour	against	abstentions
Draft recommendation	25	0	0

6. Customs enforcement of intellectual property rights

Consideration of draft opinion

INTA considered a draft opinion on a proposal for a revised Regulation to enhance customs enforcement of intellectual property rights and to streamline customs procedures. The INTA rapporteur Ms Andrés Barea (S&D) noted a need to step up international cooperation to combat counterfeiting, and to better tackle suspected counterfeit goods in transit and illicit parallel trade. Members called for a special effort on awareness-raising over risks of IPR infringing goods and for further harmonisation of customs practices to avoid point of entry "shopping" in the EU. INTA has (together with JURI) an associated Committee status on this file.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Josefa Andrés Barea (S&D)	Exchange of views: 11/10/2011
Responsible administrator: Hannariikka Nieminen	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: May-II-12 (tbc)

Related documents can be found [here](#)

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

Consideration of draft opinion

INTA discussed the draft opinion to DEVE whether or not to give consent to the second revision of the Cotonou Agreement. The rapporteur, Daniel Caspary (EPP), explained he favoured INTA to recommend giving consent. 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 given to trade adaptation strategies and tailor made 'Aid for Trade' measures. Other speakers agreed with the rapporteur and the Commission took note from the additional wishes from the committee, including micro-credits, and taxation issues.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Daniel Caspary (EPP)	Exchange of views: 22/11/2011
Responsible administrator: Leon Peijnenburg	Cons. of a draft opinion: 20/12/2011
Procedure: 2011/0207(NLE) - INTA/7/06687	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](#)

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

Exchange of views with stakeholders

The rapporteur, Vital Moreira (S&D), convened a number of stakeholders for an exchange of views, on December 20, on rubber market related issues and the future of the International Rubber Study Group (IRSG). The Parliament's consent is required for the conclusion of the amended set of rules of the Group of which the EU is member since 2002.

The EU is the world's second biggest consumer of natural rubber and depends entirely on imports. In the past few years, major price rises and high volatility have impacted on a number of commodities, including natural rubber. While there is no evidence that the financialization would have unduly influenced rubber price development, increasing market transparency is vital for the sector, was the stakeholders' message.

Despite the recent withdrawals of some key members, the IRSG remains an essential platform for rubber producing and consuming countries, and has the means to provide for the transparency sought after. The stakeholders therefore called on the Parliament to endorse the Group's continuity and to take steps to further strengthen its membership base.

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](#)

9. Scheme of generalised tariff preferences

Consideration of draft report

The rapporteur for the GSP, Christofer Fjellner (EPP) presented his draft report, which 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. In the following discussion, it was clear that these will continue to be issues for further consideration, together with other aspects such as graduation thresholds, and conditions for application and granting of the special incentive scheme, GSP+.

The deadline for amendments was fixed at 20 January 2012, and not on 13 January as had originally been proposed, in order to give more time for evaluation and assessments of the proposals.

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	Cons. of a draft report : 20/12/2011
Lead committee: INTA	Deadline for Ams: 20/1/2012, 18.00
	Planned cons. of Ams: 25-26/1/2012
	Planned adoption INTA: 29/2-1/3/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: Mar-II-12 (tbc)

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

10. European standardisation

Consideration of draft opinion

INTA considered its opinion to the IMCO Committee on the Commission proposal on European Standardisation. Standards have 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, Franck Proust (EPP), 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 distinction between standards and technical specifications. In the discussion Members raised that the principle of delegation should be respected and any duplication in standardisation work should be avoided. SMEs should also have opportunities to become more integrated in the standardisation work. It was also suggested that standardisation should be in coherence with the objectives of the EU2020 strategy.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Franck Proust (EPP)	Exchange of views: 23/11 & 8/12/2011
Responsible administrator: Heikki Suortti	Cons. of a draft opinion.: 20/12/2011
Procedure: 2011/0150(COD) - INTA/7/06244	Deadline for Ams: 5/1/2012
Lead committee: IMCO	Planned adoption INTA: 25-26/1/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: May-12 (tbc)

Related documents may be found [here](#)

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

Consideration of draft opinion

The Committee considered the draft opinion on the legislative report of the ITRE Committee on Intergovernmental agreements in the field of energy. The draft report of rapporteur Yannick Jadot (Greens/EFA) strongly supports the Commission's proposal to put in place an information exchange mechanism between Member States and between Member States and the Commission regarding intergovernmental agreements on energy. 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. In addition, 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 raised that the Union's external action should address these issues in a coherent way and that there should be a clear understanding of the competencies between the Union and Member States in this regard.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Yannick Jadot (Greens/EFA)	Exchange of views: 23/11 & 8/12/2011
Responsible administrator: Heikki Suortti	Cons. of a draft opinion.: 20/12/2011
Procedure: 2011/0238(COD) - INTA/7/06806	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](#)

