European Commission

Management Plan 2017

DG TRADE

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Introduction

Trade is a key component of the EU's strategy for jobs, growth and investment. The EU is the largest exporter and importer of goods and services in the world and is deeply embedded in global value chains. Small and medium-sized businesses play an important role with over 600,000 of them accounting for one third of total EU exports. EU exports provide jobs for 31 million Europeans, six million of them in small and medium-sized businesses. Overall, 1 in 7 jobs in the EU depends on exports.

EU trade policy aims to ensure an open international trading system based on rules and values. This will provide access to new markets for EU exports, while also helping to ensure EU firms' access to raw materials, components and services. This is vital in today's world of global value chains, where the value of most finished goods is created across several countries.

Trade figures highly on the political agenda as reflected by President Juncker in his 2016 State of the Union address, where he stated that *"Being European also means being open and trading with our neighbours, instead of going to war with them. It means being the world's biggest trading bloc, with trade agreements in place or under negotiation with over 140 partners across the globe".*

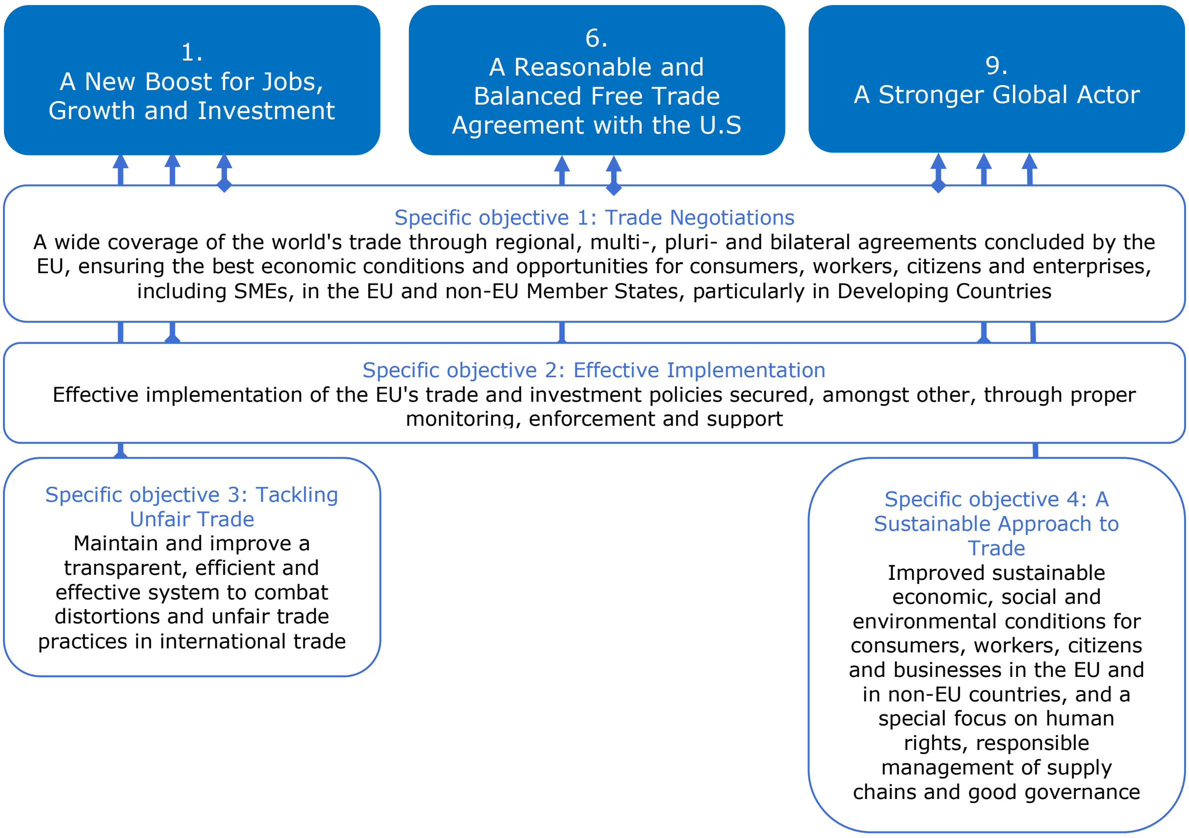
President Juncker also made clear that the EU must stand firm in the face of unfair trade practices around the world and called on Member States and Parliament to "support the Commission in strengthening our trade defence instruments."

The work programme of the Commission for the year 2017 also notes the economic and employment benefits of an open trade policy, and commits us to driving that policy forward by continuing to implement the Trade for All strategy throughout 2017, which aim to ensure a transparent, effective and value-based trade agenda.

This management plan sets out how DG Trade will continue to pursue this ambitious agenda. Doing so will mean taking account of the intense public debate on trade policy - as illustrated in particular by the challenging approval process for the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement with Canada (CETA) - as well as broader challenges posed by the UK referendum on leaving the European Union. The transition to a new administration in the US is likely to affect our work in a variety of ways, particularly under general objective No.6. At the same time, there is a continuing need for an active trade policy that can create new economic opportunities for European consumers, workers and entrepreneurs which we will need to explain convincingly. DG Trade accordingly needs to advance steadily on the wide range of ongoing negotiations; see that those which are concluded are put in to practice as quickly as possible and ensure that agreements already in place are implemented to the full, providing benefits to our citizens.

Part 1. Overview of Main Policy Outputs for the year

As set out in its Strategic Plan 2016-2020, DG Trade pursues its DG specific objectives in context of three of the Commission's general objectives. These specific objectives, together with their link to the general objectives are set out in the figure below. Our policy actions will also be aimed at achieving the objectives set out in the trade and investment policy strategy Communication "Trade for All", adopted by the College of Commissioners on 14 October 2015[1].



1 COM(2015)497

In order to achieve the specific objectives, DG Trade will actively seek to produce a number of key deliverables in 2017.

Specific objective 1: Trade Negotiations

A wide coverage of the world's trade through regional, multi-, pluri- and bilateral agreements concluded by the EU ensuring the best economic conditions and opportunities for consumers, workers, citizens and enterprises, including SMEs, in the EU and non-EU Member States, particularly in Developing Countries

The multilateral and plurilateral agenda

Under the auspices of the World Trade Organization, DG Trade will work towards the **Ministerial Conference** in December 2017 in Buenos Aires. The objective will be to achieve a good outcome in line with the EU's post-Nairobi priorities, in particular on domestic support, fisheries subsidies, domestic regulation, digital trade/e-commerce and some issues of interest to SMEs, such as transparency and good regulatory practices. Ministers will review overall progress and prospects for progress when they meet in Davos in January and Paris in June 2017.

With the expansion of the **Information Technology Agreement (ITA)** on tariffs now largely finalised, the focus should be on non-tariff barriers (NTBs). A symposium scheduled for May 2017 to mark the 20th anniversary of the ITA could be used to get NTBs more firmly on the Members' agenda, with a view to making progress towards specific collective measures, such as acceptance of test results in order to reduce burdensome conformity assessment requirements or to increase transparency by putting in place a repository by ITA Members..

DG Trade will work towards the launching of the **5th review of the Pharma arrangement** so as to incorporate new active ingredients for duty-free treatment. So far, four reviews to the agreement have been concluded.

In terms of plurilateral sectoral negotiations, DG Trade will pursue the negotiations which started in July 2014 together with 17 partners of the World Trade Organization (WTO), including the EU, for an **Environmental Goods Agreement (EGA)**[2] to remove barriers to trade in environmental or "green" goods that are crucial for environmental protection and climate change mitigation. The Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA) for these negotiations was finalised in 2016[3]. It analysed the potential economic, social and environmental impacts of the negotiations in order to help us get a better policy mix and coherence between the EU's objectives of trade liberalisation and sustainable development.

