

EU TRADE RELATED ASSISTANCE FOR MONGOLIA (TRAM)

NEWSLETTER



Монголын Худалдааг Дэмжих Төсөл

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TRADE POLICY

A study tour to Beijing, China, was organised by EU TRAM on 14-15 February 2019. The Mongolian delegation attended the 2nd Working Group meeting of the Joint Feasibility Study on the Mongolia-China Free Trade Agreement, organised by the Chinese Ministry of Commerce. The delegation also visited field offices of Beijing Customs, including the Express Parcel Supervise Centre and the Cargo Inspection Sector located near the Beijing Capital International Airport. The Mongolian delegation was led by Ms Battsetseg Tuvshintugs, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia. The Chinese delegation was led by Ms Liang Hong, Deputy Director-General of the Department of International Trade and Economic Affairs of the Ministry of Commerce. The two sides discussed and reached an agreement in principle on the outline of the Joint Feasibility Study Report and exchanged views on specific ideas and expectations in each area of the potential Mongolia-China FTA. Experts from the two sides reported the outcome of discussions in the first Academic Group Meeting and further exchanged views on the approach and method of the economic impact analysis of the potential Mongolia-China FTA. The two sides agreed that the 3rd Working Group meeting would be held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, at a time convenient to both sides in the second half of 2019.



EXPORT DEVELOPMENT

Since October 2018 EU TRAM has been providing assistance in setting up a cluster for the natural organic cosmetics sector, a new sector in Mongolia with about 20 cosmetic manufacturers. Clusters are defined as groups of manufacturers and other related supporting actors (e.g. academia, laboratories, packaging companies, etc.) that cooperate closely in a particular location. By working together SMEs can be more innovative, share machinery and warehouses, reduce costs, create more jobs and become competitive in the national and global marketplace. Short-term international consultant Ms Nevin Baran was called in by TRAM to work with several manufacturers of cosmetic products; she visited the companies to determine their sales amounts and the exports capacities of their products, as well as to identify their obstacles, weaknesses and needs. She also conducted training on the concept, goals and benefits of clustering. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 29 November 2018 by Monos Cosmetics, Lhamore, Goo, Moncream, Ichcream, Natural Essentials, Styletto, Devine Beauty, Heelen Made, Spirit of Nature and Cakra - Gold King Berry, sealing their intention to establish a cosmetics cluster and jointly develop activities in order to be sustainable and competitive. A model of Articles of Association and a Cluster Work Plan for 2019-2020 were presented by Ms Baran, based on the needs of the core group of the cluster. The participants appointed Ms Dolgormaa of the Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry as Cluster Coordinator in the initial stage. The Cluster Group met again on 5 February 2019, and a follow-up capacity-building mission by Ms Baran is ongoing until 5 April 2019.



IMPLEMENTED BY THE FOLLOWING CONSORTIUM:



PROFILES



CARMEN FRATITA

„I am happy to be working with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other governmental and non-governmental agencies on formulating and implementing trade policies that are in line with Mongolian commitments within the WTO.“

Basic information

Title: Team Leader

Nationality: Romanian

Years of experience: 20+

Ms Carmen Fratita joined the EU TRAM team at the end of 2017 in the role of Team Leader. She is also responsible for Component 1: Trade Policy and Component 2: Trade Facilitation. Ms Fratita has over 20 years of experience in trade policy liberalisation and facilitation in transition economies. She has knowledge of a wide range of trade policy processes, gained from over 10 years as a senior trade official in the Romanian Government, where she was actively involved in the implementation and negotiation of the WTO, CEFTA and EU Association Agreement. Her expertise includes the development of strategic trade policy documents, including efforts to mainstream trade policies. She has deep knowledge and expertise in training and capacity building.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ✓ **1st week of April 2019:** Event to promote the ‘Healthy Food, Healthy Mongolia’ Programme that was adopted recently by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry
- ✓ **15-27 April 2019:** Short-term international expert mission on public-private dialogue
- ✓ **23-26 April 2019:** Working Group meeting to draft a law on non-food products safety
- ✓ **April 2019:** Study tour to Korea to learn about the country’s experience in negotiating and implementing a Free Trade Agreement with China

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Activity 1

Presentation by web design companies of their concepts for the cosmetics cluster logo and identity

Activity 2

Launch of the Fruit and Berry Taskforce as part of the Donor Coordination efforts of the MNCCI

Activity 3

Workshop by local expert to present how Mongolia fulfils the transparency provisions in accordance with WTO commitments

Activity 4

Short-term international consultant mission to establish the yak and camel hair cluster

Activity 5

Short-term international consultant mission to establish the sea buckthorn oil cluster

Activity 6

Training by local expert on the use of the GTAP 9 Database and its GTAPAgg software in performing trade analysis

Activity 7

Workshop by EFTA Secretariat experts on EFTA experience in negotiating Free Trade Agreements, in particular in relation to investment and rules of origin

Activity 8

Workshop on the main trade policy instruments and WTO basic principles and agreements, including Mongolia’s WTO commitments and obligations

Activity 9

Development of a glossary with detailed definitions of international trade terminology