12. 2010 discharge: EU general budget, Section III, Commission

Consideration of draft opinion

The rapporteur Peter Šťastný (EPP) pointed out key issues which have been taken up and supported by the committee in the past budgetary procedures. According to him, INTA should play a role in ensuring Aid for Trade policy is conducted in an efficient manner and under the rules and regulations in force. The spending figures in relation to The EU Aid for Trade have increased substantially in all regions and in all sectors. As regards macro-financial assistance (MFA), in the course of the current legislature, INTA has made politically and financially important decisions regarding spending on this instrument, and here INTA is the lead committee. It must be secured that controls regarding the macro-financial assistance by the Commission and the Court of Auditors are followed-up as required. The rapporteur also referred to the Union's SME Business centres, which have been launched in China, India and Thailand by saying that Parliament's support is good for the functioning of these centres. At the same time, we need to bear our responsibility in ensuring that sufficient controls are in place, so that a good and effective functioning of these centres we can be guaranteed.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Peter Šťastný (EPP)	Exchange of views: 8/12/2011
Responsible administrator: Heikki Suortti	Cons. of a draft opinion: 20/12/2011
Procedure: 2011/2201(DEC) - INTA/7/06945	Deadline for Ams: 5/1/2012, 18.00
Lead committee: CONT	Planned adoption INTA: 25-26/1/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: tbc

Related documents may be found [here](#)

13. Trade aspects of the Eastern partnership

First exchange of views

The committee held the 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, 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 presented his analysis of our trade relations with the Eastern partners and listened to other Members and the Commission in order to identify the priority issues to be addressed in his draft report.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Miloslav Ransdorf (GUE/NGL)	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)
Lead committee: INTA	Planned cons. of Ams: 25/4/2012
	Planned adoption INTA: 25-26/4/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: May-II-12 (tbc)

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

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The next 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). The meetings will be [webstreamed](#), except for in camera items.

1. Constituent meeting

The Committee will elect its President and Vice-Presidents for the second half of the seventh Parliamentary term. The elections will take place as the first point of the agenda of the 25 January 2012 from 9.00.

2. Monitoring Group Activities

Exchange of views

In order to monitor ongoing negotiations and to consider and report on urgent developments, INTA has created monitoring groups for the most important ongoing negotiations. The groups are composed of a standing rapporteur and shadow standing rapporteurs. All political groups are represented. In order to ensure that the whole INTA committee stays informed of the activities of monitoring groups, standing rapporteurs report back to each INTA committee meeting.

3. Amendment of certain regulations relating to the common commercial policy as regards the granting of delegated powers for the adoption of certain measures

Consideration of draft report

The committee will consider the draft report on the so-called 'Trade Omnibus II' proposal addressing 10 Regulations in the field of the Common commercial policy that were subject to 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). The new regime gives the legislator the possibility to delegate on the Commission the power to adopt non-legislative acts of general application to supplement or amend certain non-essential elements of the legislative act. The rapporteur will present his draft report containing 24 amendments.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Jörg Leichtfried (S&D)	Planned consideration of a draft report: 25/1/2012
Responsible administrator: Tatiana Mrazikova	Planned deadline for Ams: 6/2/2012, 12.00
Procedure: 2011/0153(COD) - INTA/7/06285	Planned consideration of Ams: 29/2-1/3/2012
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption in INTA: 26-27/3/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: May-I-12 (tbc)

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

4. Amendment to Annex I to Council Regulation (EC) No 1528/2007 as regards the exclusion of a number of countries from the list of regions or states which have concluded negotiations

First exchange of views

Regulation 1528/2007 (the so called Market Access Regulation) governs the EU import regime for 36 African, Caribbean and Pacific countries that negotiated Economic Partnership Agreements in 2007. With the expiry of the trade regime under the ACP-EU Cotonou Agreement, the Regulation allowed exports from these 36 countries to continue to enter the EU duty free and quota free.

The Regulation was a bridging solution for the countries that had negotiated Economic Partnership Agreements but not yet signed and ratified. In order to avoid a disruption in trade, the Regulation anticipated the duty free access that the EU offered in these agreements whilst the 36 countries moved towards ratification.