Furthermore, the Commission will continue work towards setting up a **multilateral investment court.** The court would replace the Investment Court System (ICS) currently foreseen in the EU's bilateral agreements and the Investor-State Dispute Settlement arrangements that exist in more than 3000 current bilateral investment treaties. This will involve continuing exploratory discussions with third countries and completing the impact assessment that is being done. The aim is to seek a mandate for negotiations by the end of 2017.

[2] http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1116
[3] http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/html/154867.htm

Finally, DG Trade will continue to negotiate the **Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA)**[4] with the aim of bringing them to a successful conclusion, depending on how the incoming US administration positions itself in this regard. The negotiations currently involve 23 members of the World Trade Organization (WTO), including the EU, which together account for 70% of world trade in services. TiSA is based on the WTO's General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), which involves all WTO members. The key provisions of the GATS – scope, definitions, market access, national treatment and exemptions – are also found in TiSA. It aims at opening up markets and improving rules in areas such as licensing, financial services, telecoms, e-commerce, maritime transport, and professionals moving abroad temporarily to provide services.

> "Building on the Union's successful network of free trade agreements, the Commission will continue negotiations with the US, Japan, Mercosur, Mexico, Tunisia and ASEAN countries. We will seek new mandates to open negotiations with Turkey, Australia, New Zealand and Chile. We will continue work in the WTO, including plurilateral agreements, as well as for a swift ratification of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) with Canada."
>
> *Commission Work Programme 2017*

Finalising concluded bilateral and regional negotiations

Whilst a political agreement was reached and the agreement signed by the EU and **Canada**, the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between the EU and Canada is still subject to a consent procedure of the European Parliament before provisional application can start in early 2017. Parliaments in the EU's Member States will have to ratify the agreement before it can enter fully into force.

On the bilateral and regional front, in 2015 the EU and **Vietnam** reached a political conclusion to the negotiations for a comprehensive free trade and investment agreement. Now, once the legal scrubbing and translation of the text has been done and all procedures have been finalised, the Commission will propose that the Council and the European Parliament sign and then conclude the FTA. The timing of the proposal for signature and conclusion of the free trade and investment agreement with **Singapore**[5] – negotiations concluded at the end of 2014 –depends on the ruling of the Court of Justice, which is expected to be rendered in the first half of 2017.

As for the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA) with African countries, based on the Commission proposal in December 2014, DG Trade expects that countries and regions that have not yet signed will be able to do so in 2017. This will enable us to provisionally apply the regional EPA in 16 countries of the **West Africa** region. Ivory Coast and Ghana have signed and ratified their interim EPA. Ivory Coast began applying this stepping stone EPA in September 2016 and the European Parliament gave its consent to the Agreement with Ghana on 1 December 2016. A Commission proposal for signature and provisional application, and conclusion of the full EPA with five countries of the **East African Community** (EAC) was adopted by the Council in June 2016. All EU Member States, Kenya and Rwanda signed the Agreement. Signatures of the other three African countries are needed before provisional application can start.

On-going negotiations

DG Trade will carry on with its negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement with **Japan**[6]. Talks are intensifying after 17 negotiating rounds and the prospect of finalising an agreement seem to be within reach in 2017. Following the presidential elections in the US, there is some

[4] http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/tisa/
[5] http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/singapore/
[6] http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/japan/

> "Given the common values of the EU and the United States, as well as the strategic, political, and economic importance of the transatlantic relationship, the Commission stands ready to conclude an ambitious, balanced and high-standards Trade and Investment Partnership Agreement. Given the upcoming elections in the US and the inevitable slowdown of the pace of negotiations, both parties will endeavour to consolidate the progress that has been achieved. The Commission stands ready to engage with the new US administration as soon as possible, on the basis of the mandate given to the Commission, reconfirmed by the European Council on 21 October 2016."
>
> *Commission Work Programme 2017*

uncertainty on the outlook for the negotiations for a Free Trade and Investment agreement (TTIP) with the **US**[7]. The EU will seek to find common ground with the new US administration.

In our immediate neighbourhood, negotiations will continue with **Tunisia**[8] for a Deep and Comprehensive FTA (DCFTA). **Morocco**, however, has suspended negotiations for a DCFTA pending the outcome of in-depth studies and domestic consultations. We will also work with other partners in the Southern Mediterranean region to build on the existing network of FTAs.

After a successful exchange of offers in 2016, the EU and four countries of the South American sub-regional trading bloc **Mercosur**[9] resumed negotiations on a trade chapter in the Association Agreement between the two parties. We held a first round of talks in October 2016, with the next round due to take place in March 2017. We will use an independent contractor to carry out a new Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA). Talks on agreements on investment with **China**[10] and **Myanmar**[11] will continue. We expect to conclude negotiations with Myanmar in early 2017.

Following the adoption by the Council of negotiation directives in early 2016, the EU had its first two negotiation rounds with **Mexico**[12] in June and November 2016. The negotiations are aimed at modernising the existing trade pillar of the 2000 EU-Mexico Global Agreement, which does not address some of the important trade and investment issues of today. In order to assess the agreement's potential impact, in 2017 we will use an independent contractor to carry out a Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA).

Based on the 2007 negotiating directives for FTAs with the Association of South East Asian Nations – **ASEAN –** and its member countries, in 2016 we launched negotiations with the **Philippines**[13] and **Indonesia**[14]. We held a first round of talks with each in May and September 2016 respectively. Two negotiating rounds are planned in the first half of 2017. In 2016 we sent a request for services for an independent contractor to carry out Sustainability Impact Assessments (SIA) for the negotiations with both countries, a final report being due by the end of 2017.

We also plan a Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA) for the EU's trade negotiations with **India**[15], in case the negotiations resume in 2017. Key outstanding issues include improved market access for certain goods and services, government procurement, geographical indications, sound investment protection rules, and sustainable development.

[7] http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/united-states/
[8] http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/tunisia/
[9] http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/regions/mercosur/
[10] http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/china/
[11] http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/myanmar/
[12] http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/mexico/
[13] http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/philippines/
[14] http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/indonesia/
[15] http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/india/

DG Trade will further collaborate with the European External Action Service (EEAS) on working towards finalising a new framework agreement with **Armenia**[16]**,** enhancing our bilateral relations, including trade.

The proposal of new bilateral negotiations

On 21 December 2016 the Commission recommended to the Council starting negotiations with **Turkey**[17] to enhance EU-Turkey bilateral trade relations and to modernise the Customs Union between us.

The Commission is working on recommending to the Council that the EU launch new FTA negotiations with **Australia**[18] and **New Zealand**[19], and that the EU modernise its existing 2003 FTA with **Chile**.

Furthermore, in 2017 the European External Action Service will launch negotiations with **Azerbaijan**[20] for an Association Agreement. DG Trade will contribute to this process on the trade provisions.

The Commission will continue working towards a scoping exercise in view of possible investment negotiations with Hong Kong, as well as with the separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu.

In light of the '**Trade for All'** Communication, we will pay special attention to ensuring our negotiations are transparent by extending the TTIP transparency initiative to all the EU's trade negotiations. Furthermore, the Communication sets out the objectives in terms of the substantive scope of all future EU FTAs.

An overview of all on-going bilateral negotiations can be found in annex 1.

