

<https://www.mrecic.gov.ar/en/mercosur-canada-exploratory-dialogue-successfully-concluded>

MERCOSUR-Canada exploratory dialogue successfully concluded

08 November 2017

As a result of the technical meeting between MERCOSUR and Canada held in Brasilia on 7-8 November, the exploratory dialogue which began in April 2017 under Argentina's Presidency Pro Tempore with a view to reaching a trade agreement between both sides has concluded successfully. The promotion of dialogue was a commitment made by President Macri and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau at a meeting held in Buenos Aires in November 2016.

The Secretary for International Economic Relations, Ambassador Horacio Reyser, highlighted that this consolidates the prospects of initiating negotiations to reach a trade agreement with Canada, a developed country and a strong player in international trade.

Canada has a sophisticated and diversified market whose exports amount to USD 400 billion per annum. The country is an important trade partner for Argentina and is the only NAFTA country with which Argentina records a trade surplus, which amounted to USD 800 million in 2016.

Last October, following intensive work with the Ministry of Agro-industry, Argentine poultry meat exports gained access to the Canadian market, thus adding to beef exports.