

11th EU-Chile Association Committee

Joint Communiqué

1. The 11th Meeting of the EU-Chile Association Committee, established by the Association Agreement, took place in Brussels on 3 October 2013. The Chilean Delegation was led by Ambassador Manuel Hinojosa, Director of the Europe Division in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the European Delegation was led by Mr Roland Schaefer, Director for the Americas in the European External Action Service.

2. The meeting took place in the context of the 10th Anniversary of implementation of the Association Agreement and it was a good occasion for taking stock of the status of the relations between the EU and Chile. The Parties agreed on the excellent status of the bilateral relations and reiterated their commitment to continue developing and strengthening them further.

3. The ten years of implementation of the Agreement allowed better mutual understanding and coordination in many domains. The political dialogue was fluent and ensured better coordination within international fora. There was a significant impact in bilateral trade and investments. Today the EU is Chile's second trade partner and first provider of investments.

4. The Parties concurred that the Association Agreement remains a reference framework of the bilateral relation. The Agreement offers a considerable scope of cooperation opportunities which should be fully exploited. During the 5th EU Chile Summit in November 2012 on the occasion of the visit of President Piñera to the EU institutions, the Parties agreed to explore the options to upgrade the Association Agreement after 10 years of its implementation. The Chilean Party handed over a non-paper on the modernization of the Association Agreement at the end of the 11th Association Committee. In this context, the Parties recognized the importance of the high level meetings in the framework of the Association Agreement and expressed their commitment to the success of the next high level meeting which will be held in 2014.

5. The parties welcomed the progress made in order to establish the Joint Consultative Committee as foreseen by Article 10 of the Association Agreement. The Parties believe that the Joint Consultative Committee will be a useful tool in promoting dialogue and cooperation between the various economic and social organizations of civil society in the European Union and in Chile.

6. The EU congratulated Chile on the successful hosting of the First EU-CELAC Summit held in Santiago in January 2013. The Summit proved to be an important political stimulus in fostering bi-regional EU-CELAC relation. The Parties exchanged information on the progress in institutionalizing the EU-LAC Foundation and implementation of the EU-CELAC Action Plan as agreed in Santiago. The parties also exchanged views on regional developments in the EU and CELAC. They also addressed the latest developments regarding the Eastern Partnership.

7. The Committee welcomed the advanced stage of negotiations of the EU-Chile Framework Participation Agreement which formally started at the EU-Chile Association Council in 2011. The Agreement will set up a permanent legal framework governing Chile's participation in EU crisis

management operations. The EU thanked Chile for the on-going cooperation in the field of EU's Common Security and Defence Policy through Chile participation in operation EUFOR Althea in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Both sides expressed the wish to further strengthen their international cooperation on security and defence matter of common interest.

8. The Parties exchanged views on the global situation of human rights and referred to the excellent cooperation within multilateral fora. The Parties took stock of the progress in preparations for the 4th EU-Chile annual Human Rights Dialogue to be held in November.

9. The Parties confirmed the importance that they attach to socio-economic rights and agreed to increase cooperation in promoting the concept of corporate social responsibility. The EU-CELAC Santiago Declaration made a call to promote respect for recognised international principles, good practices and guidelines on corporate social responsibility and tasked Senior Officials with organisation of a Seminar on this subject. The Parties stressed the reference character of the EU Communication "A renewed EU strategy 2011-14 for Corporate Social Responsibility". The Parties welcomed the organization of the EU-CELAC Seminar on corporate social responsibility to be held on 11 October 2013 in Brussels in the margins of the next EU-CELAC Senior Officials Meeting.

10. With respect to the dialogue on employment, labour and social policies the Parties noted progress achieved since 2005. The last dialogue, which was held in 2012 in Brussels, Torino and Thessaloniki and focused on skills development, was successful. The EU welcomes the Chilean interest to further cooperate with EU's Member States and EU's agencies in this policy field. The Parties will identify the theme for the new round of the dialogue to be held in 2014.

11. On trade matters, the Parties shared their appreciation of the overall highly satisfactory state of bilateral trade and investment relations and the positive dynamics brought by the Agreement. The Parties reaffirmed their commitment towards an active process of multilateral trade liberalisation and rule-making, and expressed their satisfaction with the acceleration of negotiations regarding the deliverables for the ninth WTO Ministerial Conference. The Parties stressed their commitment to continue to working together in the TiSA negotiations and including on sectorial issues. The Parties had an open and fruitful exchange of views on the bilateral trade negotiations; each side is involved in, notably TTIP, CETA, TPP and Pacific Alliance.

12. The Parties reviewed the work done by the various technical committees on trade-related matters, and also exchanged views on a number of outstanding bilateral issues. Areas of constructive exchanges of views and progress include the discussions on nutritional labelling in Chile, the progress made in the Special Committee on Customs Cooperation and Rules of Origin on the modification of the rules of origin applying to several products, the advances made in the Joint Management Committee on Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary Measures on the implementation of the "single entity approach" and the discussion on simplification of import requirements of alcoholic beverages in the Joint Committee on Wine and Spirits.