Specific objective 2: Effective implementation

Effective implementation of the EU's trade and investment policies secured, amongst other, through proper monitoring, enforcement and support

The EU currently has 36 bilateral/bi-regional trade agreements in place (including the ones under provisional application), which cover over 65 partners. With still more agreements being provisionally applied during 2016 and 2017, we will strengthen the focus on maximising the benefits of our trade instruments through proper implementation and enforcement of our trade and investment rights. As far as FTAs are concerned, the 'Trade for All' Communication announced that the Commission will enhance its partnership with Member States, the European Parliament and stakeholders for implementing the EU's trade agreements. In 2017 we will reinforce our outreach to these actors and focus, among other things, on awareness-raising, regular structured exchanges on FTA related activities on market access and on sustainable development side, and SME internationalisation. With regard to trade promotion activities, we encourage Member States to strengthen their actions, share best practice and prioritise countries where we have recently concluded agreements or anticipate doing so in the next 12 to 18 months.

[16] http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/armenia/
[17] http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/turkey/
[18] http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/australia/
[19] http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/new-zealand/
[20] http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/azerbaijan/

As part of this, we will continue to report regularly about trade barriers and protectionist trends. In 2017 we will for the first time issue an annual report on the implementation of Free Trade Agreements. This report is complementary to the individual reports that we produce on an annual basis for our most recent trade agreements, which show the effects of these agreements on trade.

Two important measures DG Trade has taken are the setting up of an internal FTA Coordination and Coherence Group and the appointment of a Coherence Officer of Implementation. Both are responsible for overseeing the implementation of the EU's trade agreements and ensuring a more effective and coherent approach to implementation.

More specifically, in relation to individual bilateral agreements, DG Trade monitors the implementation of the various agreements that have entered into force or are provisionally applied. Most recently, the EU-**Canada** Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) was signed. The European Parliament's consent to the Agreement is expected in early 2017, with provisional application likely to take place thereafter. A range of specialised committees and working groups will monitor how CETA is implemented

We will implement the EU strategy on **China** adopted in June 2016[21]. We will, in particular, focus on bilateral strategic discussions on trade and investment issues covering China's agenda for economic reforms; overcapacity concerns (particularly on steel, export controls); Chinese investments in the EU, and synergies between the investment negotiations and the Investment Plan for Europe; market access; and intellectual property rights. Implementation of the strategy also entails following plurilateral and multilateral discussions at the level of G7, G20, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and World Trade Organization on issues such as overcapacity or export credits.

We will maintain focus on the **South Korea** FTA[22] through the management of six specialised committees, seven working groups and the annual FTA Trade Committee, as well as through the internal Commission task force, which regularly deals with specific market access cases and other issues related to the implementation of the FTA. As part of this monitoring, in 2017 we will finalise a report with an interim evaluation.

Within Latin America[23], we will continue to monitor the implementation of the **Colombia/Peru** and **Central America** Agreements[24] through the management of the specialised committees and the annual Trade Committee/Association Council. Substantive work is carried out in EU Delegations in the countries concerned and Commission headquarters in Brussels will continue to monitor the implementation of specific issues. They will also carry out activities in the EU and the partner countries for disseminating information about the agreements and will plan joint activities for supporting implementation of the agreements. **Ecuador**'s accession to the trade agreement with Colombia/Peru will start to apply provisionally as of 1 January 2017. Ecuador will therefore also be part of the mechanisms for monitoring implementation in place for the agreement.

We shall also continue to monitor the implementation of the DCFTAs with **Ukraine**, **Georgia** and **Moldova**. For each DCFTA the overarching Association Agreements with these countries provide an Association Committee covering trade issues and four specialised sub-committees. In 2017 we plan to issue an annual report on the implementation of each of the three DCFTA.

21http://eeas.europa.eu/archives/docs/china/docs/joint_communication_to_the_european_parliament_and_the_council_-_elements_for_a_new_eu_strategy_on_china.pdf

22 The EU-Korea FTA has been provisionally applied since July 2011, and was amended in 2014 to include Croatia as a party to the FTA with effect from 1 July 2013.

23 http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/regions/andean-community/

24 The EU-Colombia/Peru FTA and EU-Central America DCFTA have been provisionally applied since 2013.

> "In view of the 5th EU-Africa Summit which will take place at the end of 2017, we will propose a new approach which should define the EU's strategic objectives and priorities in its relations with Africa. This would also contribute to the African pillar of the post-Cotonou framework, which the Commission will shortly present, and should also emphasise the crucial importance of our trade relations with African partners."
>
> *Commission Work Programme 2017*

Monitoring of **Economic Partnership Agreements** (EPAs) with African, Caribbean and Pacific countries (ACPs) also remains important. In 2016, five countries of the South African Development Community (**SADC**) started provisional application of the EPA with the EU. Monitoring concerns all relevant aspects, including compliance with EPA commitments as well as indicators of the agreement's impact on sustainable development. We have scheduled annual meetings of the joint EPA bodies (Cariforum-EU, Trade & Development Committee, Eastern and Southern Africa-EU EPA Committee, Pacific EPA Committee) for 2017. DG Trade will continue to contribute to the negotiating directives on the reviewed partnership with ACP (post-Cotonou) to be submitted to the Council in 2017 as well as to the preparation of the EU-Africa summit which will take place in November 2017.

DG Trade will continue to engage with key trading partners to cooperate towards an adequate and efficient **protection and enforcement of intellectual property (IP) rights**. We will do so mainly through regular bilateral Dialogues and/or Working Groups that enable the Commission to raise systemic IP issues, to share best practices and, where appropriate, to offer developing countries help, e.g. in improving domestic legislation and enforcement practices. In 2017 we will hold IPR Dialogues and Working Groups with Brazil, China, Hong Kong, Korea, Ukraine, Taiwan, Thailand and Turkey.

Moreover, DG Trade will ensure a well-focused and coordinated approach, preventing and solving market access barriers, with preferential and non-preferential partners, through the continued screening and commenting on notifications and meetings with **Market Access Partnership bodies**. DG Trade's activities in this area also includes its work with the SPS Market Access Working Group on identifying and agreeing on a mid- to long term strategy to tackle SPS measures and the continued financial support to international standard setting organisations.

Furthermore, we will continue to enforce the EU's multilateral and bilateral rights and obligations through the World Trade Organization's (WTO) dispute settlement or through bilateral dispute settlement mechanisms if applicable. DG Trade also manages cases brought in investor-state dispute settlement mechanisms, i.e. the Energy Charter Treaty and under the Grandfathering Regulation[25]. We will continue to monitor how WTO members comply with their membership commitments.

As to the plurilateral part of our work (negotiations with subsets of the WTO membership), under the **Information Technology Agreement** (ITA-2) negotiations, the EU – together with the vast majority of the WTO members that were participating in the talks – agreed at the 10th Ministerial WTO Conference to eliminate custom duties on 201 high-tech products. The EU will encourage other WTO members to join the ITA-2 and to extend the agreement's coverage to non-tariff barriers.

In December 2015 the World Trade Organization's **10th Ministerial Conference** agreed on a global trade deal to benefit developing countries in Africa and around the world by getting rid of trade distorting export subsidies in agriculture. For the first time, EU producers will see a level playing field in export competition – a key priority for EU negotiators. DG Trade will continue to implement the Trade Facilitation Agreement by providing technical assistance and outreach to WTO members with a view to increasing the number of them that have ratified the agreement. The agreement is expected to enter into force in the first quarter of 2017.

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[25] Regulation (EU) No 1219/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2012 establishing transitional arrangements for bilateral investment agreements between Member States and third countries

Specific objective 3: Tackling unfair trade

Maintain and improve a transparent, efficient and effective system to combat distortions and unfair trade practices in international trade

The pending proposal for modernising the EU's trade defence rules was discussed at the highest political level during 2016 and the Commission is seeking to facilitate agreement on the proposal early in 2017. The 2013 Commission proposal on modernisation of the EU's Trade Defence Instruments[26] received new impetus following the steel crisis. Among other things, it would make it possible to impose provisional anti-dumping measures more quickly and would allow the EU not to apply the Lesser-Duty Rule where the exporting country distorts raw material prices, for instance by introducing export restrictions on them.