The Commission is now proposing to withdraw the Market Access Regulation for the countries that have not taken the necessary steps towards ratifying the Economic Partnership Agreements signed with the EU by the 1 January 2014.

This will be the first occasion for the INTA committee to discuss the proposal in detail, in preparation of the draft report, which is planned for the end of March.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: David Martin (S&D)	Planned exchange of views: 25/1/2012
Responsible administrator: Helena Halldorf Romero	Planned cons. of a draft report: 26-27/3/2012
Procedure: 2011/0260(COD) - INTA/7/07312	Planned deadline for Ams: 12/04/2012
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption INTA: 29-30/5/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: Jul-12 (tbc)

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

5. Engaging in energy policy cooperation with partners beyond our borders: A strategic approach to secure, sustainable and competitive energy supply

Consideration of draft opinion

Secure and sustainable and competitive energy is of fundamental importance for the EU economy and citizens and a core goal of EU policy. An EU external energy policy is crucial to complete the internal energy market. The EU imports over 60% of its gas and 80% of its oil. Increased competition risks increasing the prices even further.

The Commission has drafted a communication on 'security of energy supply and international cooperation - The EU Energy Policy: Engaging with Partners beyond our Borders'. The ITRE committee has decided to draft an INI report on it. AFET has an enhanced status (Rule 50) and INTA is giving an opinion. Rapporteur Jan Zahradil (ECR) will on 25 January presents his draft opinion, in which he welcomes the EU external energy policy and calls for greater synergy between trade and energy policy, insists on information exchange of energy contract between member states and with the Commission and stronger energy components in external relations with key partners.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Jan Zahradil (ECR)	Planned cons. of a draft opinion: 25/1/2012
Responsible administrator: Leon Peijnenburg	Planned deadline for Ams: tbc
Procedure: INI - INTA/7/08433	Planned adoption INTA: 29/2 - 1/3/2012
Lead committee: ITRE	Planned adoption in plenary: tbc

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

6. A resource-efficient Europe

First exchange of views

INTA's rapporteur for the opinion, Mr Salvatore Iacolino (EPP), will present his introductory remarks on the issue. Resource-efficient green growth strategy, which is one of the priorities of the Danish Presidency, has several trade aspects which will be in the focus of the opinion by International Trade Committee.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Salvatore Iacolino (EPP)	Planned exchange of views: 25-26/1/2012
Responsible administrator: Miriam Korteweg	Planned cons.of draft opinion: 29/2 - 1/3/2012
Procedure: 2011/2068(INI) - INTA/7/05794	Planned deadline for Ams: 8/3/2012
Lead committee: ENVI	Planned adoption in INTA: 26-27/3/2012
	Planned adoption in ENVI: April 2012

Related documents may be found [here](#)

7. Key Enabling Technologies (KET)

Presentation

A significant part of future goods and services are as yet unknown, but the main driving force behind their development will be Key Enabling Technologies (KETs), such as nanotechnology, micro- and nano-electronics including semiconductors, advanced materials, biotechnology and photonics.

Being at the forefront of the developing these technologies is essential for the future competitiveness of European business. Whilst the EU has very good research and development capacities in some key enabling technology areas, it has not been as successful at translating research results into commercialized manufactured goods and services.

In 2009 the Commission presented a Communication 'Preparing for our Future: Developing a common strategy for key enabling technologies in the EU' (COM (2009)512) and in 2010 it set up a high-level expert group tasked with developing a shared longer term strategy and action plan on the identified KETs on this issue. The expert group presented its findings and recommendations in June 2011.

On 25 January, chairman of the Sherpa Group, Prof Gabriel Crean, will present its findings and recommendations to the INTA Committee.

8. Priorities of the Danish Presidency in the area of International Trade Policy

Presentation

Ms Pia Olsen Dyhr, representing the President-in-Office of the Council, will present the Danish Presidency priorities in the area of the Common Commercial Policy. The Danes have already indicated that they will give particular attention to bilateral trade agreements, the DOHA round, the GSP regulation and market access in emerging countries. The presentation will be followed by an exchange of views with INTA Members.

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

Consideration of draft report

The Committee will consider the draft report which is expected to mostly take the same direction as the working document presented by the rapporteur during the previous meeting and which was largely welcomed by the Members.

For more information please see the [point 1](#) of the previous meeting.

