



Department for International Trade

The Rt Hon Dr Liam Fox MP
Secretary of State for International Trade
Department for International Trade
King Charles Street
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AH

T +44 (0) 20 7215 5000

E enquiries@trade.gov.uk

W www.gov.uk

Angus Brendan MacNeil MP
Chair
International Trade Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

19th February 2019

Dear Angus,

As you are aware from previous undertakings provided to Parliament, the Government is working to secure continuity for the effects of EU trade agreements when we leave the European Union. I am writing to inform you that yesterday I signed:

- a Trade and Partnership Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the State of Israel (“the UK-Israel Agreement”).
- an Interim Political, Trade and Partnership agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Palestinian Liberation Organization on behalf of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and Gaza Strip (“the UK-Palestinian Authority Agreement”).

The UK-Israel Agreement

The UK-Israel Trade and Partnership agreement reproduces, as closely as possible, the effects of the existing trade agreements between the European Union and Israel. It also lays the groundwork for future UK-Israel trade relations. The agreement text will be laid in Parliament with an accompanying Explanatory Memorandum as part of the UK’s established treaty ratification process – as set out in the Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010. In addition, the Government will publish a report which will detail any significant differences from the original EU-Israel Trade Agreements.

The bilateral EU-Israel agreements relevant for trade and incorporated in the UK-Israel Trade and Partnership Agreements are:

- 1) *The Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the part, and the State of Israel, of the other part, done at Brussels on 20th November;*
- 2) *The Agreement between the European Community and the State of Israel on government procurement done at Brussels on 10th July 1997; and*

- 3) *The Protocol of the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States of the one part, and the State of Israel of the other part, on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products done at Brussels on 6th May 2010.*

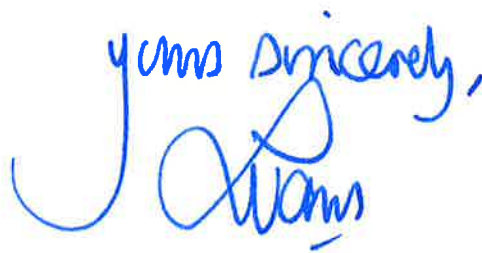
The agreement includes the removal of UK duties and quotas on imports. It covers goods, limited areas of services, competition, payments and intellectual property, wider cooperation (such as audio-visual and science and technology) and administrative assistance in customs matters. It also includes Tariff Rate Quotas. The two additional agreements outlined above cover public procurement and conformity assessment of industrial products.

The UK-Palestinian Authority Agreement

UK-Palestinian Authority Agreement reproduces, as closely as possible, the effects of the existing trade agreement between the European Union and the Palestinian Authority. It also lays the groundwork for future UK-Palestinian Authority trade relations. This agreement does not fall within the definition of a treaty for the purposes of the Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010 but the agreement text will be laid in Parliament with an accompanying Explanatory Memorandum. In addition, the Government will publish a report which will detail any significant differences from the original EU-Palestinian Authority Association Agreement.

The agreement includes trade and wider cooperation provisions. The agreement allows for the same market access provisions as the EU original agreements. It covers goods, limited areas of service competition, payments, intellectual property, wider cooperation (such as audio visual and science and technology), and administrative in customs matters. The agreement also includes the establishment of institutional arrangements between the UK and the Palestinian Authority based on existing structures that allow for ongoing management and updating the Agreement.

The full details of all modifications made to both Agreements can be found in the Parliamentary Report and Explanatory Memorandum, which will be laid in Parliament with the Agreements. We will update you in due course as we sign further continuity trade agreements.



THE RT HON DR LIAM FOX MP
Secretary of State, Department for International Trade
& President of the Board of Trade