

**FOURTH MEETING OF THE FREE TRADE COMMISSION,  
FREE TRADE AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM AND  
THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE**

*Ha Noi, Viet Nam, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 / Santiago, Chile, May 5<sup>th</sup> 2021*

On 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of May of 2021 in Viet Nam, 3<sup>th</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of May of 2021 in Chile, the Fourth Meeting of the Free Trade Commission of the Free Trade Agreement between Viet Nam and Chile was held in virtually, as established in Article 11.2 of the Agreement.

The Plenary session of the Commission was co-chaired, from the Vietnamese side by the Vice Minister of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam, Mr. Do Thang Hai, and from the Chilean side, the Vice Minister of Trade, Mr. Rodrigo Yañez. The technical session of the Commission was co-chaired, from the Vietnamese side by the Deputy Director-General of European and American Market Department, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Mrs. Vo Hong Anh, and from the Chilean side by the Ms. Andrea Cerda, Head of the Market Access Division and Mr. Gaston Fernandez, Head of the Regulatory Affairs Division.

In the exchange of opening remarks, both sides agreed that it is timely and appropriate to hold the Joint Commission of the Free Trade Agreement (FTA), given the interest of work in a fluid and effective manner and the improvement of bilateral trade between Viet Nam and Chile.

**I. Evaluation of the implementation of the Chile - Viet Nam FTA**

Both sides analyzed how the CVFTA has contributed to the economy of Chile and Viet Nam in these 7 years.

Chile is currently the 4<sup>th</sup> largest trading partner of Viet Nam in Latin America, and Viet Nam is the largest trading partner of Chile in ASEAN, with a trade volume in 2020 amounting to US\$ 1.28 billion USD. According to statistics of General Department of Vietnam Customs, bilateral trade between the two countries still reaped positive results with the total trade volume reaching 1.28 billion USD, an increase of 4.4% in comparison with 2019. As part of that, Viet Nam's exports to Chile soared by 8.3% to 1.02 billion USD while imports from Chile plunged by 8.1% to 265.5 million USD.

On the other side, according to Chilean statistics, bilateral trade between the two countries still reaped positive results with the total trade volume reaching 1.065 billion USD, which means an increase of 1.6% in comparison with 2019. As part of that, Viet Nam's exports to Chile increased by 5.6% to

US\$ 833 million, while exports from Chile to Viet Nam reached US\$ 231 million, decreasing by 5.6% compared to 2019.

Main Chilean exports to Viet Nam are ores, salmon and trout, sawn wood, fish meal and fish oil, among others.

Main Vietnamese exports into Chile are consumer goods such as footwear, footwear and textile materials, electronics and components, among others.

## **II. Report of the Technical Committees**

The Committee on Trade in Goods and the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures reported the main results of their respective technical meetings:

### **1. Committee on Trade in Goods:**

Both parties celebrated the seventh year of the entry into force of the agreement and exchanged available trade data.

Viet Nam expected Chile to complete Chile's internal procedures to ratify the CPTPP as soon as possible as this would bring benefits to all parties involved, including Chile and Viet Nam.

Chile expressed the importance for Chile to reach an agreement with Viet Nam regarding the enhancement of preferential treatment under the FTA, particularly regarding those products that have a more beneficial treatment under the CPTPP. Taking into account that Chile was preparing for the ratification of the CPTPP and Viet Nam was cooperating with the ASEAN to build plans for converting the tariff nomenclature from the AHTN 2017 to AHTN 2022, Viet Nam emphasized their position and expectation that Chile would soon finalize their CPTPP ratification procedures so that exporters could choose between the trade agreements and claim preferences under the agreement that best suited their needs.

Regarding Rules of Origin, both Parties agreed the draft working document for updating Annex 4-B on PSRs from HS2012 to HS2017. Both Parties will conduct internal consultation to define the following steps to put this updated Annex into force.

Likewise, Chile, in line with the objectives of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement proposed to amend rules 4 and 10 from Annex 4-A Operational Certification Procedures (OCP) and will be looking forward to Viet Nam's feedback on those proposals.

Finally, regarding the possible implementation of electronic platforms for issuing a certificate of origin under VCFTA, both Parties agreed to continue this discussion through email and if needed, by specific meetings to further analyse and develop this topic.

At the meeting, Viet Nam proposed that the two parties should negotiate a double taxation avoidance agreement and an agreement on administrative assistance in customs. Chile said it would exchange information with parties involved and promote this issue in the coming time.

## **2. Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures:**

The two sides had a fruitful discussion on the following topics:

### **(a) Interests of Chile:**

- (i) Reopening of Viet Nam market to kiwi;
- (ii) Poultry, pork, bovine and ovine meat and derived products of Chile;
- (iii) Update of the list of establishments authorized to export fishery and aquaculture products; and
- (iv) Chilean Seaweed certification.


### **(b) Interests of Viet Nam:**

- (i) PRA for Vietnamese rambutan;
- (ii) Ban of CO treatment for Vietnamese Tuna; and
- (iii) Exchange of information on fruit fly control.

## **III. Next Meeting of the Free Trade Commission**

Chile will host the V Meeting of the Free Trade Commission, in a date to be mutually agreed by both parties.

**On behalf of the Government of  
the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam**



**On behalf of the Government  
of the Republic of Chile**