[Calendar](#)

10. Scheme of generalised tariff preferences

Consideration of amendments

The committee will have an opportunity to discuss the amendments which have been tabled to the draft report by rapporteur Christofer Fjellner (EPP) on the GSP, for which the deadline will expire on 20 January 2012. The vote will take place in the next meeting of INTA.

See also [point 9](#) of the previous meeting for further details.

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

Consideration of draft recommendation (consent)

INTA will consider the draft recommendation on the conclusion of the amended Constitution and Rules of Procedure of the International Rubber Study Group (IRSG), (Rapporteur: Vital Moreira, S&D). Located in Singapore, the IRSG is an intergovernmental organization offering a forum for rubber producing and consuming countries alike on all aspects of the rubber supply chain.

Despite its shortcomings and the recent withdrawals of key players such as Thailand and the United States, the IRSG remains the only inclusive platform for the world's rubber industry. In times of high volatility of commodity prices, the Group can work on increasing market transparency to ensure fair, predictable and affordable access to rubber for all, INTA rapporteur notes.

The EU, the world's second biggest consumer of natural rubber, should strive, however, towards increasing the membership of the Group, as a strong membership base remains a prerequisite for its long-term viability and effectiveness, the rapporteur underlines

[Calendar](#)

12. State of Play on International Trade Negotiations

In camera

During the regular exchange of views with INTA, João Aguiar Machado, Deputy Director-General of DG Trade, will focus on trade relations with continental Latin America (taking into account the different stages of the various procedures).

13. Motion for resolution on child labour in cocoa sector

Votes

Before taking the decision on consent to International Cocoa Agreement 2010, INTA will vote on a motion for resolution urging to boost efforts in addressing the issue of child labour in cocoa fields. Forty-one amendments have been tabled to the text.

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

Votes

INTA will vote on conclusion of the International Cocoa Agreement 2010, signed by the EU last year. The rapporteur recommends the Parliament to give consent to the Agreement, and no amendments have been tabled to the draft recommendation.

<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
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption in plenary: Mar-I-12 (tbc)

Related documents may be found [here](#)

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

Votes

The Committee will take a decision on increasing autonomous tariff quota for imports of high-quality beef into the EU. Regulatory change is necessary in order to bring the long-lasting transatlantic beef hormones dispute to an end.

<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

Related documents can be found [here](#)

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

Votes

The Committee will vote on its draft report on the proposal for a regulation 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). There are 366 amendments in total, thereof 325 by Rapporteur and 41 by other Members.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Godelieve Quisthoudt-Rowohl (EPP)	Exchange of views: 13/4 & 12/7/2011
Responsible administrator: Marti Kalaus	Cons. of a draft report: 22/11/2011
Procedure: 2011/0039(COD) - INTA/7/05563	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](#)

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

Votes

INTA will vote on the draft recommendation presented by the rapporteur. The rapporteur proposes that the Committee rejects the consent to this agreement. Five amendments have been tabled.

[Calendar](#)

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

Votes

The Committee will vote on the oral question and motion for a resolution accompanying the consent procedure. Thirty-nine amendments have been tabled to the resolution. The votes will also concern the draft recommendation for which the rapporteur proposes that the Committee gives its consent to this agreement. One amendment has been tabled to the draft recommendation

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	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](#)

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

Votes

The draft report suggests 12 amendments to the Commission proposal and in addition 10 amendments were tabled by the Members.

[Calendar](#)

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

Votes

INTA will vote on the opinion to DEVE whether to give consent to the revised agreement of Cotonou. The rapporteur, Daniel Caspary (EPP), explained he favoured INTA to recommend give consent. No amendments were introduced, so it is only a yes or no vote.

[Calendar](#)

21. Customs enforcement of intellectual property rights

Votes

INTA will vote a draft opinion on a proposal for a revised Regulation on Customs Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights. The increasing global trade in IPR infringing goods brings both significant economic losses and risks to consumers' health and safety. According to Commission estimates, the value of the equivalent genuine products of goods seized at EU borders amounted to € 1 billion in 2010.

At EU borders, customs authorities are uniquely placed to take action against counterfeiting. INTA rapporteur Ms Josefa Andrés Barea is suggesting amendments to tackle risks related to non-EU goods in transit, to facilitate intercepting "grey market goods" and to enhance international customs cooperation.

The expanded scope of the Regulation will need to be matched with adequate resources and training for customs, she underlines. The Internal Market Committee has the lead for this file, and the INTA (together with JURI) have an associated Committee status.

[Calendar](#)

22. 2010 discharge: EU general budget, Section III, Commission

Votes

INTA is going to vote on the draft opinion on the EU general budget. No amendments were tabled.