In November 2016, the Commission presented a proposal[27] for a new method for calculating dumping on imports from countries where there are significant market distortions, in particular where the state has a pervasive influence on the economy. The purpose of the proposal is to make sure that Europe has trade defence instruments (TDIs) that are able to deal with current realities, notably overcapacities, in the international trading environment, while fully respecting the EU's international obligations in the legal framework of the World trade Organization (WTO). The proposal, which introduces changes to the EU's anti-dumping and anti-subsidy legislation, follows a broad public consultation and is accompanied by an impact assessment[28]. The proposal comes in the context of the expiry of certain provisions of **China**'s WTO accession protocol by 11 December 2016 and a changing trading environment.

> "We are also committed to ensuring that trade remains fair by updating and modernising Europe's trade defence instruments in order to ensure they are fully sustainable in light of new economic challenges such as over-capacity and changing legal realities, as the expiry of certain provisions of WTO accession protocols. It is now urgent that the Council solves the stalemate on our proposal from 2013 to modernise Trade Defence Instruments, including a reform of the lesser duty rule[1]. The European Council called on 21 October 2016 for an urgent and balanced agreement on the Council position for a comprehensive modernisation of all trade defence instruments by the end of 2016."
>
> *Commission Work Programme 2017*

As announced in the 'Trade for All' Communication, DG Trade, in consultation with other DGs, is currently analysing the feasibility of several possible measures for making trade defence proceedings more transparent. Some of these initiatives, such as granting access to the confidential file, would require changing the Basic Anti-dumping Regulation.

Furthermore, in the current situation of overcapacity in the steel sector, a Global Forum on steel excess capacity was launched in Berlin on 16 December to implement the commitment undertaken by the G20 Leaders at their summit in September 2016.

> "The Commission will also play a leading role in the implementation of the Global Forum on steel excess capacity, under the auspices of the G20."
>
> *Commission Work Programme 2017*

DG Trade will continue to work on accelerating this process and further developing Global Forum activities in the first half of 2017.

In parallel, and in addition to this multilateral exercise, DG Trade will continue to push China to deliver on its bilateral commitment between the EU and China and

[26] COM(2013)192: http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/november/tradoc_155079.pdf
[27] COM (2016)721: http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/november/tradoc_155079.pdf
[28] http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/november/tradoc_155080.pdf

establish a bilateral platform on steel the objectives of which are similar to the Global Forum's goals.

The EU uses trade defence instruments to re-establish a competitive environment for EU industry when it is harmed by unfair imports.

DG Trade will continue to maintain and improve a transparent, efficient and effective system to combat distortions and unfair trade practices. We will continue to complete investigations, which are subject to the scrutiny of the European Court of Justice and the WTO's Dispute Settlement Body, within the mandatory deadlines and endeavour to do so even sooner. DG Trade will make investigations more transparent and efficient by using a new web platform (TRON) for consulting files and communications with parties participating in the investigations.

DG Trade also actively participates in trade defence investigations by non-EU countries against EU Member States with the aim of minimising the cost for EU exporters.

Specific objective 4: A sustainable approach to trade

Improved sustainable economic, social and environmental conditions for consumers, workers, citizens and businesses in the EU and in non-EU countries and a special focus on human rights, responsible management of supply chains and good governance

As foreseen in the 'Trade for All' Communication, DG Trade will reinforce its agenda to promote sustainable development, human rights and good governance, in the spirit of the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including by ensuring that FTA provisions related to these and the Generalised Scheme of Preferences[29] are implemented effectively.

The Commission will continue to negotiate ambitious provisions for promoting respect of labour rights and protection of the environment in line with the international commitments. Once trade agreements enter into force, the Commission will work with trading partners to fully and effectively implement relevant provisions, thereby supporting decent work and the conservation and sustainable management of the environment. The Commission will also pursue a better link between trade policy instruments (e.g. Generalised Scheme of Preferences, sustainable development chapters in FTAs) and cooperation with the aim of promoting labour rights and environmental protection. Dedicated funding will be provided to the International Labour Organization (ILO) for capacity building on labour rights project to relevant trading partners.

In 2017, DG Trade will continue to operate the Generalised Scheme of Preferences arrangement, including – when necessary – changing the list of beneficiaries. Special focus will be placed on monitoring GSP+ beneficiaries' compliance with their obligations in order to ensure steady progress in the effective implementation of the relevant 27 international conventions.

DG Trade has launched an external study to assess the application of the current GSP Regulation. The results of this assessment will feed into a report to be adopted by end 2017. The regular biennial report on the effects of GSP is also due end 2017.

[29] The EU's Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP) is designed to help developing countries integrate in the international trade system by making it easier for them to export their products to the EU. This is done in the form of partly or fully reduced tariffs for their goods when entering the EU market. Through the additional export revenue which is generated, GSP fosters growth in their income and supports their development.

In the same spirit of promoting good governance, in cooperation with EU Member States and the European Parliament the Commission will work on further defining its approach on how to better promote and contribute to the fight against corruption affecting trade in investment.

In the current deteriorating security environment, it is also important that trade policy contribute to the preservation of international peace and security whilst ensuring the protection of human rights. Therefore, the Commission tabled a recast proposal[30] of the Regulation on controlling exports of dual use items[31]. The purpose of the proposal is to strike a balance between ensuring a high level of security and adequate transparency, and maintaining the competitiveness of European companies and legitimate trade in dual-use items. DG Trade will monitor the legislative procedure closely.

The legislative proposal on minerals originating from conflict-affected and high-risk areas has been agreed in trilogues in November 2016 and is expected to be adopted by the Council and the European Parliament in April or May 2017. The Regulation will enter into application in 2021. In 2015 and 2016 outreach dialogues on conflict minerals began with a number of trading partners including China, India, United Arabic Emirates, Colombia, Malaysia and Thailand. These will continue in 2017, together with dedicated funding for a project by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development to assess and align industry due diligence schemes on conflict minerals. Guidelines on conflict-affected and high-risk areas for the regulation's stakeholders, as well as specific guidelines for EU Member States' competent authorities will be developed throughout 2017.

[30] COM(2016)616: http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/september/tradoc_154976.pdf
[31] Regulation (EC) No 428/2009

Performance tables setting out concrete deliverables for the year

Relevant general objectives:

1. A New Boost for Jobs, Growth and Investment

6. A Reasonable and Balanced Free Trade Agreement with the US

9. A Stronger Global Actor

Specific objective 1. Trade Negotiations

Main outputs in 2017:		
Commission Work Programme outputs		
EU-Australia and EU-New Zealand free trade agreements *2015/TRADE/040*	College adoption of recommendations to launch negotiations	Q2 2017
Modernisation of the trade part of the EU-Chile Association Agreement *2015/TRADE/039*	College adoption of recommendations to launch negotiations	Q2 2017
Other important outputs		
Description	**Indicator**	**Target date**
Enhancement of the EU-Turkey bilateral trade relations and the modernisation of the Customs Union *2015/TRADE+/035*	Launch of negotiations	2017
Environmental Goods Agreement (EGA)	Completion of negotiations College adoption of Commission proposal for Council Decision on conclusion	Q4 2017 2018
Myanmar Investment Agreement	Completion of negotiations	Q2 2017
China Investment Agreement	Exchange of offers	Q3 2017
Commission proposals for Council decisions on signature and conclusion of the EU-Singapore FTA *2015/TRADE/020* *2015/TRADE/021*	College adoption of proposals for Council Decisions *(following pending ECJ ruling on the agreement)*	2017
Commission proposals for Council decisions on signature and conclusion of the EU-Vietnam FTA *2015/TRADE/046 and 047*	College adoption of proposals	2017
Regulation implementing the bilateral safeguard clauses of	College adoption	Q1 2017

