

World Ceramic Tiles Forum

20th meeting, Rio de Janeiro

Trade related aspects

6 November 2013



5. Trade related aspects

- Key developments in trade
- Overview of technical barriers to trade

Key developments in trade

- Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) negotiations
- WTO Accession of Russia

Free Trade Agreements of the European Union

Forthcoming Negotiations	Important dates	Details
China	18 October	European Union authorised the opening of negotiations on an investment agreement with China
Ongoing Negotiations	Important dates	Details
United States	November/December	1st round of negotiations on EU-US Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) - July 2013; 2nd round of the EU-US negotiations (11-15 November); 3rd negotiating round (December 2013 tbc)
Canada	18 October	Political agreement signed between on Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between EU and Canada
Japan	21 - 25 October	EU-Japan Free Trade Agreement negotiations
	19 November	21st EU and Japan Summit; the next round will take place in early 2014.
Mercosur	December	EU-Mercosur negotiations - market access offers to be discussed in Q4 2013
India		A ministerial level meeting on 26 June 2012 EU and India agreed on an intense workplan between June and the end of the year 2013
Vietnam	4 November	The negotiations have entered a substantial phase and the 5th round of negotiations are taking place in Vietnam in the week of 4 November
Thailand	9 - 13 December	3rd round of negotiations will take place in Brussels between 9-13 Decembe

Free Trade Agreements of the European Union

FTAs finished but not yet applied	Important dates
Ukraine	December 2011
Singapore	December 2012
FTAs which entered into force	Important dates
Peru and Colombia	March and August 2013
South Korea	July 2011
Mexico	October 2000
Central America	December 2012

WTO Accession of Russia

WTO accession

- 18 year process towards WTO accession
- Russia formally acceded to the WTO in the on 22 August 2012

Conditions for Russia

- to implement WTO's multilateral agreements and individual commitments
- WTO Schedule of Concessions on Goods
 - ➔ commitments for ceramic tiles from 15% to 7.5 %– 12 % by 2014/2015



Overview of technical barriers to trade

- Certification and labeling requirements for ceramic tiles
- Conformity assessment procedures
- Factory visits and auditing

Overview of technical barriers to trade

OVERVIEW - Wall and Floor tiles (6907 & 6908) on Market access - tariffs and certification requirements

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	Total			
Wall & floor tiles (6907, 6908)	Algeria	Belarus	Bosnia & Herzeg.	Brazil	Canada	Chile	China	Colombia	Cuba	Ecuador	Egypt	Guyana	India	Indonesia	Iran	Israel	Japan	Jordan	Kenya	Lebanon	Malaysia	Mexico	Morocco	Nigeria	Peru	Philippines	Qatar	Russia	Saudi Arabia	Senegal	Singapore	South Korea	Syria	Thailand	Turkey	Ukraine	USA	Venezuela				
VAT	17	20	17			19	17	16		12				10		16			16	10		16	20	5	18	12		18		18						20		12				
Other taxes, fees	X	X	X	X	X			X		X	X		X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X								X	X			22	
tariff barriers (in %)				35	8	6	12	10	10	5	30		10	20	100		2	6	25	6	60	0	0	20	20	10	5	13	12	20	0	0	20	30			10	10	15		28	
mandatory standards													X									X						X					X								5	
mandatory certification			X				X	X			X		X						X								X	X				X				X						18
other				X		X		X		X			X				X					X					X		X						X	X					8	

Conformity Assessment & the WTO TBT Agreement

“2.4. Where technical regulations are required and **relevant international standards exist** or their completion is imminent, Members **shall use them**, or the relevant parts of them, **as a basis** for their technical regulations”

... **except** when such international standards or relevant parts would be an **ineffective or inappropriate** means for the fulfilment of the legitimate objectives pursued, for instance because of fundamental climatic or geographical factors or fundamental technological problems.”

“2.6 With a view to harmonizing technical regulations on as wide a basis as possible, Members **shall play a full part**, within the limits of their resources, in the preparation by **appropriate international standardizing bodies of international standards** for products for which they either have adopted, or expect to adopt, technical regulations.”