[Calendar](#)

23. European standardisation

Votes

The draft report suggests 22 amendments to the Commission proposal and in addition 15 amendments were tabled by the Members.

[Calendar](#)

24. Repeal of Council Regulation (EC) No 1342/2007 on administering certain restrictions on imports of certain steel products from Russia

First exchange of views

This proposal from the Commission aims at repealing the Regulation (EC) No 1342/2007 which was adopted to implement the 2007 Agreement on trade of steel products by defining how to manage the quotas of steel imported from Russia. Following the accession of Russia to the WTO (pending its ratification by Russia), the 2007 Agreement will be terminated, the quotas abolished and the Regulation 1342/2007 will become unnecessary. Even if this proposal of repeal is technically very simple, this item will give a chance to the rapporteur and the other INTA Members to express their views on the deal on steel with Russia as part of its package of accession to the WTO.

<i>PROCEDURE</i>	<i>TIMETABLE</i>
Rapporteur: Robert Sturdy (ECR)	Planned exchange of views: 25-26/1/2012
Responsible administrator: Nicolas Dorgeret	Planned cons. of a draft report: 29/2-1/3/2012
Procedure: 2011/0315(COD) - INTA/7/07777	Planned deadline for Ams: 2/3/2012 (tbc)
Lead committee: INTA	Planned adoption INTA: 26-27/3/2012
	Planned adoption in plenary: Feb-II-12 (tbc)

Related documents may be found [here](#)

25. Delegation to Copenhagen, Denmark, 28-29 November 2011

Presentation

Following the recent visit of an INTA delegation to Copenhagen in preparation of the Danish Presidency, INTA Chair, Vital Moreira, will present to the Committee a report on the programme and conclusions of the delegations.

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multilaterals & bilaterals

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.

Singapore	16 - 20 January
Malaysia	7 - 10 February
Singapore	27 February - 1 March
Mercosur	12 - 16 March (tbc)
Malaysia	17 -20 April

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

WTO Dispute settlement - Recent developments

Latest DSU Developments as of 18 January 2012

- EC- Measures affecting trade in Large Civil Aircraft ("Airbus") (DS316) – on 12 January a sequencing Agreement was signed between the EU and the US. On 13 January consultations were held under Article 21.5 DS.
- On 9 January 2012 the EU requested the establishment of a WTO panel in case WT/DS426 (Ontario Feed-In Tariff Programme). The WTO DSB will consider the EU request at its next meeting (on 20 January).
- In DS425 (Chinese AD measures on X-ray scanners), the panel will be established at the 20 January DSB meeting.
- In DS 294, the arbitration has been suspended until 6 February in light of ongoing talks relating to compliance.
- On 21 December 2012 the Appellate Body report upheld te findings of inconsistency with GATT Article III:2 of the Philippines taxation régime for distilled spirits. The Panel and Appellate Body reports are up for adoption at the DSB meeting of 20 January 2012.

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

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



The highlights of the WTO's eighth ministerial conference, where the European Parliament participated with a five-member delegation, were the accession of Russia (after 18 years of negotiations), Samoa, and Montenegro, along with the clinching of a 42-country deal on public procurement, GPA, at the margins of the conference.

The conference also adopted seven different decisions, mainly a small collection of LDC deliverables, including a waiver that would allow members to grant preferential treatment to services and service suppliers of LDCs and a decision to revise the LDC WTO accession guidelines.

MC8 did not see any real negotiating, but Ministers provided political guidance for the Organisation's work for the period 2012-13, ahead of the next Ministerial Conference, with a focus on developing countries. The European Parliament delegation had, besides the participation in the conference itself, a rather heavy agenda of very interesting bilateral meetings, with WTO DG Pascal Lamy, Commissioner de Gucht, Members of the South African Parliament, the Russian chief negotiator and the Ambassadors of Brazil, Canada and others.



chairman's diary

Meetings held during week 49

- ✓ **December 6, 2011**, Meeting with the International Trademark Association for an exchange of views on ACTA
- ✓ **December 6, 2011**, Meeting with DIGITALEUROPE for an exchange of views on ACTA
- ✓ **January 12, 2012**, Meeting with Michael Punke, US Ambassador to the WTO for an exchange of views on trade relations US-EU.

trade news and studies

Briefing notes & studies by the Policy department

Delivered

- Internal briefing note on Trans Pacific Partnership and its consequences for the EU
- Internal briefing note on Trade and economic relations with Moldova
- Internal briefing note on Trade and economic relations with Georgia

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 Armenia
- Internal briefing note on Trade and economic relations with Azerbaijan
- External study on Economic significance of Russia's accession to the WTO
- Internal briefing note - Update of the 2010 Public procurement note (on GPA)
- Internal briefing note on Zambia
- Internal briefing note on Kenya

* TA = trade aspects

Workshop on European SMEs and International trade



The Workshop organised by the Policy Department of DG EXPO for the Committee on International Trade will take place on **24 January 2012**. Questions such as: How to assist SMEs accessing third markets? Are existing EU programmes helping SMEs abroad? Should Member States and the EU better coordinate their support? will be tackled.