the EU-Vietnam and EU-Singapore Agreements		
Trade part of Association Agreement with Armenia	Completion of negotiations	Q2 2017
Trade part of Association Agreement with Azerbaijan	Launch of negotiations	Q1 2017
Post Nairobi Negotiations (WTO)	Submission of textual proposals in the WTO	Q1, Q2, Q3 and Q4 2017
Council decision on adaptation of EU-Chile Association Agreement to take account of Croatia's accession to the EU *2015/EEAS+/001 and 002*	College adoption of proposal for Council decision	Q1 2017
Council decision on adaptation of EU-Mexico Global Agreement to take account of Croatia's accession to the EU *2016/EEAS/018 and 019*	College adoption of proposal for Council decision	Q1 2017
Council decision on adaptation of EU-Central America Association Agreement to take account of Croatia's accession to the EU	College adoption of proposal for Council decision	Q4 2017
Possible investment negotiations with Hong Kong	Continue working towards scoping exercise	Q1 2017
Possible investment negotiations with The separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu	Continue working towards scoping exercise	Q1 2017
Important items from financing decisions		
Description	**Indicator**	**Target**
Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA) for FTA with the Philippines *[2016 budget]*	Contract signature Interim report Final report Commission Position Paper	February 2017 July 2017 December 2017 March 2018
SIA for FTA with Indonesia *[2016 budget]*	Contract signature Interim report Final report Commission Position Paper	February 2017 July 2017 December 2017 March 2018
SIA for Agreement with Mercosur *[2016 budget]*	Contract signature Interim report	February 2017 July 2017

	Final report Commission Position Paper	December 2017 March 2018
SIA for FTA with India *[2016 budget]*	Contract signature Interim report Final report Commission Position Paper	March 2017 September 2017 February 2018 May 2018
SIA for Agreement with Mexico	Contract signature Interim report Final report Commission Position Paper	March 2017 September 2017 February 2018 May 2018
SIA for Agreement with Turkey	Contract signature Interim report Final report Commission Position Paper	June 2017 December 2017 May 2018 September 2018
SIA for FTA with Australia and New Zealand	Contract signature Interim report Final report Commission Position Paper	October 2017 April 2018 September 2018 December 2018
SIA for Agreement with Chile	Contract signature Interim report Final report Commission Position Paper	October 2017 April 2018 September 2018 December 2018
WTO Trust Fund - LDCs participation in the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference	Contract signature	June 2017

Specific objective 2. Effective Implementation

Main outputs in 2017:		
Description	**Indicator**	**Target date**
Convention to establish a multilateral court on investment *2016/TRADE/024*	Adoption of Commission recommendation to open negotiations	Q4 2017
WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement	Entry into force of the agreement	Q1 2017
Trade and Investment Barriers Report *PLAN/2016/470*	College adoption	June 2017
Free Trade Agreement Implementation Report *PLAN/2016/469*	College adoption	October 2017
Annual report South Korea *PLAN/2016/465*	College adoption	March 2017
Annual report Central America *2016/TRADE/018*	College adoption	April 2017
Annual report Colombia/Peru *2016/TRADE/019*	College adoption	April 2017

Annual report Georgia *2015/TRADE/066*	College adoption	October 2017
Annual report Moldova *2015/TRADE/067*	College adoption	October 2017
Annual report Ukraine	College adoption	October 2017
Important items from financing decisions		
Description	**Indicator**	**Target**
Interim ex-post evaluation of the implementation of the EU-Korea FTA *2015/TRADE/054* *[2016 budget]*	Interim report Final report Staff Working Document	April 2017 August 2017 October 2017
FAO/IPPC - Implementation and Review Support System (IRSS) for 3 years 2017 - 2020)	Contract signature	November 2017
Contribution to the WTO-DDA Global Trust Fund for 2017	Contract signature	June 2017

Relevant general objective 1. A New Boost for Jobs, Growth and Investment

Specific objective 3. Tackling Unfair Trade

Main outputs in 2017:		
Description	**Indicator**	**Target date**
TDI investigations conducted in an effective and efficient manner.	Completion of investigations within statutory deadlines or, whenever possible, a month earlier	Demand driven. To be adopted within the regulatory deadlines
	Timeliness of conclusion of investigations	100% of investigations concluded within deadlines while 10% of new investigations concluded before the mandatory deadline (by at least a month)
Proposal for Regulation of EP and Council amending Regulation 2016/1036 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the EU and Regulation 2016/1037 on protection against subsidised imports from countries not members of EU – related to introducing new dumping calculation methodology *COM (2016)721*	Adoption by Council of EU and European Parliament	Q3 2017
Proposal for Regulation of EP and Council amending Regulation 2016/1036 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the EU and Regulation 2016/1037 on protection against subsidised imports from countries not members of EU – related to modernisation of the EU's trade defence instruments *COM(2016) 721*	Adoption by Council of EU and European Parliament	Q3 2017
Global Forum on steel excess capacity	Set up Forum Implementation	Q1 2017
Transparency initiative	Impact assessment and/or public consultation on increased transparency in TDI proceedings	Q3 2017
14th Annual report on overview of third countries trade defence actions against the EU *PLAN/2016/474*	College adoption	June 2017
35th Annual Report on the	College adoption	Q4 2017

EU's Anti-Dumping, Anti-Subsidy and Safeguard activities *PLAN/2016/478*		

Relevant general objective 9. A Stronger Global Actor

Specific objective 4. A Sustainable Approach to Trade

Main outputs in 2017:		
Description	**Indicator**	**Target date**
Export control review - Proposal for a Regulation of the EP and Council setting up a Union regime for the control of exports, transfer, brokering, technical assistance and transit of dual-use items (recast) *2015/TRADE/027 – COM(2016)616*	Adoption by the European Parliament and the Council	2018
Commission Delegated Regulation updating the EU control list for dual-use items *PLAN/2016/467*	Commission adoption	Q3 2017
Export control annual report *PLAN/2016/466*	Commission adoption	Q2 2017
International Procurement Instrument - Commission amended proposal for a Regulation of the European parliament and the Council on access of third-country goods and services to the Union's internal market in public procurement and procedures supporting negotiations on access of Union goods and services to the public markets of third countries. *Initial proposal: COM(2012)124* *Revised proposal: COM(2016)34*	Adoption by the European Parliament and the Council	2017/2018
Possible amendments to the annexes of the GSP Regulation based on annual review	College adoption	Q4 2017
Commission proposal for a Regulation on minerals from conflict-affected and high-risk areas *COM(2014)0111*	Adoption by the European Parliament and the Council Guidelines to be developed: - Conflict-affected and high risk areas - Member States Competent authorities	Q1-Q2 2017 2017 2017
Amendment of Regulation (EU) 2015/936 – abolition of autonomous quotas on imports of textiles and clothing originating in	Adoption by the European Parliament and the Council	Q2 2017

the Republic of Belarus *COM (2014)44*		
Extension of the Uzbekistan PCA to bilateral trade in – textiles *COM (2010)664*	Adoption by the Council	Q1 2017
Temporary autonomous trade measures for Ukraine *COM(2016) 631*	Adoption by the European Parliament and the Council	Q1 2017
Important items from financing decisions		
Mid-term evaluation report on GSP	Interim report Final report	May 2017 October 2017
ITC - Sustainability schemes including fair trade award (renewal of 2016/D1/D07)	Contract signature	September 2017
OECD – Supporting the activities of the Global Forum on Steel Supporting the OECD work on responsible supply chains	Contract signature	Q1 2017 July 2017
ILO - capacity building on labour rights project to relevant trading partners	Contract signature	October 2017

Part 2. Overview of Organisational Management Outputs for the year

Human resources

DG Trade staff engagement (i.e. overall indicator for staff satisfaction) in 2016 remains above the Commission average at 67% and has improved by 2 percentage points since the last staff satisfaction survey. Despite this very positive feedback, results on well-being continue to be below the Commission average (26%) and have even decreased since the last staff satisfaction survey. Being mindful of the very high workload in DG Trade, further actions seeking to improve work-life- balance/well-being, focussing on managing stress and workload (including through elements of flexibility like teleworking and flexitime) - will be a priority for the coming year. DG Trade is also taking very seriously its commitment to promote gender equality. Compared to the baseline figure 2015 (18.5%) we have increased substantially the percentage of female middle managers towards our target 2019 and now stand at 24.1%.

