



10th meeting of the Joint Committee Mexico – European Union

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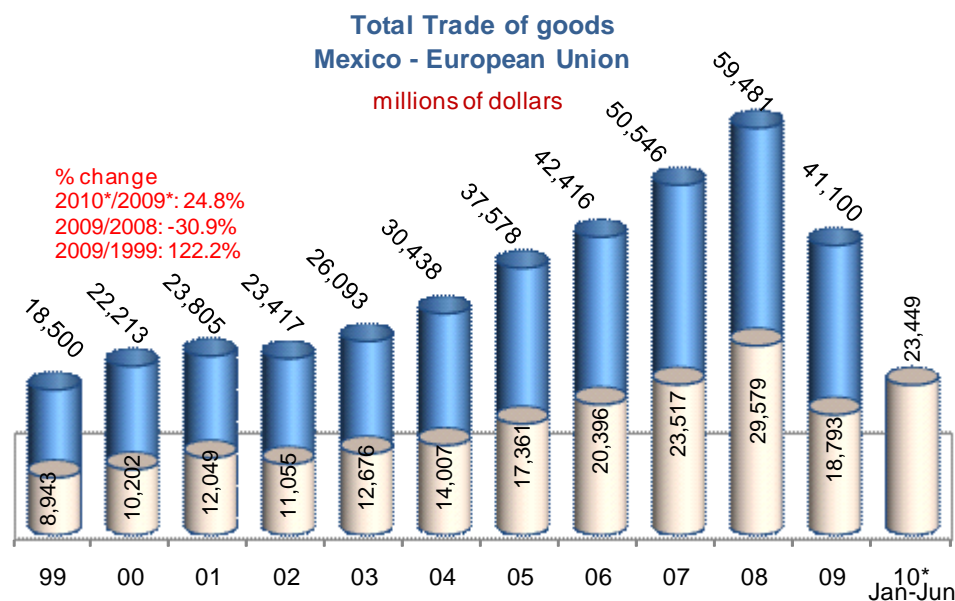
EU Official Journal



The tenth meeting of the Joint Committee established under the Mexico–European Union (EU) Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement (Global Agreement) was held in Mexico City on 27 – 28 October 2010.

The meeting reviewed the progress of the three elements of the Global Agreement: political dialogue, cooperation and trade. Additionally, both Parties expressed the high value they attach to the Joint Executive Plan of the **Strategic Partnership** (see [TradeLinks](#) of May 2010), adopted in the framework of the V Mexico – EU Summit, held in Spain on May 16, 2010, which laid the groundwork to jointly work on a number of bilateral projects of cooperation and to strengthen dialogue and coordination in multilateral fora.

Regarding the session on **trade**, works were led, on the Mexican Party, by Eduardo Ramos, Head of Unit for the Coordination of International Negotiations of the Ministry of Economy and, on the EU Party, by Matthias Jorgensen, Deputy Head of Unit for relations with Latin America of the Directorate-General for Trade of the European Commission.



Source: Ministry of the Economy of Mexico with data from Eurostat and Banco de México

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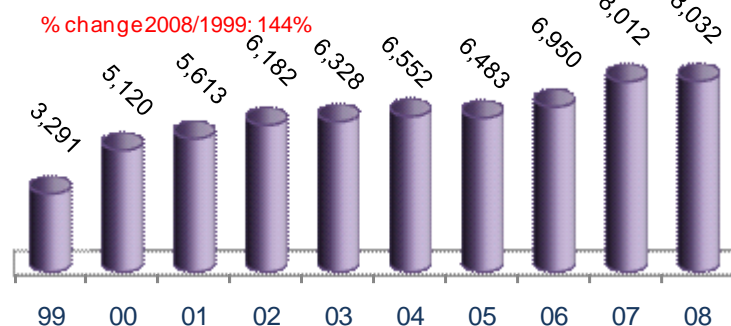
Both Parties welcomed the tenth anniversary of the Mexico-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and, on this basis, held an evaluation of the results achieved since its entry into force on July 1, 2000.

In relation to bilateral trade, it reached more than 29 billion euros (41 billion dollars) in 2009, which represents an increase of 122 percent with respect to 1999 (the year prior to the entry into force of the FTA).

In 2010, the dynamics of the trade and investment flows show a trend to the recovery after the international crisis, underlying the potential of the bilateral economic relation.

**Services Total Trade
Mexico - European Union**

millions of euros



Source: Ministry of the Economy of Mexico with data from Eurostat.