13. Chile expressed its appreciation of the reopening of the EU market to Chilean beef exports, which is another example of the good relation between the Parties and encourages further dialogue in order to continue to advance in other topics of mutual interest.

14. Concerning the adaptations of the Agreement, the EU underlined its appreciation of the fact that Chile had decided to apply the preferential treatment to Croatian exports as from 1 July 2013. The Parties also had fruitful discussions on the draft Protocol to the Agreement to take account of the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union as well as on the draft Association Committee decision to amend Annex XII to the Agreement (Chile's coverage on government procurement). Regarding the consequences of the deletion of the paragraph of the explanatory notes of the Combined Nomenclature related to the classification of some fruit puree, Chile expressed its appreciation of the fact that the situation was now solved as the corresponding modifications have been inserted in the TARIC nomenclature on 26 September 2013 and they are applicable as from 2 June 2012.

15. Regarding the High Quality Beef quota request, the Parties considered positive the mutual readiness to continue the exchange of information presented. The Parties also committed to continue to work on Chile's request for recognition as a third country applying production and control standards for organic products equivalent to those of the European Union and on the recognition of equivalence in Chile of EU organic products.

16. The Parties agreed to exchange information on issues of mutual interest in the fields of public procurement and intellectual property rights.

17. Finally, the Parties agreed to organise a mid-term review of the pending trade subjects identified during the Committee to review progress on the implementation of decisions taken and to consider further practical follow up steps. Depending on results, the Parties consider that such meetings could become a regular part of the way the EU and Chile work together.

18. In the framework of their political dialogue the Parties exchanged on coordination within multilateral fora and in particular on climate change and post-2015 development agenda. The Parties welcome the invitation by the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to world leaders to attend a climate change summit in 2014. The Conference of the Parties (COP 19) in Warsaw is a fundamental milestone that should capture concrete progress of our focused work. A Warsaw Decision should outline the substance and elements that will structure the 2015 agreement. This outline should enable us to timely deliver a draft text, as provided in the Doha Decision, allowing for a single elements text delivered by COP 20 in Lima (2014) and a negotiating text before May 2015. Elements of this outline should include an international common rules based system for accounting as well as measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) to ensure comparability of efforts and environmental integrity, in the context of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.

Warsaw should also set out a process and timeline to ensure ambitious mitigation commitments from all Parties – including upgraded upfront information requirement and proposed commitments sufficiently in advance of COP 21 to allow time for an international assessment phase before commitments are finalized and the Agreement is adopted.

Chile highlighted its participation in AILAC (Independent Alliance Latin America and Caribbean), a new regional actor in the climate change negotiations.

19. As far as the post-2015 development agenda is concerned, the Parties concurred that the 2015 framework should reinforce the international community's commitment to poverty eradication and sustainable development and set out a single comprehensive and coherent framework for effective delivery and results at all levels. The Parties underlined their very close views regarding sustainable development, commitment towards a greener economy, and the increased engagement with civil society.

20. As far as cooperation is concerned the Parties welcomed the positive results of the EU funded cooperation so far and discussed the new framework of cooperation as of 2014. The Parties looked forward to continuing to develop their partnership over the medium- and long-term, applying new cooperation instruments in particular by means of the EU's thematic and the regional co-operation programmes, in areas such as science and technology, research, innovation, renewable energy, climate change and sustainable development, and to explore options for trilateral cooperation. The Chilean Party handed over to the European Party a document which describes the different mechanisms that Chile is applying to implement trilateral cooperation initiatives with key partners.

21. With respect to the dialogue on the regional policy the Parties welcomed the progress in identification of work areas of interest to both Parties. These include exchange of expertise on issues such as local governance, decentralisation, cross-border cooperation and innovation processes at regional level. As far as the latter is concerned, the Parties welcomed the successful continuation of cooperation in the implementation of regional innovation strategies in several Chilean regions.

22. The EU and Chile re-confirmed mutual interest in further developing cooperation in science and technology, in particular in the context of the EU-CELAC cooperation. The meeting of the Science and Technology Agreement Steering Committee on 11 March in Santiago emphasised importance of connecting research and innovation and bi-regional cooperation. In terms of bilateral cooperation the Parties agreed to convene joint workshops on different topics, starting with a workshop on polar research to be organized in Punta Arenas in November 2013.

23. Both Parties recognized and valued the important role of the EU-Chile Joint Parliamentary Committee as an important forum of inter-parliamentary cooperation which allows exchanges of opinions on the implementation of the Association Agreement. The Parties took note that the next meeting of the Committee will take place on 23 January 2014 in Brussels.

24. Finally, it was agreed that the 12th Association Committee will take place in Santiago, on a date to be agreed.