DG Trade continuously analyses how efficiently and effectively it manages human resources. This enables it to prepare for forward planning of staff in order to optimise the human resources needed for implementing its policy objectives while at the same time ensuring staff engagement through learning and development, well-being and diversity actions.

DG Trade further prepares a Resources Report (covering both financial and human resources) twice a year and circulates it to management. The report focuses on and analyses vacancy rates, rate of and length of sensitive posts, turnover of staff, the proportion of external staff/statutory staff, work/life balance, gender balance in AD and management positions, and absence management.

Each year, we hold a spring and autumn review, where, together with Senior Management, we look at the human resource and mobility situation in the DG. These reviews also help DG Trade's senior management decide how to meet the compulsory Commission cut and tax of staff posts for the redeployment pool; to decide any needs for further reinforcement, or whether to consider internal redeployments of staff. Through this process, continuous redistribution of human resources within the DG is possible so that we can meet our priorities while at the same time balancing insufficient staff levels and turnover of staff. Where necessary, we take mitigating actions.

Objective:
To ensure the optimal use of human resources in the DG and in EU delegations by identifying possible needs for additional staff; to respond to the cutting of posts decided by the Commission; and redeploying staff as necessary to match these with the priorities of the management plan/work programme.

Main outputs in 2017:		
Description	**Indicator**	**Target**
Review on a regular basis the use of resources at headquarters and in EU delegations and, where necessary, propose redeployment of staff.	Two reviews	Spring Review - May 2017 Autumn Review – October 2017

Objective:
To motivate and retain highly qualified staff in order to maintain effective and efficient operation of DG Trade

Main outputs in 2017:		
Description	**Indicator**	**Target**
Suitable training courses to ensure that the DG has the skilled, knowledgeable and competent staff required to meet its present and future needs within all categories of staff	To organise the training sessions and teambuilding activities foreseen in DG Trade's training programming, including the Trade Seminar for staff at headquarters and in EU Delegations	By end of 2017
Recruitment of more women to ensure gender diversity primarily at middle management level but also at AD level in the DG	Percentage of women in middle management at head quarters 2016 figures 24,1% *[source: DG Trade HR Dashboard – 1 December 2016 version]*	Try to increase 2016 percentage of women in middle management in 2017. Take measures to encourage female applications to increase number of appointments with a view of a positive increase towards the DG Trade 2019 target of 30%)
Ensure the DG Trade Career Management Policy is reviewed and implement suitable actions in order to ensure high degree of staff engagement and well-being	Implement two career management actions foreseen in the revised Career Management Policy in 2017	By end of 2017

Financial Management: Internal control and Risk management

Although DG Trade manages a relatively small budget, it does acquire services for economic and impact assessment studies, for organising conferences and negotiation rounds, for IT support, and for legal and other services. These services are generally provided by specialised consultants or service providers through public procurement. In addition, DG Trade also executes part of its operational budget by awarding direct grants to international organisations with a view to implementing multilateral programmes and initiatives in the field of trade-related assistance to strengthen the capacity of developing countries to participate effectively in the multilateral trading system and regional trading arrangements and to improve their trade performance.

The budget is mainly implemented through direct management. DG Trade is expected to continue to operate a decentralised financial circuit with counter-weight. All transactions are therefore subject to an independent, ex-ante financial verification. In addition, a combination of preventive, detective and corrective controls are embedded into the programming and planning, verification, execution and monitoring, management and reporting and communication processes so as to ensure effective mitigation of the financial and management risks.

These include:

- An annual programming exercise and two mid-term reviews of budget implementation and human resource management;
- An up-to-date Finance Manual (revised each year), complemented by hands-on guidance, local training and references to central guidance;
- Financial circuits designed to ensure compliance with the Financial Regulation and its Rules of Application;
- Regular accounting controls;
- Formal reporting requirements and hand-over procedures for Authorising Officers by Sub Delegation;
- Detailed bi-annual management reporting on key human and financial resource related indicators;
- Weekly bulletins on payment delays;
- An Administrative Coordination Assistant's network;
- A DG Trade’s specific ethics framework, including an anti-fraud strategy.

Objective:
To plan, perform, monitor and report on the spending of financial resources with a view to ensure a sound, legal and regular financial management throughout the DG's activities

Main outputs in 2017:		
Description	**Indicator**	**Target**
Full implementation of the financial resources allocated to DG Trade	% of budget execution with respect to annual and final budgets Source : ABAC	Commitments: 90% Payments: 100%
Compliance with payment times	Percentage of payment files executed within legal deadlines Source : ABAC	Target > 95%
Effectiveness of controls carried out	Cost of control over expenditure authorised Source: DG Trade Annual Activity Report	Same costs for the same budget
Effectiveness of controls carried out	Number of exceptions and non-compliance events	Keep stable / reduce

	Number of decisions overriding of controls Source: DG Trade internal Registry	Zero
Quality of financial files	Number of financial files verified without any observations Source: DG Trade internal Registry	90%
Estimated residual error rate		< 2%

Objective:
To improve and contribute to strengthening DG Trade's capacity to prevent and detect fraud, thus reinforcing existing measures which are in place for the purpose of protecting the EU's financial interests, without prejudice to OLAF's investigation responsibilities for the fight against fraud

Main outputs in 2017:		
Description	**Indicator**	**Target**
Report to OLAF on the financial and administrative follow-up given to OLAF investigations	Number of OLAF cases reported Source: DG Trade	Implementation of anti-fraud strategy, and timely and quality report to OLAF when needed

Examples of specific efforts to improve economy and efficiency of financial and non-financial activities

DG Trade is continuously fine-tuning its internal arrangements in order to improve the efficiency and economy of its operations. The following two initiatives show how these principles are implemented in DG Trade:

Example 1 - HR management

DG Trade continues its efforts to absorb both the effects of budgetary austerity and the increased workload as far as possible within existing teams by developing more horizontal cooperation and constantly seeking for redeployment options, both at Commission headquarters in Brussels and in Delegations.

Example 2 – streamlining financial management

DG Trade will closely follow-up the development of the eProcurement project and pursue the deployment of the ensuing applications as the main driver of efficiency gains in financial management.

Better Regulation

The main planned outputs linked to the Better Regulation objective in the Strategic Plan are listed in Part 1 under the relevant specific objective. They are presented in the tables under the headings "All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme" and "other important items".

Information management aspects

Objective:
Information and knowledge in DG Trade is shared and reusable by other DGs. Important documents are registered, filed and retrievable.

