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THE SECOND INTER-SESSIONAL ASEAN-AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND FREE TRADE AREA (AANZFTA) JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING

1. November 2022, Video Conference

The Second Intersessional Meeting of the AANZFTA Joint Committee (2nd ISSL FJC) was held on 3 November 2022 in a virtual format. Representatives from all ASEAN Member States (AMS), except the Philippines; Australia; New Zealand; and staff members from the ASEAN Secretariat, attended the Meeting, which was co-chaired by:

1. Mr. Yusdiman Saman, Acting Assistant Director, Trade Division, Ministry of Finance and Economy, Brunei Darussalam, on behalf of the ASEAN Member States;
2. Ms. Juliana Nam, Assistant Secretary, FTA Policy and Implementation Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, for Australia; and
3. Mr. Keawe Woodmore, Deputy Director General, FTA Implementation Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, for New Zealand.

The reporting session focused on subsidiary bodies (SBs) who are involve in the AANZFTA upgrade negotiations and/or have yet concluded their chapters/annexes. These SBs are:

1. *Committee on Trade in Services (CTS)*
2. *Working Group on Legal and Institutional Issues (WGLII)*
3. *Committee on Electronic Commerce (CEC)*
4. *Sub-Committee on Financial Services (SC-FS)*
5. *Committee on Investment (COI)*
6. *Sub-Committee on Rules of Origins (SCROO)*

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN OUTCOMES

1. FJC GUIDANCE TO THE SUBSIDIARY BODIES UNDER FJC

URGED remaining Parties to submit their final Market Access offers and assessments by 7 November 2022.

**NOTED** the views that substantial conclusion of the AANZFTA upgrade negotiations would entail the resolution of all policy issues, including Security Exceptions, and not technical matters such as the discussion of the above chapters by the WGLII.

**AGREED** that the timeline for the signing of the Second Protocol to Amend AANZTA Agreement will be discussed after the announcement of substantial conclusion of the upgrade negotiation.

1. PREPARATIONS FOR THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SUBSTANTIAL CONCLUSION OF THE AANZFTA UPGRADE NEGOTIATIONS

ASEAN Secretariat BRIEFED the meeting on the preparations for the announcement of the substantial conclusion of the AANZFTA upgrade negotiations.

NOTED that Cambodia as ASEAN Chair, Brunei Darussalam as Country Coordinator for CER, Australia and New Zealand, will provide remarks at the announcement.

TASKED ASEAN Secretariat to prepare the general media guidelines prior to the preparatory FJC Meeting on 9 November 2022.

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