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ASEAN-AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND FREE TRADE AREA (AANZFTA)

THE 3rd INTER-SESSIONAL ASEAN-AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND FREE TRADE AREA (AANZFTA) JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING

7 December 2022, the ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta

The Third Intersessional Meeting of the AANZFTA Joint Committee (3rd ISSL FJC) was held on 7 December 2022 at the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta, Indonesia. Representatives from all ASEAN Member States (AMS); Australia; New Zealand; and staff members from the ASEAN Secretariat, attended the Meeting, which was co-chaired by:

1. Ms. Nor Zerlina Momin, Acting 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 Economic Cooperation 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.

There was no reporting session from the Subsidiary Bodies (SBs) except Working Group on Legal and Institutional Issues (WGLII) on the progress of the legal scrubbing. FJC discussed some of the pending technical articles under chapters/annexes of the AANZFTA upgrade negotiations. These chapters/annexes are as follows:

1. *General Provisions and Exceptions Chapter;*
2. *Electronic Commerce Chapter;*
3. *Trade in Services Chapter and Annex on Financial Services; and*
4. *Investment Chapter.*

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN OUTCOMES

1. FJC GUIDANCE FOR THE SUBSIDIARY BODIES UNDER FJC

NOTED the progress of negotiations from Subsidiary Bodies (SBs).

NOTED that the Working Group on Legal and Institutional Issues (WGLII) continues the discussions on the draft Second Protocol to Amend the Agreement Establishing the AANZFTA.

FURTHER NOTED that WGLII have completed the legal scrubbing of some of the AANZFTA Chapters.

TASKED the SBs to finalise the text by January 2023 and for WGLII to finalise the legal scrubbing by end of March 2023 with a view to sign the Second Protocol in 2023.

NOTED on the status of submission of the final offers for market access negotiations in Trade in Services, Movement of Natural Person (MNP), and Investment. REQUESTED Parties to submit final market access offers as soon as possible by mid-December 2022.

1. PREPARATORY WORKS FOR THE SIGNING OF THE 2ND PROTOCOL TO AMEND THE AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING THE AANZFTA

**NOTED** that the signing of the 2nd Protocol to Amend the Agreement Establishing the AANZFTA is one of Indonesia’s 2023 Priority Economic Deliverables (PEDs).

**AGREED** on the timeline for the signing of the 2nd Protocol in 2023.

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