

Trade Sustainability Impact Assessment in support of negotiations on a plurilateral Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA)

Newsletter May 2017 – Draft Final Report now online

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Content of the draft Final Report

The TiSA SIA team is pleased to announce that the draft Final Report has been published online. Below we provide a short outline of the report:

Overall economic analysis

The economic impact analysis was already part of the Interim Report and has only been slightly fine-tuned during the final phase. The agreement is likely to result in small but positive changes in GDP, national income, household income, and wages in the EU (0.1 percent for all indicators). Total EU trade is expected to increase by 0.2 percent. The impact of TiSA on GDP, income, and wages in other countries is also positive but very limited (ranging from 0.0 to 0.3 percent). Only Hong Kong and Mauritius are expected to see a slightly larger increase in these indicators.

Overall social and human rights analysis

The overall social and human rights analysis was already part of the Interim Report. The additions to the Final Report concern five qualitative case studies. These case studies cover the potential impact of TiSA on a specific social indicator in a specific country: 1) gender equality in the EU, 2) consumer effects in the EU, 3) poverty and inequality in Panama, 4) employment in Mexico, and 5) wages in Korea.

Overall environmental analysis

The overall environmental analysis was already part of the Interim Report. The additions to the Final Report concern five qualitative case studies. These case studies cover the potential impact of TiSA on a specific environmental indicator in a specific country: 1) solid waste management FDI in and by the EU, 2) climate change indicators in the EU, 3) air pollution in Costa Rica, 4) waste water treatment in Pakistan, and 5) ecosystems and biodiversity in Japan.

In-depth sector analyses

During the interim phase five EU sectors have been selected for further analysis. These include: 1) water transport services¹, 2) financial services, 3) insurance services, 4) ICT and telecommunication services, and 5) e-commerce². Each sector study starts with a description of the sector in the EU in terms of number of firms, employees, trade, investment, and social and environmental aspects, followed by a description of barriers in the sector, and the potential impacts stemming from TiSA. The economic modelling exercise estimates a small decline in output, employment, and exports of the EU water transport services sector. Additional qualitative analysis, however, shows that these declines are unlikely to occur and that the sector might actually gain from the agreement.³ Output and employment is expected to slightly grow in the EU finance and insurance services sectors (between 0.0 percent and 0.2 percent). The total trade impacts are more significant, a 4.2 percent increase in the finance sector and a 1.6 percent increase in the insurance sector. For the ICT and telecommunications sector, no changes are expected in output or employment. Trade on the

¹ This concerns the transport of freight and passengers.

² This sector analysis is a qualitative study and does not include any economic modelling

³ Please see Chapter 5 of the report for a detailed explanation.



other hand is expected to increase by 1.2 percent in the ICT services sector and by 0.1 percent in the telecommunications sector.

In addition, the outcomes of the stakeholder survey are added to the analysis, as well as the conclusions and recommendations.

The draft Final Report can be downloaded from our [website](#) or [here](#).

Share your feedback!

The study team will present the preliminary findings of this SIA on Wednesday 17 May in Brussels during a Civil Society Dialogue (CSD). This meeting will take place in the Charlemagne building from 2:00 PM till 4:00 PM. During this meeting there will be ample opportunity for stakeholders to share their comments and feedback on the report with the study team. Whether or not they participate in this meeting, stakeholders can send their comments on the SIA or the agreement to tsiatisa@ecorys.com. The deadline for providing comments is 2 June 2017.

More details on the CSD and how to participate can be found on [DG TRADE's website](#)

In addition to feedback on the draft report, stakeholders are encouraged to share their position papers, concerns, opinions, or other input related to the different elements the final report (i.e. social and environmental case studies, and the in-depth sector studies).

Finalising the Sustainability Impact Assessment

After having carefully examined the feedback received by all interested parties, the study team will revise the Final Report. The revised Final Report will be published online before the summer break.



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