Information is a major asset for DG Trade. There is a need to move away from managing documents in a registry-like fashion to managing the whole lifecycle of the information. For that purpose, we need to support collaboration with efficient tools. DG Trade intends to extend the use of current and future corporate tools for information and knowledge management, taking into account its specific security needs. In this context, DG Trade is developing a more strategic approach to encourage knowledge sharing and collaborative working, in line with the corporate framework, such as developing a share-by-default approach combined with a need-to-know confidentiality scheme. The objective will be, among others, to identify the information assets of corporate interest that could be shared with other services, notably for the transparency obligations.

Concerning document management, systematic filing of documents in ARES is a prerequisite for the effective and efficient sharing and reuse of the information managed by HAN (Hermes-Ares-Nomcom). It is also important with a view to ensuring a transparent approach to policy making. DG Trade will pursue its strategy of awareness raising and promoting the active use of ARES by all staff and management, together with a systematic monitoring of the use made by all TRADE departments.

Following a first step of analysis and consultation with stakeholders in DG Trade, some areas have been identified as candidates for sharing files with other DGs. This approach could be gradually expanded to all other possible areas of activity where open sharing would generate more benefits.

The integration of TRADE IT systems with HAN is another essential area to achieve efficient sharing and reuse of information. BASIS – the briefing and speeches application – has been integrated with HAN.

These initiatives should generate efficiency gains, improve the speed of processes and facilitate a more comprehensive use of the HAN tools.

Main outputs 2017:		
Description	**Indicator**	**Target**
Managing information and knowledge within DG Trade	Support sharing of critical policy and knowledge management though the adoption of KIOSK (AGRI).	December 2017

	Enable knowledge management of external stakeholders through the introduction of EMT[32] (Event Management Tool) and facilitate policy management through its interoperability with BASIS and the briefings management process. Continue to support sharing knowledge and data on trade flows and tariffs with ESTAT through ISDB. Continue to share knowledge on trade terms and conditions with companies and citizens through MADB and EH (Trade Exporthelp). Support preservation and coordination of corporate knowledge management on trade agreements and negotiations through the implementation of the NEST project.	
Increase email registration in Ares	Nr. of emails registered with Areslook	Increase ≥ 20% of 2016 rates
Better use of electronic workflows, with the reduction of errors caused by the double circulation and the reduction of paper storage	Nr. of registered documents with a fully approved e-signatory (no paper circulation in parallel).	60% of registered documents approved in full electronic mode (without paper signatories circulation)

External communication activities

EU trade policy features in three of the Juncker Commission's policy priorities with its focus on the creation of jobs, growth and investment (priority 1), the enhanced role of Europe as a global player (priority 9) and the negotiations on a transatlantic trade agreement (priority 6).

[32] Credit Transfer to FISMA and Application Service Helpdesk subject to approval by the DG TRADE IT Steering Committee (meeting on 24/11)

In 2017, the increased political and public scrutiny and interest regarding the EU's trade policy, and how it relates to globalisation is expected to continue – including in election campaigns in Member States. In particular, the ratification of the agreement with Canada (CETA) is likely to continue to be the main focus of attention. Ongoing talks for a trade agreement with Japan might also come under closer scrutiny. How the negotiations with the United States (TTIP) proceed will depend on the stance taken by new administration in Washington DC.

The DG's communications, information, outreach and transparency work at European and national level will concentrate on these priority issues. It is very important that DG Trade is able to demonstrate and explain the entire breadth and width of the Commission's trade policy activities, including in the policy's multilateral dimension, development function and its contribution to jobs and growth in the EU. We must show that trade is part of the solution to the challenges the EU faces, not part of the problem.

This is duly reflected in our communications, information, and outreach and transparency strategy. In the Communication "Trade for All" adopted in October 2015, the Commission has made a clear commitment to be more transparent in terms of opening up negotiations to more public scrutiny. This will continue to be reflected in DG Trade's communication activities.

In that context, DG Trade will continue to develop its integrated approach of being more transparent about its work; providing comprehensive information about trade negotiations and EU trade policy; engaging with civil society, stakeholders and the general public; and explaining the benefits of trade such as jobs and growth.   Within the resources available, DG Trade will continue to pursue this approach not only from Commission headquarters in Brussels, but also from Commission representations in the Member States, in particular in the three Member States where specific posts for trade communications and outreach officers were created (Berlin, Paris and Vienna). It will also continue to deploy staff to participate in grass roots level events and to work closely with Commission Representations, with a particular focus on those in Member States where public opinion is more negative. It will also seek to encourage Member State governments to play their part in communicating about EU trade policy.

The DG's own activities will be complemented with relevant material production and projects financed from the DG's communication budget. The overall estimated spending for communications actions for 2017 amounts to 4,117,000euros. This will include press- and journalist-related activities (specifically dedicated seminars), trade publications, production of multimedia communication material, policy events and regional and local activities.

The DG's activities also inscribe themselves into the Commission's corporate communications priorities. In that context, a further information and communications project on the benefits of trade is expected to start delivering clear results as of Q2 of 2017. As suggested by the European Parliament, a pilot project involving the under 30's and focusing on public information regarding trade and trade negotiations will be carried out in 2017.

The DG will invest further in three core areas: expanding and implementing the current transparency initiative; developing mechanisms to measure and evaluate the communication and outreach tools; and exploring possibilities to broaden the reach of DG Trade's communication instruments and products.

Objective:
Citizens understand and recognise the value of external trade for the EU's economic and social model. They are aware and supportive of trade agreements.

Main outputs in 2017:		
Description	**Indicator**	**Target**
Implement the integrated communications and outreach strategy	Europe Direct requests Publication downloads (visits) Website views (visits) Social media reach	1000 2,000,000 2,000,000 12,000,000
Benefits of trade information campaign: Sourcing and development of stories, content marketing in 9 EU Member States (classical media and social media) Production of relevant material (brochures, videos, online material)	Quality of material produced Downloads of material; online views	*Quantitative targets not yet agreed with contractor.*
Systematic publication or reports of negotiation rounds	Number of documents uploaded	100%
External website: keep it reliable and up to date	Number of website visits	6,000,000
Civil Society Dialogue	Number of meetings Number of public consultations	20-30 in 2017 5-10 in 2017
Important items from financing decisions		
Integrated communication action on trade policy and FTA implementation: dialogue and outreach in member states	Contract signature	December 2017

Annual communication spending:	
Baseline (2016)	Estimated commitments (2017)
EUR 2 672 001.67	EUR 4 117 000.00

Annex 1. Overview of on-going bilateral negotiations

Time line Negotiations	Impact assessment completed	Scoping	Recommendations to negotiate adopted by Commission *[provisional date]*	Recommendations to negotiate adopted by Council *[provisional date]*	Negotiations launched *[provisional date]*	Number of negotiation rounds completed	Technical conclusion /Political agreement *[provisional date]*	Legal scrubbing completed *[provisional date]*	Initialling *[provisional date]*	Translation done *[provisional date]*	Proposal to sign and provisional application adopted by Commission *[provisional date]*	Proposal to sign and provisional application adopted by Council *[provisional date]*	Consent by EP *[provisional date]*
FINALISATION													
Canada CETA	-	√	April 2009	May 2009	June 2009	-	Oct 2013	Feb 2016	NA	July 2016	5 July 2016	28 Oct 2016	*[Q4 2016-Q12017]*
Singapore FTA	-	√	April 2007	Dec 2009	Mar 2010	11	Oct 2014	May 2015	May 2015	Oct 2015	*[2017]*	*[2017]*	*[2017]*
Ecuador	-	-	-	-	-	-	July 2014	Nov 2014	12 Dec 14	May 2015	4 April 2016	11 Nov 2016	*Dec 2016*
Vietnam	-	√	April 2007	May 2012	June 2012	8	Dec 2015	*[Feb 2017]*	*[Mar 2017]*	*[July 2017]*	*[Sept 2017]*	*[Q4 2017]*	*[Q1 2018]*
West Africa	-		April 2002	June 2002	Oct 2003	-	Feb 2014	June 2014	June 2014	Sept 2014	Sept 2014	Dec 2014	*[2017[33]]*
East African Community (EAC)	-		April 2002	June 2002	February 2004	-	October 2014	*ongoing*	Oct 2014	Feb 2016	Feb 2016	June 2016	*[2017[34]]*

