

His Excellency Mr Valdis Dombrovskis
Executive Vice-President of the European Commission
Belgium
BRUSSELS

The Hague
28 October 2021

Your Excellency,

On 11 March of this year the Commission held an informal meeting with member states to discuss an instrument that could potentially address trade and sustainable development as part of a collaborative relationship between the European Union and Mercosur. At the end of the meeting, the Commission requested written inputs from the member states.

In response to the Commission's request, I am pleased to enclose the inputs from the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

I would like to stress that this contribution is without prejudice to the Netherlands' position on the draft EU-Mercosur agreement that the Commission is negotiating. As we have consistently communicated, the Netherlands will only decide its position on the draft agreement after all required information and documents have been presented to the Council.

Our inputs set out priorities for trade-related sustainable development measures and make suggestions for short- and long-term action on which the EU and Mercosur countries could jointly work. These priorities and suggestions reflect Dutch policy on these issues, regardless of the possible conclusion of a trade agreement.

I hope you find these inputs useful in your work on EU-Mercosur trade.

Yours sincerely,

Tom de Bruijn
Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation
of the Kingdom of the Netherlands