

## CHAPTER 30 EXTERNAL RELATIONS

### Priority 30.1 Aligning with the EU position in the World Trade Organisation, as regards the Doha Development Agenda and in the OECD

Turkey aligns, where possible, its policies towards third countries and its positions within international organisations with those of the EU. In this context, Turkey refers to the “Presidency Statement made with the Consent of the Council”, on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2005, during the adoption of Negotiating Framework for Turkey, which stipulates the following:

“Paragraph 7 of the Negotiating Framework, which is covering all relevant international organisations, cannot be interpreted as prejudicing the autonomy of decision-making and rights of any of those international organisations or of their members, or of the Member States of the European Union.”

Alignment with EU’s position in the platform of WTO, especially within the framework of DOHA Development Agenda, should not be conceived as an exact transposition of the EU’s position. On the contrary, as pronounced in the legal documents between the Parties, progressive alignment with the EU’s position is envisaged especially in certain areas of priority and sensitivity, which is also stated in the seventh paragraph of Negotiation Framework Document.

#### 1 Schedule of legislative alignment

Table 30.1.1

No	EU legislation in force	Draft Turkish legislation	Scope	Institution in charge	Publication date
1	Council Directives 98/29/EC and 84/568/EEC	Amendment to Law No. 3332 on Banks	The Law regulating the establishment, objectives and the operations of the Bank.	Turk Eximbank	2009-2010

#### 2 Schedule of institutional capacity building requirements necessary for legislative approximation and implementation

No institutional capacity building requirement is envisaged under this priority at this stage.

#### 3 Financial requirements and resources

No financial requirement is envisaged under this priority at this stage.

## **Priority 30.2 Completing the alignment with the European Community regime on generalised system of preferences (GSP)**

Regarding the scope of the products, Turkey's commitments emerging from the Association Council Decision No. 1/95 includes only the industrial products within the scope of the Customs Union until full membership; in this respect harmonization with EU's GSP Regime, in terms of its results, has been achieved with Import Regime Decree of 2008 and Import Communiqué No. 2008/19. This Decree and the Communiqué are regularly updated in parallel to the related EU Directives. The harmonization in terms of agricultural and ECSC products will be ensured within the framework of full membership perspective and implementation will start upon accession.

### **1 Schedule of legislative alignment**

No legislative alignment is envisaged under this priority at this stage.

### **2 Schedule of institutional capacity building requirements necessary for legislative approximation and implementation**

No institutional capacity building requirement is envisaged under this priority at this stage.

### **3 Financial requirements and resources**

No financial requirement is envisaged under this priority at this stage.

### Priority 30.3 Continuing efforts to conclude outstanding free trade agreements with third countries in line with the acquis

Regarding to the adoption of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) concluded by the EU, Turkey is experiencing difficulties due to reluctant approach of some third countries in starting negotiations with Turkey. Therefore, although efforts to “conclude FTAs in the framework of EU acquis” in accordance with the related priority of the Accession Partnership Document continue, starting and concluding FTA negotiations depend on not only Turkey’s efforts, but also the third countries’ positive approach. Moreover, in order overcome this bottleneck, it is required that the EU should take initiatives in respect of the related third countries and exercise its will power.

#### 1 Schedule of legislative alignment

**Table 30.3.1**

No	EU legislation in force	Draft Turkish legislation	Scope	Institution in charge	Publication date
1	FTAs concluded by the EU with the third countries - EU-Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) - EU-Chile Association Agreement (AA) - EU-Jordan AA - EU-Lebanon AA - EU-Faroe Islands FTA - EU-Serbia SAA <sup>1</sup> - EU-Mexico Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement - EU Algeria AA - EU-Republic of South Africa Trade and Development Co-operation Agreement	Ratification Laws regarding the Free Trade Agreements concluded with the Third Countries	Concluding parallel agreements with the countries which the EU concluded FTAs within the framework of adopting the EU’s preferential trade regimes,.	Undersecretariat for Foreign Trade	2009 and Beyond <sup>2</sup>

#### 2 Schedule of institutional capacity building requirements necessary for legislative approximation and implementation

No institutional capacity building requirement is envisaged under this priority at this stage.

#### 3 Financial requirements and resources

No financial requirement is envisaged under this priority at this stage.

<sup>1</sup> The Agreement was signed but is not in force yet.

<sup>2</sup> Depends on the negotiation process of the conclusion of FTAs between Turkey and the related countries.