33 Pending completion of signature process
34 Pending completion of signature process

Time line Negotiations	Impact assessment completed	Scoping	Recommendations to negotiate adopted by Commission *[provisional date]*	Recommendations to negotiate adopted by Council *[provisional date]*	Negotiations launched *[provisional date]*	Number of negotiation rounds completed	Technical conclusion /Political agreement *[provisional date]*	Legal scrubbing completed *[provisional date]*	Initialling *[provisional date]*	Translation done *[provisional date]*	Proposal to sign and provisional application adopted by Commission *[provisional date]*	Proposal to sign and provisional application adopted by Council *[provisional date]*	Consent by EP *[provisional date]*
ON-GOING							***Expected outputs in 2017***						
US TTIP	Mar 2013	√	June 2013	June 2013	July 2013	15	*Uncertainty over the outlook of the negotiations following the US presidential elections. The EU will seek to find a common ground with the new US administration.*						
Japan FTA	Jul 2012	√	Jul 2012	Nov 2012	Mar 2013	17	*Negotiating texts and market access offers have been exchanged in all areas. Following public statements by political leaders committing to a rapid conclusion, the pace of the negotiations has accelerated significantly during the second half of 2016. An agreement on principle should be possible during the first half of 2017.*						
Thailand FTA	-	√	April 2007	Feb 2013	Mar 2013	4	*Talks have moved to text-based discussions in most areas, but no market access offers have been exchanged yet. No negotiating rounds scheduled for the time being due to the current political situation in Thailand.*						
Malaysia FTA	-	√	April 2007	Oct 2010	Nov 2010	7	*Contacts are taking place to examine the basis for a possible resumption of negotiations.*						
Indonesia FTA	-	√	April 2007	Oct 2010	July 2016	1	*2 to 3 full rounds planned for 2017, with possible additional inter-sessionals*						
Philippines FTA	-	√	April 2007	Oct 2010	Dec 2015	1	*2 rounds planned for 2017, with possible additional inter-sessionals*						
India FTA	-	√	April 2007	Apr 2007	June 2007	12	*Contacts are taking place to examine the basis for a possible resumption of negotiations.*						
Morocco DCFTA	-	√	Oct 2011	Dec 2011	Mar 2013	4	*DCFTA negotiations remained paused during 2015 and 2016, at Morocco's request, as they carried out additional internal studies and consulted civil society and other domestic stakeholders.*						
Tunisia DCFTA	NA	√	Oct 2011	Dec 2011	Oct 2015	2	*The negotiators met in Tunis in October 2015 for a first round of negotiations. Discussions remained preliminary but were also open and constructive based on the already existing good cooperation on many of the areas to be covered by the future DCFTA. A first full round of negotiations took place in Tunis in*						

Time line Negotiations	Impact assessment completed	Scoping	Recommendations to negotiate adopted by Commission *[provisional date]*	Recommendations to negotiate adopted by Council *[provisional date]*	Negotiations launched *[provisional date]*	Number of negotiation rounds completed	Technical conclusion /Political agreement *[provisional date]*	Legal scrubbing completed *[provisional date]*	Initialling *[provisional date]*	Translation done *[provisional date]*	Proposal to sign and provisional application adopted by Commission *[provisional date]*	Proposal to sign and provisional application adopted by Council *[provisional date]*	Consent by EP *[provisional date]*
							April 2016						
Mercosur	-	√	1999	-	Re-launch May 2010	10	*The next round of negotiations is scheduled for March 2017 in Buenos Aires, with an inter-sessional meeting taking place in Brussels in February. Further inter-sessional work and another negotiating round is likely for 2017.*						
Modernisation of the trade part of the EU-Mexico Global Agreement	Sept 2014	√	Dec 2015	23 May 2016	June 2016	2	*A third negotiating round should take place sometime in spring 2017 in Brussels, preceded by inter-sessional work. More inter-sessional meetings and another one round of negotiations should take place in 2017.*						
GCC	-	NA	-	Dec 1989	Oct 1990	-	*Negotiations were suspended in 2008 by the GCC. The only outstanding issue is the treatment of export duties.*						
Libya	NA	NA	Feb 2008	July 2008	Nov 2008	10	*Negotiations were suspended in February 2011. Resumption will depend on the security situation in the country.*						
Russia New Agreement	-	-	-	2008	-	12	*The negotiations for a New Agreement have been suspended by the European Council on 6 March 2014.*						
Azerbaijan PCA	-	Mar 2016	July 2016	Nov 2016	*[Jan 2017]*	-	*Advancement of the negotiations with potential conclusion in 2018*						
Armenia	-	Feb 2015	May 2015	Oct 2015	Dec 2015	4	*Conclusion of negotiations first half 2017*						
Micro States (Andorra, Monaco, San Marino)	NA	2013	April 2014	Dec 2014	March 2016	4	*Potential conclusion of negotiations in 2017*						
China investment agreement	May 2013	√	May 2013	Oct 2013	Nov 2013	12	*Twelve rounds have taken place until now; Talks intensified throughout 2016; Negotiations will continue in 2017 with a view to proceed to an exchange of offers in 2017.*						
Myanmar	Nov 2013	√	Feb 2014	Mar 2014	Mar 2014	4	*The EU made good progress in negotiations in 2016 (one round)*						

Time line Negotiations	Impact assessment completed	Scoping	Recommendations to negotiate adopted by Commission **[provisional date]**	Recommendations to negotiate adopted by Council **[provisional date]**	Negotiations launched **[provisional date]**	Number of negotiation rounds completed	Technical conclusion /Political agreement **[provisional date]**	Legal scrubbing completed **[provisional date]**	Initialling **[provisional date]**	Translation done **[provisional date]**	Proposal to sign and provisional application adopted by Commission **[provisional date]**	Proposal to sign and provisional application adopted by Council **[provisional date]**	Consent by EP **[provisional date]**
investment agreement							*and expects to conclude in the first half of 2017.*						
IN THE PIPELINE													
Turkey	*Oct 2016*		*21 Dec 2016*	*[Q1 2017]*	*[Q2 2017]*								
Modernisation of the trade part of the EU-Chile Association Agreement	*[April 2017]*	*[2017]*	*[Q2 2017]*	*[Q2 2017]*	*The scoping exercise with Chile is well advanced and should be finalised before the end of 2016/early 2017. The Commission recommendation for a Council Decision to authorise the launch of negotiations should be ready in May 2017, following the completion of the ongoing impact assessment.*								
Australia/New Zealand FTA	*[February 2017]*		*[Q2 2017]*	*[Q2 2017]*	*[Q3 2017]*								
Jordan DCFTA Egypt DCFTA	*NA*	*√*	*Oct 2011*	*Dec 2011*	*Negotiation guidelines have been adopted by the European Council which provides the Commission with the legal basis for starting negotiations with the Southern Mediterranean countries when the conditions are deemed appropriate*								
Enhanced PCA with Kyrgyzstan	*-*	*First half 2017*	*First half 2017*	*Q3 2017*	*Q4 2017*								
Convention establishing a mutilateral investment court	*[June 2017]*	*[Exploratory contacts – mid-late 2016 onwards)*	*[Q4 2017]*	*[Q1 2018]*	*Q1 2018*								