

2009 - 2014

Odbor za međunarodnu trgovinu

2013/0267(NLE)

27.1.2014

MIŠLJENJE

Odbora za međunarodnu trgovinu

upućeno Odboru za vanjske poslove

o Okvirnom sporazumu između EU-a i njezinih država članica, s jedne strane, i Republike Koreje, s druge strane (COM(2013)0551 – C7-0000/2014 – 2013/0267(NLE))

Izvjestitelj za mišljenje: Robert Sturdy

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SHORT JUSTIFICATION

The new 'Framework Agreement' for Trade and Cooperation between the EU and its Member States and the Republic of Korea (hereinafter referred to as 'Korea') was signed on 10 May 2010 in Seoul. The agreement should be ratified at the EU and national level, and implemented thoroughly without delay;

This Framework Agreement further strengthens bilateral relations between the EU and Korea beyond the scope of the EU-Korea FTA that entered into force on 1 July 2011, and it is expected to enhance the overall quality of the business climate with a view to fostering mutually advantageous trade and investment flows;

The EU and Korea have eliminated with the FTA unjustified non-tariff barriers to trade and investment, and they should continue cooperating in preventing them. Both Parties should remain actively engaged in frequent regulatory dialogue to ensure a level playing field based on internationally agreed standards, thus reducing compliance costs for businesses and protecting the purchasing power of their citizens;

Improving the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) is one of the key factors of their internationalisation, and a viable way to achieve sustainable growth and jobs creation on both sides. Therefore joint efforts should be continued in curtailing anti-competitive activities and other unfair trade practices contradicting the shared goal of open and fair trade in the service of sustainable development.

Synergies between the EU and Korea should be fostered in line with Article 8 of the Framework Agreement. In the context of on-going plurilateral and multilateral negotiations such as, but not exclusively, those on the Plurilateral agreement in services (TiSA) and the WTO's Information Technology Agreement (ITA), this may inspire viable compromises between developed economies to the overall benefit of the multilateral trade system;

Increasing foreign direct investments is important in building and modernising trade-related infrastructure, promoting environmental technologies, products and services, including environmental management systems and environmental labelling, so that open and fair trade contributes to responsible management of natural resources and biological diversity;

Both Parties should facilitate registration and protection of intellectual property rights—such as geographical indications, and to step up their efforts in fighting counterfeiting and illegal transactions. Conclusion of a bilateral agreement on trade in drug precursors would also contribute to this aim.

Odbor za međunarodnu trgovinu poziva Odbor za vanjske poslove da kao nadležni odbor Parlamentu predloži da odobri



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