

Brussels, 3 October 2002

Commission adopts EU-Chile Association Agreement

Today, the Commission adopted the EU-Chile Association Agreement thus completing another milestone towards its entry into force. The Agreement will now be transmitted to the Council for its adoption, which is expected to take place in November. Once adopted by the Council and once the Chilean Congress has completed its own internal process, the trade provisions of the Agreement can enter into force. The remaining provisions will only enter into force after the assent of the European Parliament has been obtained and once the national Parliaments of the EU Member States have ratified the Agreement.

The provisions of the Association Agreement that can enter into force at an early stage include those related to the institutional framework, to the trade chapter – and more specifically the dispute settlement mechanism, government procurement, competition and trade in goods, as well as the trade-related elements of the co-operation chapter.

Background:

The EU-Chile Association Agreement can now be consulted on the following web-sites:

DG Relex:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/chile/assoc_agr/index.htm

DG Trade:

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/trade/bilateral/chl.htm>