Among invited speakers are :

Mr. Daniel Calleja Crespo, Deputy Director General from the European Commission (DG ENTR), Ms Signe Ratso, European Commission, Director of DG Trade, Prof. David Smallbone from the Kingston University London, Prof. Fabio Antoldi from Catholic University of Milan and Dr Magdolna Sass from ICEG European Centre in Hungary.

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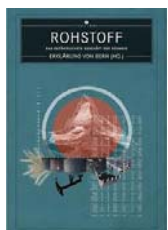
[Europe, Canada and the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement/](#) Hübner, Kurt, London: Routledge, 2011, xvi, 327 p.



"The financial and economic crisis of 2007 a " 2009 resulted in the strongest decline of world trade since the Great Depression though in this divided political and economic climate, the European Union and Canada forged ahead with a new economic partnership project that goes beyond a standard trade agreement.

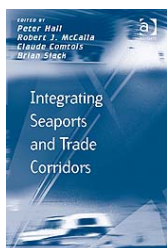
The book is a first in analyzing this ambitious project, looking at the motives, structures, strategies, potential impacts and hurdles for the EU-Canada comprehensive economic partnership."

[Rohstoff : das gefährlichste Geschäft der Schweiz/](#) Erklärung von Bern (Organization), Zürich: Salis, 2011, 433 p.

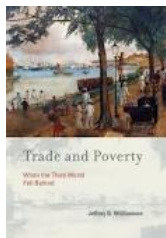


"Mit diesem Buch durchleuchtet die Erklärung von Bern (EvB) erstmals die Rolle von Schweizer Unternehmen im boomenden Rohstoff-Business und die globale Bedeutung der Rohstoffdrehscheibe Schweiz. Sie berichtet über die Hintergründe und Opfer, erklärt die Funktionsweise des Rohstoffhandels und die Konflikte in den Herkunftsländern, zeigt Alternativen und stellt Forderungen.

[Integrating seaports and trade corridors/](#) Hall P. V., McCalla Robert J, Comtois Claude, Slack Brian, Farnham: Ashgate, c2011, xviii, 292 p.



"Seaport gateways and the corridors which connect them to widely dispersed hinterlands are of vital and essential importance to international trade and the world economy. Distributing goods to ultimate land destinations or bringing the goods to seaports from inland origins is organizationally complex involving multiple actors. This book furthers understanding about how this movement is organized, the role of ports acting as gateways and the actions of corridor players."



[Trade and poverty: when the Third World fell behind/](#) Williamson, Jeffrey G., Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, c2011, xi, 301 p.

"How the rise of globalization over the past two centuries helps explain the income gap between rich and poor countries today."

Library weekly newsletter on International Trade

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

Important Meetings and Events

WTO events

25-27 January	WTO: Trade Policy Review Body, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
25-29 January	World Economic Forum Annual Meeting, Davos, Switzerland
1-3 February	WTO: Trade Policy Review Body, Nepal
7-9 February	WTO: Trade Policy Review Body, Kuwait
14-15 February	WTO General Council
21-23 February	WTO: Trade Policy Review Body, Turkey

Events calendar [2012](#)

Upcoming Summits and Events

30 January	European Council
14 February	EU-China Summit, Beijing

Useful links

INTA Links:

[List of INTA Members](#)
[INTA Intranet](#)
[INTA Internet](#)

EU Links:

[European Commission - Trade Europe](#)
[European Council](#)
[Council of Ministers](#)
[Danish Presidency](#)

Other Links

[WTO](#)
[Documents and publications](#)

Calendar of committee's meetings for 2012

The next regular meeting of the Committee on International Trade will take place on Wednesday February 29, 2012, 9.00 - 12.30 and 15.00 - 18.30 and on Thursday March 1, 2012, 9.00 - 12.30 in Brussels. The annual calendar can be found [here](#).

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