

**SEVENTH EU-CHILE ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE
BRUSSELS, 15 OCTOBER 2009
JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ**

1. The seventh Association Committee established by the European Union-Chile Association Agreement was held on 15 October 2009, in Brussels, Belgium.
2. The Chilean Delegation was led by the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Alberto Van Klaveren. The Delegation from the European Union (EU) was led by Mr. Stefano Sannino, Deputy Director General of External Relations responsible for Latin America and Asia. The Presidency of the EU was represented by Ms Elisabeth Eklund, Deputy Head of the Americas Department in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Sweden.
3. The meeting provided an opportunity for an interesting and constructive exchange of views on the implementation of the EU-Chile Association Agreement, which continues to be, for both the EU and Chile, one of the most ambitious agreements they have concluded with a third party. In this context the Parties discussed a range of issues of mutual interest in the three vital areas of the Agreement, namely political dialogue; cooperation; and trade.
4. The Parties acknowledged that the Association Agreement between the EU and Chile continues to provide an excellent framework for enhancing their relationship and mutual understanding. The Parties took note of the road map and work programme,¹ and acknowledged that the Association for Development and Innovation (ADI) could foster further intensification of consultations, cooperation and coordination at all levels within the framework of the Association Agreement. The EU and Chile therefore declared that the ADI was established.
5. Within the framework of the political dialogue, an area which both Parties acknowledged to be of paramount importance in the EU-Chile relationship, representatives of both Parties reiterated their satisfaction with the excellent state of play of bilateral relations. The discussion covered a range of global, regional and bilateral issues of mutual interest and shared concern.
6. The Parties welcomed the early signs of economic and financial stabilisation which had been supported by the exceptional policy measures taken in response to the crisis. They agreed it remained important to continue implementing sound and sustainable economic policies, and refrain from adopting protectionist measures, in order to support inclusive and balanced economic growth. The Parties welcomed the agenda agreed at the G20 Pittsburgh Summit, notably the commitments to reform the international financial institutions, and to strengthen both financial regulation and cooperation as well as support for the most vulnerable.
7. The EU and Chile emphasise that climate change is one of the most pressing challenges of our time, which requires an urgent and extraordinary global response. The developed countries should lead the way towards a low carbon economy that is safe and sustainable, by taking account of the particular economic and social needs of developing countries. The principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capacities is not an

¹ See Annex

excuse for the inaction of developing countries. This challenge constitutes an opportunity to promote continued economic growth, sustainable development and the fight against poverty. The EU and Chile agree that, in order to reduce the consequences of climate change, global mean temperature should not exceed 2 degrees centigrade above pre-industrial levels. The EU and Chile are determined to reach a positive and ambitious global agreement at the 15th Conference of the Parties in Copenhagen.

8. In the bi-regional context, the Parties recalled the range of issues covered in the Prague Declaration of the 14th EU-Río Group Ministerial Meeting and agreed that the present discussions constituted one element of the vital follow-up necessary to take these issues forward. The Parties agreed to continue working together to prepare the VI EU-LAC Summit which will take place in Madrid in May 2010. In this framework both Parties supported the initiative of an EU-LAC Foundation. Chile provided information on developments in regional integration processes in Latin America, with particular emphasis on the advances achieved by UNASUR. The European Union provided information on the state of play of negotiations towards association agreements with Central America and Mercosur, and towards a multi-party trade agreement with some Andean Community countries.
9. Chile provided information concerning the general situation in Chile, in particular the forthcoming presidential and parliamentary elections. The EU provided information about the general situation in the EU, with a particular focus on the Lisbon Treaty.
10. The Parties took note of the state of play of scientific cooperation as reflected in the results of the 4th Steering Committee of the EC-Chile Science and Technology Cooperation Agreement. They agreed that good progress had been achieved, and welcomed the fact that the participation of Chilean research teams in the 7th Framework Programme had increased further since then. The Parties were pleased to note that Chile also participates proactively in the strengthening of scientific and technological cooperation across Latin America. They concurred that the concrete results achieved to date constitute a solid foundation for developing cooperation further, both quantitatively and qualitatively, in areas of mutual interest and benefit and in synergy with other policies, including regional cooperation.
11. Regarding bilateral cooperation, the European Commission and the Agencia Chilena de Cooperación Internacional (AGCI) provided information on the implementation of agreed cooperation programmes in the three priority areas identified in the Country Strategy Paper (CSP) for 2007-2013, namely social cohesion, innovation and competitiveness and higher education. The Commission reported on the Mid-Term Review of the CSP which was likely to conclude that the EC funds available for the period 2011-13 should be devoted to social cohesion and innovation and competitiveness only, and to confirm the relevance and importance of these two sectors in relation to the Association for Development and Innovation.
12. Concerning the analysis of the performance of the Trade Pillar of the Agreement, the Parties acknowledged the overall positive functioning of the Association Agreement and its contribution to commercial flows. After analysing the evolution of trade, the Parties noted the dynamism of the exchanges, despite some slowdown in line with the general evolution of world trade between 2008 and the first semester of 2009.

13. The reports from the Special Committees on Standards, Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment and on Customs Cooperation and Rules of Origin, from the Joint Management Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Matters and the Joint Committees on Trade in Wine and Spirits, were presented and analysed. The overall working of the committees was considered highly satisfactory by the Parties.
14. The on-going exploratory discussions concerning the further liberalisation of trade in agricultural, processed agricultural and fisheries products led to a better understanding and progress, confirming the mutual commitment to find a balanced outcome covering both market access and geographical indications for foodstuff products.
15. The state of play and the future directions of the current exchanges on the review clause for services were also presented.
16. On intellectual property rights, the Parties exchanged views on the positive recent developments and mutually confirmed their openness to maintaining the constructive exchange of information, agreeing to meet again on request.
17. Concerning air transport, the Parties confirmed the positive appreciation of the strengthening of relations, with the Chilean part restating its interest in negotiating an open aviation agreement with the EU.
18. Both Parties took stock of the satisfactory outcome of the EU-Chile understanding on swordfish, and expressed satisfaction concerning the mutually cooperative attitude towards the resolution of the case. Furthermore, both Parties expressed their interest in a successful negotiation towards the establishment of a South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation.
19. The EC proposal on Sustainable Development and Trade was presented, and both Parties expressed their intentions for further exchanges on those matters.
20. The EU welcomed Chile's ratification of the Rome Statute which had allowed the country to join the International Criminal Court (ICC), noting that this important step confirmed the high priority that Chile gives to respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as well as making a valuable contribution to the consolidation of the international justice framework. In this context, Chile provided information about its candidacy for one of the posts of judge in the ICC, underlining its determination to play an active role in this body.
21. The Parties welcomed the agreement reached between Chile and the European Investment Bank (EIB) which would enable it to operate in Chile, noting that the EIB would make an important contribution to the strengthening of relations in the framework of the Association for Development and Innovation.
22. Finally, it was agreed that the eighth meeting of the Association Committee would be held in Chile in the last quarter of 2010.