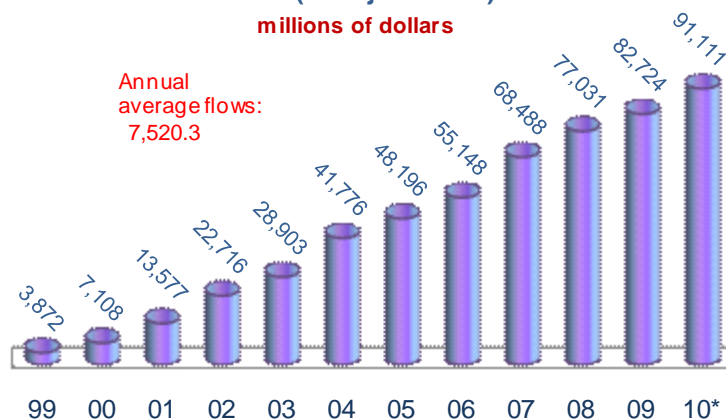
The Parties also reviewed the negotiation processes that are taking place with third countries, as well as those recently completed, in particular with countries and regions of Latin America.

At the multilateral level, both delegations reiterated their full support to reach, as soon as possible, a balanced and ambitious Doha Round under the World Trade Organization (WTO). They also stressed their opposition to all forms of protectionism, in line with the Toronto Declaration of the G20.

Additionally, the Parties took note of the issues addressed in the special committees under the FTA framework and instructed the technical experts to advance in

**EU: Foreign Direct Investment
in Mexico
Stock (1999-june 2010)**

millions of dollars



Source: Ministry of the Economy of Mexico

pending specific cases.

Among other issues, Mexico and the EU confirmed their determination to establish and implement transparent sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures, such as those agreed in the corresponding Special Committee, with the aim to facilitate trade between the Parties of goods subject to sanitary and phyto-sanitary requirements.

In the context of the Special Committee on Technical Standards, the Parties expressed their support to all trade-facilitating measures, and marked their openness to proceed in line with the provisions of the EU-Mexico FTA and the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade of the WTO on issues of equivalence of technical standards.

Both delegations agreed on the common interest for deepening the mutual trade liberalization through the provisions of the FTA review clauses on agriculture, trade in services and investment. The Parties took note of the results of the negotiation process carried out in 2010, and confirmed the importance to reach ambitious results in conformity with the interests of each Party.

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**Mexico's Total Trade in September
(billion US\$)**

	2009	2010	%
Total	42.8	51.2	19.7
Exports	20.9	25.3	20.8
Exports (excluding oil)	18.1	22.0	21.3
Imports	21.8	25.9	18.5

Source: Banco de México

**Mexico's Trade with EU and EFTA
(million US\$)**

	2009	2010	%
January - September			
Exports to the EU	8,131.0	10,294.2	26.6
Imports from the EU	19,815.8	23,769.5	20.0
Exports to the EFTA	341.9	708.5	107.2
Imports from the EFTA	1,016.9	1,225.3	20.5

Source: Banco de México

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Regarding **economic cooperation**, Mexico and the EU stressed the importance of having extended the term of the Facilitation Project of the Mexico-EU FTA (PROTLCUEM), which began operations in October 2006 and will end, thanks to Addendum 2, in 2011.

Furthermore, the Parties also reported on the progress towards the definition of the conditions for the implementation of the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme, which intends to increase the competitiveness of the Mexican Small and Medium Enterprises through the incorporation of technologies and skills needed with the aim of facilitating their access to the EU market. The Mexican institution that implements the counterpart of the Programme is ProMexico.

Additionally, relevant information on the EU “**Initiative Latin American Investment Facility**” (LAIF) was provided, as an instrument that may reveal useful particularly regarding investment procurement for works in the transportation, energy, communications and trade facilitation sectors.

In another issue relevant for the bilateral economic relation, Mexico and the EU reaffirmed their intention to establish a **macroeconomic dialogue** as soon as possible.

Moreover, the delegations stressed the importance of continuing to promote **statistical cooperation** activities, developed between the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) and the Statistical Office of the EU (EUROSTAT) under the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between both institutions in June 2009.

On **science and technology**, the delegations expressed their satisfaction regarding the ongoing cooperation between Mexico and the EU, and noted that new opportunities and synergies had been created under the 7th EU Framework Programme for Research & Technological Development 2007-2013.

The European side appreciated the very successful fourth Steering Committee of the EU-Mexico Science and Technology Agreement that took place in Brussels on 23rd September 2010. At this occasion, conclusions of the review of the bilateral cooperation on science and technology were presented.

