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THE PREPARATORY ASEAN-AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND FREE TRADE AREA (AANZFTA) JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING FOR THE 27TH AEM-CER CONSULTATION

1. September 2022, Siem Reap, Cambodia

The Preparatory AANZFTA Joint Committee Meeting for the 27th AEM-CER Consultation was held in Siem Reap, Cambodia on 15 September 2022. Representatives from all ASEAN Member States (AMS), Australia, and New Zealand, as well as the 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 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 negotiations. These SBs are:

1. *Economic Cooperation Sub-Committee (ECSC)*
2. *Ad-Hoc Group on Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise (MSME)*
3. *Committee on Trade in Services (CTS)*
4. *Committee on Trade in Goods (CTG)*
5. *Committee on Electronic Commerce (CEC)*
6. *Sub-Committee on Rules of Origins (SCROO)*
7. *Committee on Investment (COI)*

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN OUTCOMES

FJC GUIDANCE TO THE SUBSIDIARY BODIES UNDER FJC

URGED remaining AANZFTA Parties to table their second TIS and MNP offers by the end of September 2022 and final offer by the end of October 2022.

URGED relevant Parties to expedite their domestic consultations on the pending technical issues.

AGREED to have the 19th AANZFTA Joint Committee and related meetings with COI, CTS and Committee on Electronic Commerce (CEC) on 10-13 October 2022.

NOTED that ASEAN Secretariat will circulate the revised FJC Report to AEM-CER (upgrade negotiations) by 16 September 2022.

NOTED that Special AEM – CER Consultation will take place virtually by early November 2022.

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