

His Excellency Budi Santoso
Minister of Trade of the Republic of Indonesia

Cc:
Airlangga Hartarto, Coordinating Minister of Economic Affairs
Agus Gumiwang, Minister of Industry

Congratulations on your appointment as Minister of Trade and support for advancing the conclusion of the EU-Indonesia CEPA negotiations

Brussels, 19th of December 2024

Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned associations representing a wide range of companies across diverse sectors of the European economy, extend our warm congratulations on your recent appointment as Indonesia's Minister of Trade. With new leadership in place in both Indonesia and the European Union, this presents a pivotal moment to strengthen Indonesian-EU trade relations and, in particular, to conclude the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) negotiations with an ambitious and mutually beneficial deal.

The conclusion of this agreement offers a unique opportunity to deepen the economic partnership between Indonesia and the EU in a meaningful manner. By reducing trade barriers, enhancing intellectual property protections, promoting a sustainable and inclusive agenda, and fostering innovation, CEPA can unlock significant mutual benefits, drive investment, create jobs, and support sustainable economic growth on both sides. Crucially, it must also ensure meaningful and tangible market access benefits for all sectors represented by the undersigned associations.

We recognize the challenges inherent in concluding such a comprehensive agreement. However, with new leadership on both sides, there is a unique opportunity to build fresh momentum and achieve an ambitious and balanced deal. Your commitment to prioritizing the CEPA's conclusion within your first 100 days of office is particularly encouraging and reflects the urgency of this critical moment.

The swift conclusion of an ambitious agreement delivering tangible market access benefits to both sides would send a strong signal to the global business community, reinforcing the shared commitment of Indonesia and the EU to fostering open, rules-based trade.

Your Excellency, we urge you to seize this moment to conclude the CEPA negotiations in the coming months. The agreement can serve as a cornerstone for a deeper and more dynamic partnership between our economies, benefitting all businesses, workers, and communities on both sides.

We stand ready to support your efforts to finalize an agreement that reflects our shared commitment to open trade, sustainability, and economic growth. We wish you every success in your tenure and look forward to witnessing the positive impact of your leadership on Indonesia's trade and economic future.

Respectfully,

ABOUT THE SIGNATORIES

AmCham EU speaks for American companies committed to Europe on trade, investment and competitiveness issues. It aims to ensure a growth-orientated business and investment climate in Europe. AmCham EU facilitates the resolution of transatlantic issues that impact business and plays a role in creating better understanding of EU and US positions on business matters. Aggregate US investment in Europe totalled more than €3.7 trillion in 2022, directly supports more than 4.9 million jobs in Europe, and generates billions of euros annually in income, trade and research and development.

BusinessEurope is the leading advocate for growth and competitiveness at European level, standing up for companies across the continent and campaigning on the issues that most influence their performance. A recognised social partner, we speak for enterprises of all sizes in 36 European countries whose national business federations are our direct members.

CAOBISCO is the Association of the Chocolate, Biscuits & Confectionery Industries of Europe. We represent more than 13,000 European chocolate, biscuits and confectionery manufacturing companies, 99% of which are SMEs. The sector is a major player in the European economy, with over 280,000 direct employees and an annual turnover of over €55 billion.

CEEV (Comité Européen des Entreprises Vins) represents the European Union wine and aromatized wine companies. It brings together 25 national organisations from 13 EU Member States, plus Switzerland, UK and Ukraine, as well as a consortium of 4 leading European wine companies. The companies represented by CEEV, mainly SMEs, produce and market most quality European wines, with and without a geographical indication, and account for over 90% of EU wine exports.

CELCAA is the European Liaison Committee for Agricultural and Agri-Food Trade and, as such, represents at European level the most essential food sectors and their trading operations with commodities such as meat and livestock, dairy, cereals, grain, and oilseed trade, eggs, egg whites, and egg yolks, wine and aromatized wine products, hops, tea, and herbal infusions, tobacco, and the craft butcher sector. We represent more than 25.000 agri-food producers and traders in Europe. CELCAA's mission is to ensure that agri-food trade is recognized as an essential pillar of sustainable and resilient EU food and farming systems.

ESF (European Services Forum) is the European private sector organisation that represents the interests of the European services industries in international trade and investment negotiations. It comprises major European service businesses and European service sector federations covering service sectors including financial services, telecommunications and IT services, maritime transport, postal and express delivery services, business and professional services, construction, and distribution services.

EU-ASEAN Business Council is the primary voice for European business within the ASEAN region. The EU-ABC serves as an independent body committed to promoting European business interests and driving policy and regulatory changes that enhance trade and investment between Europe and ASEAN.

Eucolait Eucolait is the European Dairy Trade Association, representing the interests of importers, exporters and wholesalers of dairy products, ingredients and derivatives. With a membership of over 400 companies covering more than 100,000 employees, we keep the milk moving!

Eurochambres (Association of European chambers of commerce and industry) represents approximately 20 million businesses in over 40 countries and via a European network of 1700 regional and local chambers. Chambers' member businesses employ over 120 million people.

EuroCham Indonesia is a non-profit membership-based organization formed on the initiative of European businessmen in Indonesia. EuroCham Indonesia is the principal business organisation in Indonesia which promotes European business interests and represents European member companies. EuroCham Indonesia directly represents more than 170 European companies and organisations in Indonesia of different sizes, large, medium and small enterprises from a wide variety of industry sectors.

FEDIOL represents the interests of the European vegetable oil and protein meal industry. With over 180 facilities in Europe, the sector provides over 20.000 direct employments. Our members process approximately 55 million tonnes of basic products a year for the food and non-food markets. Oilseed crushing produces vegetable oils and protein meals as co-products. While vegetable oils are used for food and technical uses (pharmaceuticals, paints, detergents, biodiesel, etc.), protein meals are used to meet the increasing global demand for meat and protein.

FESI (Federation of the European Sporting Goods Industry) is the unique pre-competitive platform representing the interests of the sporting goods industry in Europe, advancing its members' priorities and promoting initiatives that benefit the sector, EU citizens and the society as a whole. FESI represents the interests of approximately 1.800 sporting goods manufacturers (85% of the European market) through its National Sporting Goods Industry Federations and its directly affiliated member companies. 70-75% of FESI's membership is made up of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises. In total, the European Sporting Goods Industry employs over 700.000 EU citizens and has an annual turnover of some 81 billion euro.

spiritsEUROPE represents the interests of the spirits sector in 30 national associations as well as of the 11 leading multinational companies. Distilled spirits are as diverse as the EU's Member States, spanning 47 product categories and including a host of geographically-specific products that contribute to the culture of their regions and the European Union. As the leading voice of the European spirits sector, we seek to maintain and advance the freedom to produce and market spirits in a responsible way.

Toy Industries of Europe (TIE) is the voice of the reputable European toy manufactures. Our mission is to promote the right of every child to play safely and securely and to promote fair practices and fair legislation, allowing responsible toy companies to continue to grow. TIE's membership includes 19 international toy manufacturers, eight European national toy associations, who represent their local manufactures, and seven affiliate members.

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