In this context, both Parties expressed their satisfaction on the renewal of the EU-Mexico Science and Technology Agreement for another 5-year period and for the positive results of the International Cooperation Fund for the Promotion of Scientific and technological Research between Mexico and the EU (FONCICYT), which supports joint research projects and the development of research networks. Both Parties expressed their commitment to continue fostering science and technology cooperation and the common interest in broadening and deepening the cooperation in areas of mutual interest.

Likewise, the Parties welcomed the **Fourth Forum of Dialogue between Civil Society and Government Institutions of Mexico and the EU**, celebrated on 25 and 26 October 2010 in Mexico. The Mexican institutions reiterated their willingness to continue working closely and to coordinate themselves with their European counterparts in order to achieve greater and more active participation of both Parties in the Fifth Forum.

Finally, it was agreed that the next meeting of the Joint Committee will be held in Brussels, in the second semester of 2011.

For more information regarding bilateral trade relations between Mexico and the EU, please visit:

www.economia.gob.mx

http://eeas.europa.eu/mexico/index_en.htm

Mexico's Economic Indicators	Mexico's Financial Indicators
Inflation rate: 0.62% (October, 2010); 4.02 % (2010, annual) Industrial Production: 8.3% (September 2010 / September 2009) Manufacturing: 8.3%; Construction: 4.7%, Mining: 2.7% Global Index of Economic Activity: 4.96% (Sep 2010 / Sep 2009) Consumer Confidence Index: 89.2 pts. (October 2010) 12.2 percentage points (October 2010 / October 2009) Open unemployment rate: 5.7 % (September. 2010) <i>Source: INEGI</i>	Foreign exchange rate: 12.39 peso/dollar (November 24, 2010) International reserves: \$110,134 million dollars (November 19, 2010) Mexican stock market index (IPC): 37,079 (November 24, 2010) Interest rate treasury bonds CETES 28 days: 4.17 % (November 25, 2010) <i>Source: Banco de Mexico</i>

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- **07/10/2010** Agreement that publicizes the tariff rate quota and the allocation mechanism to import sugar during the 2010/2011 sugar cycle.
- **13/10/2010** Agreement that publicizes the Decision 1/2010 of the Joint Committee Mexico – EU relating to Annex III to Decision No 2/2000 of the EU-Mexico Joint Council concerning the definition of the concept of originating products and methods of administrative cooperation.
- **13/10/2010** Agreement establishing a mechanism to consult import requirements for goods subject to regulation by the Ministry of Agriculture on animal health matters.
- **20/10/2010** Preliminary determination of the ex officio countervailing quota review imposed on imports of certain types of partially hydrogenated fatty acid, originating from the United States, regardless of the shipping country. This merchandise is classified, according to the Mexican Custom Tariff Schedule, under item 3823.19.99.
- **25/09/2010** Draft Mexican official standard draft PROY-NOM-086/1-SCFI-2010, rubber industry - new wheels of radial construction for use in any vehicle with a gross weight exceeding 4 536 kg (10,000 lb) and wheels of diagonal construction of any cargo capacity –safety specifications and test methods.

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- **06/10/2010 L263** Decision No 1/2010 of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers of 21 June 2010 concerning the accession of the Republic of South Africa to the revised ACP-EU Partnership Agreement
- **21/10/2010 L277** Decision No 1/2010 of the EU-Mexico Joint Committee of 17 September 2010 relating to Annex III to Decision No 2/2000 of the EU-Mexico Joint Council concerning the definition of the concept of originating products and methods of administrative cooperation
- **23/10/2010 L279** Decision No 1/2010 of the Joint Customs Cooperation Committee of 24 June 2010 pursuant to Article 21 of the Agreement between the European Community and the Government of Japan on Cooperation and Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters regarding mutual recognition of Authorized Economic Operators programmes in the European Union and in Japan
- **28/10/2010 L282** Council implementing Regulation (EU) No 964/2010 of 25 October 2010 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty and collecting definitively the provisional duty imposed on imports of certain aluminum road wheels originating in the People's Republic of China
- **28/10/2010 L282** Commission Regulation (EU) No 966/2010 of 27 October 2010 initiating an investigation concerning the possible circumvention of anti-dumping measures imposed by Council Regulation (EC) No 91/2009 on imports of certain iron or steel fasteners originating in the People's Republic of China by imports of certain iron or steel fasteners consigned from Malaysia, whether declared as originating in Malaysia or not, and making such imports subject to registration
- **29/10/2010 L284** Commission Regulation (EU) No 861/2010 of 5 October 2010 amending Annex I to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87 on the tariff and statistical nomenclature and on the Common Customs Tariff

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